

Gov. Love Gets Post On Energy

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SAN CLEMENTE, Calif., June 29—In a new effort to meet the nation's energy crisis, President Nixon today appointed Colorado Gov. John A. Love as energy czar in the White House and asked Congress to establish a new Department of Energy and Natural Resources.

The President also appealed to the American people to reduce their consumption of energy by 5 per cent by voluntarily cutting driving speeds, curtailing the use of air conditioners, using lighter-weight automobiles and organizing car pools.

He asked the nation's governors to take steps to reduce speed limits, reminding them that a car traveling at 50 miles an hour consumes 20 to 25 per cent less fuel than it would at 70 m.p.h.

The President asked the airlines to cut cruising speeds, declaring that a 3 per cent reduction in speed adds only 12 minutes to a transcontinental flight but would result in annual savings of 200 million gallons of jet fuel.

Federal agencies were directed to reduce their energy consumption by 7 per cent. The Defense Department has taken steps to cut its use of energy 10 per cent in the next year, the President said.

"The conservation of existing energy resources is not a proposal; it is a necessity," Mr. Nixon said in a statement to Congress.

"It is a requirement that will remain with us indefinitely, and it is for this reason that I believe that the Ameri-

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can people must develop an energy conservation ethic."

At a news conference here, Love made it clear he would oppose rationing except as a last resort.

He said he was "pleased and challenged" by the job the President has given him and would resign as Colorado governor shortly.

There is "no instant panacea" to the energy shortage, he said, but he said he believed that voluntary action and the "massive research" program now planned would enable the American people to maintain their standard of living and defense needs.

The President said that he was initiating a research and development program that would cost \$10 billion over a five-year period to begin July 1, 1974.

Meanwhile, he said, "I am directing that an additional \$100 million in fiscal year 1974 be devoted to the acceleration of certain existing projects and the initiation of new projects in a number of critical research and development areas."

The new Cabinet depart-

ment will require congressional approval. Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton is believed to be a leading candidate for the post if Congress approves it.

Love will be director of the energy policy office and an assistant to the President. He will be the President's principal energy adviser and ride herd over energy proposals and actions.

Under law, Love's appointment requires no action by Congress. But upon hearing of it, Sen. Thomas McIntyre (D-N.H.) introduced a bill requiring that his appointment be confirmed by the Senate.

To carry out research, the President proposed the establishment, in addition to the Cabinet department, of a new independent agency to be called the Energy Research and Development Administration.

The research agency would take over nearly all the research activities of the Atomic Energy Commission, except uranium and thorium assessment, which would be transferred to the new Cabinet department.

The Interior Department's Office of Coal Research and

the energy research centers of the Bureau of Mines would be put into ERDA.

It would direct research and development on all forms of energy and attempt to develop new energy sources in cooperation with industry.

The five-member Atomic Energy Commission would be retained in much reduced form to direct licensing, regulatory and related functions, but the name would be changed to Nuclear Energy Commission.

The new Cabinet department would take over existing government activities in the fields of energy and minerals, water, land and recreation resources, oceanic, atmospheric and earth sciences work and the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Office of Territories.

To carry out the cut in federal use of energy, the President ordered a reduction in the level of air conditioning of all federal offices this summer, a cut in travel by federal officials, and the purchase or leasing of automobiles which provide good gasoline mileage.

Mr. Nixon also renewed his appeal to Congress made earlier this year to approve

legislation to clear the way for construction of the Alaskan oil pipeline.

The President said that since his energy message on April 18, at least eight oil companies have agreed to undertake "significant refinery construction projects" which in the next three years will increase refinery capacity 10 per cent.

But he said Congress had not acted on any of the legislative proposals he made except that the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee has reported the Alaskan pipeline legislation.