

Contents

Chapter	Page
1. Introduction and Background	1
2. An Initial Attempt at Oil Shale Leasing (1963-68).	9
Introduction	9
The Political Environment	9
Energy and the Economic Environment	13
An Initial Leasing Program	16
A Revised Proposal and Its Demise	22
Reasons for Failure of the 1968 Program	24
Chapter preferences.	25
3. Evolution of the Prototype Program	29
Introduction.	29
The Political Environment	29
Energy and the Economic Environment	32
The Prototype Program Emerges	34
Chapters References.	37
4. The Changing Scene Between 1974 and 1979.	41
Introduction	41
The Changing Economic Situation.	41
Problems on Colorado Tract C-a	42
Problems on Colorado Tract C-b	47
Problems on the Utah Tracts	48
In-Lieu Lands	48
Unpatented Mining Claims.	50
The Peninsula Mining Case	53
Environmental Problems	53
Problems With the Environmental Baseline	54
The Political Climate.	55
Suspension Requests	55
Events During the Suspension Periods.	56
Resumption of Activities and Current Status	59
Tract C-a.	59
Tract C-b.	59
Tracts U-a and U-b	60
Chapter preferences.	60
5. Key Issues in the Prototype Program	65
Introduction	65
Technological Issues	65
Environmental Issues.	66
Legal and Political Issues.	69
Economic Issues.	72
Chapters References.	74

Contents—continued

Chapter	Page
6. Outlook	77
Objectives of the 1973 Program	77
New Initiatives	79
Chapter preferences.	81

List of Tables

Table No.	Page
1. Lease Tracts Offered Under the Prototype Oil Shale Leasing Program.	37
2. Cost Estimates for Oil Shale Processing Plants,	41
3. Mining Claims in the Tristate Oil Shale Region, 1968.	69
4. Nature of Claims on Oil Shale Lands With Commercial Potential, 1968.	70

List of Figures

Figure No.	Page
1. Status of Oil Shale Technologies in 1968.	31
2. U.S. Petroleum Supplies as Projected in 1971.	33
3. Cost Trends for Domestic and Imported Petroleum.	34
4. Locations of the Tracts Offered for Lease Under the Prototype Program.	35
5. Engineering Cost Estimates for 50,000-bbl/d shale oil syncrude plants	42
6. Open-Pit Mining Concept Featuring Off-tract Waste Disposal	43
7. Original Development Plan for Colorado Tract C-a.	43
8. A Multiple-Level Room-and-Pillar Oil Shale Mine.	47

List of Acronyms

BLM	—Bureau of Land Management	MIS	— modified in situ
DDP	—detailed development plan	NAAQS	—National Ambient Air Quality Standards
DOE	—Department of Energy	NEPA	—National Environmental Policy Act
DOI	—Department of the Interior	PSD	—prevention of significant deterioration
EIS	— environmental impact statement	Tosco	—The Oil Shale Corporation [now Tosco, Corp.]
EPA	—Environmental Protection Agency	USBM	—U.S. Bureau of Mines
ERDA	—Energy Research and Development Administration		
FLPMA	—Federal Land Policy and Management Act		