

## STATEMENT OF HON. J. L. SHARIT, MAYOR, PORT ST. JOE, FLA.

Mayor SHARIT. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, my name is J. L. Sharit; I am mayor of the city of Port St. Joe, located on St. Josephs Bay, in Gulf County, Fla.

I am appearing here this afternoon in reference to H. R. 6999, introduced by Mr. Mansfield, the chairman of your committee.

I would like to tell you and your committee the advantages that could and would accrue under this bill if passed and authorized by Congress by making Port St. Joe the western terminus of the proposed pipe line.

Mr. CULKIN. Where is Port St. Joe?

Mayor SHARIT. St. Joe is on St. Josephs Bay, in Gulf County, Fla.

The CHAIRMAN. About how far is it west of Carrabelle?

Mayor SHARIT. It is about 65 miles by water and by air line it is about 44 miles, I believe.

The CHAIRMAN. Then it would require about 40 miles or more of additional piping than if the pipe line was installed from Carrabelle, would it not?

Mr. SHARIT. No, sir; it would not. It would require approximately 20 or 22 miles additional piping.

The CHAIRMAN. That is where you have the terminus of the new pipe line going north?

Mayor SHARIT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That is for gasoline only?

Mayor SHARIT. Yes, sir; that is for gasoline only at this time.

Mr. CULKIN. Where does the pipe line go from St. Joe?

Mayor SHARIT. It goes from St. Joe to Chattanooga, Tenn., by way of Atlanta, Ga.

The CHAIRMAN. Chattanooga is the western terminus?

Mayor SHARIT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That is an 8-inch pipe line?

Mayor SHARIT. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. And the oil comes by water—by tanker and by barge?

Mayor SHARIT. Yes, sir.

Port St. Joe, on St. Josephs Bay, Gulf County, is a landlocked harbor, and it has water of depth ranging from 30 feet to 50 feet.

The entrance channel to St. Josephs Bay is 29 feet by 300 feet across the bar, and it has an exit and entrance channel to one of the finest docks or quays in the South, being about some 2,700 feet in length, with water in the channel of 27-foot depth and 30 feet in depth alongside the dock. There is also a 6-acre turning basin. I am submitting a map which I have marked "Exhibit A," showing the different features.

At Port St. Joe there is at present a capacity between 600,000- and 700,000-barrel storage facilities, with some 8,000- to 10,000-horsepower Diesel engines. There is one 8-inch pipe line from Port St. Joe to Chattanooga, Tenn., by way of Atlanta, Ga. The best information obtainable is that there is storage capacity at Port St. Joe for from 25,000,000 to 30,000,000 gallons and that the maximum can be put through the present pipe line is 1,260,000, or 3,000 barrels each 24 hours.

Mr. CULKIN. What is the diameter of that pipe?

Mayor SHARIT. It is 8 inches in diameter.