

January 3, 1961

Dr. Peter T. Flawn  
Director  
Bureau of Economic Geology  
The University of Texas  
Austin 12, Texas

Dear Pete:

Thanks for your letter of December 14. The Mineral Resource Circular No. 38 is presumably a useful piece of compilation, but the estimates on lignite reserves are nevertheless only generalized, because they are not based on exact methods of exploration. Why then the reserves were stated as 6,995,976,000 short (p. 45) tons instead of around 7 billion short tons is not clear in my mind, unless the authors were carried away by their figures.

Your proposal of a joint paper by Stenzel and Fisher is agreeable to me. As you stated in your letter the preparation of the report should not entail much additional work for me. I wish to keep such outside work to a minimum. However, I shall be glad to help Fisher along; he will need a great deal of guidance to get started in Tertiary stratigraphy, particularly in the Wilcox.

You might make a special effort to round up all the reports of the State Mine Inspector of Texas. Several of them are in the Bureau files; others may be available at the Land Office, the State Library, or the State Archives. A complete set might be quite useful for these lignite studies.

With best wishes for a successful "1961".

Sincerely yours,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:mb

cc: Dr. W. L. Fisher

Shell Development Company  
Exploration & Production Research Division