

APPENDIX A

A CHRONOLOGY OF ENERGY CONSERVATION AND PRODUCTION

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1945

--August 15; Office of Price Administration (OPA) lifted gasoline rationing.

1946

--May 6; Division of Oil and Gas established in the Department of Interior.

--May 21; President Truman ordered the U.S. Government to take possession of bituminous coal mines due to miners strike.

--June 18; National Petroleum Council established.

1947

--January 1; Atomic Energy Commission began operation.

--March 25; Coal mine disaster killed 11 in Centralia, Illinois.

--June 16; Federal Power Commission authority extended to all natural gas producers.

1952; Severe air pollution (0.7 ppm SO_x and particulates) in London kills 2500 people in three days.

1953

--August 7; Congress gave U.S. Government jurisdiction to the ocean floors beyond the 3 mile boundary.

--December 8; President Eisenhower delivered "Atoms for Peace" speech before the United Nations.

1954

--August 30; Atomic Energy Act of 1954 encouraged peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

1957

--King Hubbert correctly predicted that U.S. petroleum production would peak between 1966 and 1971; U.S. oil production for the lower forty-eight states peaked at 9.1 million barrels/day in 1970. Hubbert used the Verhulst differential equation to describe the consumption of a finite resource, but he did not consider the economic effects of higher prices.

1959

--March 10; President Eisenhower limited oil imports to stimulate development of domestic production and refining capacity.

1962

--October 11; Congress authorized the President to impose mandatory

oil import quotas.

1963

--December 17; Clean Air Act provided assistance to states for air pollution research; major amendments made to the act in 1970.

1965

--October 2; Water Quality Act established the Water Control Administration in Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW).
 --October 20; Solid Waste Disposal Act provided assistance for study, collection, and disposal of solid wastes.
 --November 9; First major power blackout covered the northeast U.S.

1967

--November 21; Clean Air strengthened to give authority to the Secretary of HEW to set auto emission standards.

1969

--January 1; National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) established the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) and the framework for Environmental Impact Statements.
 --January-February; Major oil spill from offshore drilling near Santa Barbara, California.
 --December 30; Oil depletion allowance reduced from 27.5% to 22%.

1970

--March 5; President Nixon issued an Executive Order to require that federal agencies evaluate their activities for the protection of the environment under NEPA.
 --July 9; President Nixon requested Congress to create the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
 --October 23; Merchant Marine Act Amendment provided subsidies for oil and liquefied natural gas tankers.
 --December 24; Geothermal Steam Act authorized leases for geothermal steam.

1971

--July 23; Calvert Cliffs decision required the Atomic Energy Commission to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act.

1973

--June 29; Energy Policy Office created with former Governor Love as director.
 --October 17, 1973 to March 17, 1974; Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) embargoed the U.S. and the Netherlands because of their support for Israel.
 --November 7; President Nixon created Project Independence to end oil imports by 1980.
 --November 27; Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act provided authority for the allocation of oil.
 --December 4; Federal Energy Office in the Executive Office of the President created with William Simon as director.

--December 15; Congress mandated daylight savings to save energy.

1974

--June 22; Congress authorized the Federal Energy Administration (FEA) to order electrical utilities and industry to convert from burning oil and natural gas to coal.

--September 3; Congress authorized funds for research on geothermal energy and on solar heating and cooling demonstrations.

--October 5; Congress repealed mandatory daylight saving to save energy.

--October 11; Energy Reorganization Act abolished the AEC and created the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

--October 26; Congress transferred solar energy research to ERDA and authorized the Solar Energy Research Institute (SERI) which was started on July 5, 1977 in Golden, Colorado.

--December 31; Congress required ERDA to submit an annual comprehensive plan on energy R&D.

1975

--January 4; Congress established the 55 mph speed limit to save energy.

--March 17; Supreme Court ruled that the states do not have jurisdiction over the outer continental shelf.

--October 29; ERDA dedicated their first wind power system at Sandusky, Ohio.

--December 22; Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) established a formula to set the price of U.S. crude oil, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, emergency powers for the president on energy matters, and average automobile fuel economy standards of 27.5 mpg by 1985.

1976

--April 5; Congress authorized the future production of existing naval petroleum reserves.

--August 14; Energy Conservation and Production Act (ECPA) created incentives for conservation and renewables, funded weatherization for low income homes, and established a program to establish energy conservation standards for new buildings.

1977

--April 7; President Carter indefinitely deferred the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel and delayed the construction of the Clinch River Breeder Reactor.

--October 1; Department of Energy created from ERDA and the FEA.

1978

--November 9; National Energy Act established weatherization grants for low income families, conservation programs for local governments, energy standards for consumer products, programs to convert utilities to coal, residential energy tax credits, and adjusted controls on natural gas prices.

1979

- March 28; the nuclear reactor accident at Three Mile Island power plant.
- spring; gasoline shortages in several areas of the U.S.
- August 17; President Carter began to gradually lift price controls on domestic crude oil.
- November 3; U.S. embassy in Iran siezed by revolutionaries; President Carter suspends oil imports from Iran on November 14.

1980

- April 2; Windfall profit tax established on crude oil along with assistance for the weatherization of homes of low income people.
- June 30; Energy Security Act created the Synthetic Fuels Corporation, an Energy Conservation Bank, and funding for solar, biomass, and geothermal projects.

1981

- January 28; President Reagan completed the decontrol of prices for crude oil.
- 1981 to 1985; President Reagan and the Congress debate the funding levels for various conservation programs.

1982

- May 24; President Reagan proposed to the Congress to transfer most of the responsibilities of the Department of Energy to the Department of Commerce.

1985

- February 4; supplies of natural gas and oil appear plentiful in the near term, but the Department of the Interior sharply reduced the estimates for offshore oil (from 27 to 12 Bb) and gas (from 163 to 91 TCF).
- June 27; EPA modifies mileage test, lowering 27.5 mpg by about 2.
- June 28; EPA curbs tall smokestacks to avoid distant pollution.
- July 16; Appellate Court confirms EPCA's appliance standards by voiding DOE's "no-standard" standard.

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1. P. Dean, ENERGY HISTORY CHRONOLOGY FROM WORLD WAR II TO THE PRESENT, DOE/ES-0002, Department of Energy, Washington, DC, 1982.
2. ISSUE BRIEFS ON ENERGY, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, Washington, DC.