

Mr. Rainville - SYNTHETIC FUEL PLANT

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RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

DARRELL ST. CLAIRE, CHIEF CLERK
RUSSELL C. KING, CHIEF COUNSEL

May .., 1952

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Dear ...:

We have been pursuing the location of a synthetic fuel plant for Southern Illinois but it appears that the matter is dormant for the moment until late July or early August.

As the situation now stands, the Department of Interior and the Defense Production Administration expect to enter into contract with some appropriate private firm for the construction of the plant and the location of the plant will to a considerable extent be determined by the service and engineering study which the prospective private contractor would make.

Tests are under way now on Illinois coal and insofar as we have been able to learn those contractors who are interested in this project have expressed preference for an Illinois location. Nothing further will be done until the coal tests have been completed.

We shall continue to maintain contact with this project and will do our best in the hope of bringing this industry to Illinois because it would be a very useful contribution to the alleviation of the employment distress which now exists there.

Sincerely,

Everett McKinley Dirksen