

NOTICES OF HEARINGS/MEETINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2004, at 10 a.m., in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills: S. 2086, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to improve the reclamation of abandoned mines; S. 2049, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to reauthorize collection of reclamation fees, revise the abandoned mine reclamation program, promote remining, authorize the Office of Surface Mining to collect the black lung excise tax, and make sundry other changes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearings, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send a copy of their testimony electronically to kristin.whitman@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Karen Billups at (202) 224-2576 or Kristin Whitman at (202) 224-5305.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

On Tuesday, February 24, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366, to receive testimony concerning the reliability of the Nation's electricity grid. Specifically, the recommendations in the February 10 "North American Reliability Council Report" regarding the August 14 blackout will be reviewed and implementation of the proposed solutions will be discussed.

(Contact: Lisa Epifani at 202-224-5269 or Shane Perkins at 202-224-7555.)

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Energy of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Thursday, March 4, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366, to receive testimony regarding "New Nuclear Power Generation" in the United States.

(Contact: Pete Lyons at 202-224-5861 or Shane Perkins at 202-224-7555.)

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the following hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National

Parks of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2004, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills: H.R. 1446 and S. 1306, to support the efforts of the California Missions Foundation to restore and repair the Spanish colonial and mission-era missions in the State of California and to preserve the artworks and artifacts of these missions, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1521, to provide for additional lands to be included within the boundary of the Johnstown Flood National Memorial in the State of Pennsylvania, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearings, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send two copies of their testimony to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, SD-364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Tom Lillie at (202) 224-5161 or Sarah Creachbaum at (202) 224-6293.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Tiffany Kebodeaux, a member of my staff who does not currently have floor privileges, be given floor privileges for the duration of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Michael Hughes, a deputy U.S. marshal who is serving in Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG's office on a detail, be given floor privileges during consideration of S. 1805 and S. 1806.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE
CALENDAR—S. 295

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 295) to enhance energy conservation and research and development and to provide for security and diversity in the energy supply for the American people.

Mr. FRIST. I object to further proceedings on the measure at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be placed on the calendar pursuant to rule XIV.

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SE-
CRETACY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO.
108-16

Mr. FRIST. As in executive session, I ask unanimous consent the injunction

of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on February 23, 2004, by the President of the United States, U.N. Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, Treaty Document 108-16.

I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred with the accompanying papers to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (the "Convention"), as well as two supplementary protocols: (1) the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and (2) the Protocol Against Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 15, 2000. The Convention and Protocols were signed by the United States on December 13, 2000, at Palermo, Italy.

Accompanying the Convention and Protocols are interpretative notes for the official records (or "travaux préparatoires") that were prepared by the Secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee that conducted the negotiations, based on discussions that took place throughout the process of negotiations. These notes are being submitted to the Senate for information purposes. I also transmit the report of the Department of State with respect to the Convention and Protocols.

The Convention and Protocols are the first multilateral treaties to address the phenomenon of transnational organized crime. Their provisions are explained in the accompanying report of the Department of State. The report also sets forth proposed reservations and understandings that would be deposited by the United States with its instruments of ratification. With these reservations and understandings, the Convention and Protocols will not require implementing legislation for the United States.

The Convention and Protocols will be effective tools to assist in the global effort to combat transnational organized crime in its many forms, such as trafficking and smuggling of persons. They provide for a broad range of cooperation, including extradition, mutual legal assistance, and measures regarding property, in relation to serious crimes committed by an organized group that has a transnational element.

The Convention also imposes on the States Parties an obligation to criminalize, if they have not already done so, certain types of conduct characteristic of transnational organized