

MR. JACK MOODY: My name is Jack Moody. I'm from the Mississippi Development Authority. And I certainly appreciate the DOE giving us the opportunity to have some input into the process tonight. I couldn't help but think as you reviewed the history of the SPR development -- and I took the liberty of reading on your website. I saw that many presidents cogitated over this good idea for a long time, and it was studied before it was implemented. And that has a lot in common with Richton Dome. It, too, has been studied for a long time and cogitated over, and hopefully we might see a successful operation here. Understanding a little bit of the necessities that the DOE finds when evaluating a project in different locations of the country, we can appreciate that environmentally -- I am sure that if your operation comes to Mississippi, you will also receive the highest reward for environmental stewardship in our state. Your track record is impressive, and no doubt you will be able to operate here. If you can operate that well in the conditions that y'all place yourself in in the wetlands of the coastal regions, then I'm sure that the upland locations that we have here in Mississippi to offer should be another example of your pristine stewardship. Having looked at your diagram in the back, and knowing that your distribution capabilities of a million barrels a day could be met by the plants that y'all have developed, certainly would meet one of those aspects, one of your important aspects. The risk of the project, we would look at it we're not prejudiced, of course. But looking at the present distribution of the SPR, we would certainly look toward Richton as a stable site if we ever had -- may we never have another hurricane season as we have had, but nevertheless an upland -- a more upland component situated in a geologically stable platform we hope would have certain attributes and certain values that could be put into the equation. And if we understand correctly, it would also -- Mississippi would help in maybe the symmetry of distribution of the SPR reserves and perhaps would be coming toward the eastern side rather than slanted closely to the Texas-Louisiana border. And of course, there is a cost component to this. And we've looked at the cost, and we have quite a bit of pipeline, but when that is said and done, we have pipeline mainly in upland situations. We've created an infrastructure that: You build it, they'll come. You're placing new capabilities within our state. At the end of the day, the distribution meets your needs. You also are connected to one of the largest refineries in the United States. And again, refineries seem to be geographically concentrated in the area of the SPR. And we hope that beyond straight dollar outlay for developing an infrastructure that could reach out to the cap line, as well as the large Chevron refinery, that this would play well in the evaluation. And I think as the Governor has asked and all that Mississippi is asking, that we get a fair shot, give due considerations given to all the variables and make your best decision for what's good for America.