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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *d.f.*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DONALD RUMSFELD

FROM: WILLIAM N. WALKER *Walker*

SUBJECT: Talking Points for your 8:15 a.m.  
Meeting with Secretary Morton, Friday,  
October 18, 1974

1. Energy Resource and Development Administration.

A. You approved the selection of Robert Seamans to be Administrator. Secretary Morton met with him Wednesday evening, October 16, 1974 and can brief you on your conversation. Seamans would like to meet with you before formally accepting the position and, if you approve, we will schedule him on your calendar next week.

B. You should be aware that Seamans is the man who fired Ernest Fitzgerald while he was Secretary of the Air Force and that, consequently, his nomination will provoke some controversy. Nevertheless, Jack Marsh, Secretary Morton and I recommend proceeding with the nomination. He is an able man, well suited to the job and should be able to contribute significantly to your Administration.

2. Federal Energy Administration.

A. Secretary Morton has announced his designation, with your concurrence, of Frank Zarb as Interim Executive Director of the Energy Resources Council.



B. We are preparing a staffing memorandum on the replacement for the FEA Administrator which will be circulated for comment on Friday, October 18, 1974, and should be ready for your decision early next week. Secretary Morton and I have worked together in proposing candidates for this position.

C. This nominee for the FEA position should have a clear understanding from the outset as to what you want him to do and how you want him to do it. The staffing paper on candidates for this position will more fully elaborate the factors you may want to consider, but they will include the following:

1. Whether or not to shift the responsibility for short-term energy resource development associated with Project Independence out of FEA and into ERDA.

2. Improving FEA's energy data collection and analysis capacity.

3. Getting a grip on FEA's price control and allocation regulatory efforts and devising a sensible de-control strategy. (Note that, by statute, the Congress has the authority to veto any petroleum price or allocation de-control action.)

4. Reducing the size of the FEA staff.

5. Carrying on the coordinating role of the Executive Director of the Energy Resources Council.

