



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for Wednesday, November 14, has two cuts on energy testimony, they follow a lead in.

Secretary of Transportation Claude Brinegar testifying today on the energy crisis, before the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, commented on how much fuel the transportation sector consumed, and what his department is doing to respond to the crisis, he said.

"The oil shortage that is upon us is, of course, an emergency triggered by the Arab war, which was unforecastable. We normally consumed 17 1/2 million barrels a day of oil in this country, and we are now looking at a shortage of 2-3 million barrels a day. This shortage will impact most seriously on the transportation sector since it uses about half of all liquid oil in the nation.

"I might just note that our Department is hard at work with a small staff -- which I fear will get bigger -- on ways to find how to take the slack out of the petroleum usage in the transportation sector to find the use that can be cut back without seriously affecting the economy. This is, of course, a large challenge. Flights will have to be cut, car pooling will have to be encouraged, but service-more efficient, more efficient truck and train service, and, I suspect, ultimately a reduction in private passenger travel."

This has been the Transportation News Report.

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