

Key to Texas growth

Water 'vital'

United Press International
DENTON, Texas — Water is the key to Texas' economic growth and is becoming increasingly scarce, according to a senior research scientist at North Texas State University. Dr. Kenneth L. Dickson, of the Environmental Systems Program of the NTSU Institute of Applied Sciences, says the Southwest has vast energy and space, but that water will limit the growth of the area.

"I don't think people realize the future implications of water," he said. "The economics of water are beginning to hit people. It is not a commodity; it is a scarce commodity."

Basing his predictions on the rapid increase of population and pollution in the area, Dickson said, bringing water into Texas is going to be a political battle, "so instead of transporting water, wisely using the water available is the starting place. He said as the water supply gets tighter with population growth, the price is bound to go up, and the Southwest may soon face the same water pollution problems the

Northeast currently is fighting. Dickson, who recently joined the NTSU faculty, will conduct water research in conjunction with federal and state governments, industry and others. He is working on an Army Corps of Engineers ecological classification system for the Upper Roanoke River Basin in Virginia.

He was associate director of the Center for Environmental Studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute until July 1.

Dickson sees the major problems in Texas as fertilizer and pesticide dumping.

"In terms of impact, they're of equal magnitude to the industrial pollutants in the damage they do to aquatic life," he said. "But they are of several orders of magnitude more difficult to control."

"An industry has a point source for pollution which you can control. In Texas we have agriculture runoff and land-use pollutants. You don't have one pipe dumping pollutants."

Other problems he sees in Texas are finding places to dump solid waste and the drying up of ground water.



Scholarship honorees

The Brazos County A&M Club presented \$500 four-year scholarships to Bryan High School graduates W. L. "Skipper" Carruth (left) and Rhonda San Angelo this week. Texas A&M President Jarvis Miller (right) and club president Ed Davis made the presentation.

He recommends several solutions to the impending problems. First, he said a better job should be done of deciding how to use agricultural chemicals, what chemicals to use, and when to use them. He also is working on a method of monitoring the behavior and physiology of fish to determine when water is becoming polluted.

Gasohol fuel advocated by farm wives

United Press International
OKLAHOMA CITY — Several Oklahoma farm wives are promoting what they believe is a remedy for ailing grain prices and dwindling energy reserves — gasohol.

They say gasohol — a mixture of gasoline and grain-based anhydrous methyl alcohol — could be used as an alternative to gasoline.

The members of Oklahoma Women for Agriculture say the fuel could ease American dependence on foreign oil. They believe gasohol could be used in existing internal combustion engines without costly modifications and with less pollution.

Methyl alcohol can be refined from almost any organic or waste product, but the Oklahoma farm wives are promoting the use of wheat to become the main refining ingredient.

"Not only would we benefit from increased demand and better prices, it would give us a renewable source of energy," said Loretta Polin of Shattuck, vice president of the group.

Mrs. Polin said Oklahoma and Kansas are behind in gasohol development and her group is urging state leaders to participate in the ongoing research work.

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Vacationing Carter returns to face Summit, energy bill

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Carter appealed to the nation's governors today to help salvage an important part of his energy legislation and save the country from the "devastating" effects that rejection by Congress would mean.

Carter, in an emotional request made with reporters present, implored the governors to help demonstrate "the national will" by securing passage of the controversial compromise legislation to deregulate the price of natural gas.

That legislation comes before the Senate next week and its fate remains uncertain.

The entire world is looking at our government — myself and the Congress — to see whether we have the national will to deal with a difficult and challenging question," said Carter, who cut short his western vacation to stump for the measure.

"This legislation — if it is rejected — will have a devastating effect on our national image, on the value of the dollar, on our trade balance, on inflation," Carter said.

Carter, speaking with considerable feeling, took the unusual move of asking reporters to remain in the Cabinet Room as he made his remarks. Generally, the reporters and photographers are permitted to remain only for the first minute or two of a presidential meeting.

The meeting was arranged by the White House with the aid of Gov. Julian Carroll of Kentucky, the newly elected chairman of the National Governors' Association. In addition to Carroll, those governors attending were:

Richard Lamm of Colorado, Brendan Byrne of New Jersey, Milton Shapp of Pennsylvania, J. Joseph Garrahy of Rhode Island, Dolph Briscoe of Texas, Dixy Lee Ray of Washington, Jay Rockefeller

of West Virginia, William Milliken of Michigan, David Boren of Oklahoma, Ray Blanton of Tennessee and Martin Schreiber of Wisconsin.

Energy Secretary James Schlesinger, trade representative Robert Strauss and several presidential assistants also attended the meeting.

The natural gas legislation is a crucial part of Carter's energy package, which, in turn, is his key domestic proposal. But the package has been stalled in Congress for 16 months.

The bill gradually lifts controls on the price of natural gas by 1985.

Carter said in "complete candor" that the proposal to deregulate natural gas is not perfect, bearing "no clear-cut advantage either for consumers or producers."

As Carter returned from his western vacation Wednesday night, domestic concerns shared the spotlight with the upcoming Middle

East summit at Camp David. Carter, looking sunburned and relaxed as he was leaving Idaho Falls, Idaho, Wednesday, was asked whether he would offer American troops to keep the peace in the Middle East.

"I'd be reluctant to do that," he answered. "We'll just have to wait and see."

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Cuba offers release of U.S. prisoners

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Cuba has offered to release hundreds of political prisoners to the United States, beginning with 48 who will be freed by U.S. officials in coming weeks, Attorney General Griffin Bell said today.

Bell will consider admitting the past and present Cuban political prisoners to the United States under special procedure of U.S. immigration law. But the decision on admission will be made on a case-by-case basis, Justice Department spokesman Terrence Adamson said.

Adamson told a news briefing the individuals involved, plus 30 members of their families, already have applied for entry into the United States.

The announcement comes amid continuing efforts to improve diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States.

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Baseball Legend

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"But I couldn't have been more wrong. In fact, so many people are drinking Lite that there's probably not going to be enough to go around this summer.

"But don't worry. The people at Lite tell me this shortage shouldn't last too

long because they're expanding all their breweries and they're building a couple of new ones, too.

"Just about the only thing they're not going to do is take shortcuts in the brewing process. Why should they fool around with something that's already perfect?

"I guess part of the reason for the shortage is that Lite has a third less calories than their regular beer, it's less filling and it tastes great.

"But I figure the main reason Lite is so popular must be me."

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