

They are concerned about pollution as it exists right now, and yet apparently we have been neglecting the scientific aspects of pollution control and thought in terms only of existing techniques.

Now, what about the time table on this? What about the priorities. Do you have from your prospective as chairman of your subcommittee, any words of advice for us on this?

Are we ready to go ahead with a massive expenditure on water pollution or should we make our massive expenditures in research first?

Mr. BLATNIK. It won't be quite that precise. It won't be like starting a race where you shoot a pistol and you are off to the race of a massive program. No. 1, you are spending on municipal waste alone about three-quarters of a billion dollars a year now on some Federal grants and primarily municipal grants, so you are already in the billion dollar range now and the spending will continue if nothing is done by the way of further research.

For instance, you don't hold back from buying new automobiles this year because 3 years from now a new jet-type automobile might come out. See, the need is there, and with more and more enforcement on the State and certainly the Federal level, whatever means are available for pollution abatement will have to be put into use.

They may not be the best but they are the best we have, so the current facilities will be continued right along. We hope to greatly accelerate research and better refined methods on the continuing program.

Mr. DADDARIO. The point you made earlier is that increased public awareness would allow us to use some of the techniques available to us now which are not being used.

Mr. BLATNIK. That is right.

Mr. DADDARIO. And, you go from there into more sophisticated areas of research over a period of time.

Any further questions, gentlemen?

Mr. Blatnik, thank you. We are pleased you took the time to come.

Mr. Jones?

Our next witness is Congressman Robert E. Jones, Jr., from Alabama, who is the chairman of the Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Power of the Government Operations Committee.

He is well known to our committee because he represents the Huntsville area and therefore has been extremely close to us over the course of years. He has been in Connecticut as chairman of the Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Power, holding hearings on occasion, calling attention to the people of my State of the importance of natural resources and power. We in Connecticut, are appreciative, Mr. Jones, of the work you have done in that area and the help you have been to us and to the entire country. I am sure that Mr. Roush, who was on that subcommittee, would like to say something further.

Mr. ROUSH. Mr. Chairman, I would like to join in welcoming one of my other subcommittee chairman to this committee and as a participant in these hearings. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity for several years now to serve under the leadership of our colleague from Alabama, Mr. Jones. Those years, for the most part, have been devoted to one of the subjects we are dealing with here today,