Faculty Addendum

Gregg Renkes

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Challenging Federal Ownership and Management:
Public Lands and Public Benefits

October 11-13, 1995

FACULTY ADDENDUM

After Lunch Talk, 1:15 p.m.
Friday, October 13, 1995

GREGG RENKES, Staff Director of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, has served in the Senate since 1987. He expects to focus most of his time in 1995 on combating the current Administration’s "War on the West" in his new position on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. In his position Renkes oversees all legislative efforts and coordinates all activities by the staff.

"The pressure is on. We feel we may have only 10 months to address 40 years of regulatory policies that have debilitated our western natural resource industries," Renkes told an audience of western utility and energy interests on March 3rd.

In the first session of the 104th congress, the Committee expects to focus on a number of issues, primarily Alaskan North Slope Oil Exports, a responsible reform of the Mining Law of 1872, oversight and possible legislative hearings on the management and utilization of our National Forests, oversight hearings on wetland policy and the effect it is having on management of the public lands and forests, an examination of the application of risk assessment to programs within the Departments of Energy and the Interior, a review of the status of the National Park System, including the examination of the GAO report on the status of the National Park System, National Park Service concessions reform, oversight of the organization and management of the Bureau of Land Management, and oversight of the effects of the Endangered Species Act on management of the public lands and forests.

Renkes also expects to also spend time reviewing the cleanup of Department of Energy facilities, the future of the National Laboratories, the nuclear waste disposal program, and the President’s proposed comprehensive National Energy Strategy.

A 1986 graduate of the University of Colorado School of Law, Renkes also holds degrees in biology, geology and natural resources policy. After graduating from Law School, he served with the Alaska Court System from 1986-87. He joined Senator Murkowski’s staff in 1987, serving successively as Legislative Assistant, Legislative Director, and Chief of Staff, before becoming Staff Director of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in 1994.