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Press Release - Muskie Urges National Electric Power Policy

Edmund S. Muskie

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MUSKIE

Maine

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FOR RELEASE

IMMEDIATELY
SEPTEMBER 24, 1970

MUSKIE URGES NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER POLICY

Senator Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine) today criticized the Nixon Administration for its failure to develop a national electric power policy and called on the public to demand one.

In a statement submitted to the Democratic Policy Committee on the Human Environment, Senator Muskie said, "It is time to discard the double edge threat" of electric power shortages or environmental degradation.

"The Nixon Administration," he added "still has not delivered on its promise of a national power policy, nor has it offered any leadership out of the present crisis. This crisis could stop America in its tracks. Only a public demand for national policy to cope with it can head us in the right direction.

"No one in government anywhere is effectively looking after our electric power interests," the Senator said. Mr. Muskie is the author of the Electric Power Coordination and Environmental Protection Act, now pending in the Senate.

Senator Muskie also called on the Nixon Administration to meet its environmental commitments with dollars. He charged the Nixon Administration had spent "billions for arms, space and the SST..., small change for our water and air. That is big spending... and bad spending."

Mr. Muskie also said that spending the money that is needed will not solve the environmental crisis alone. "At the same time, we must start changing our attitudes that permitted this environmental abuse in the first place."
