

THE ADEQUACY OF TECHNOLOGY FOR POLLUTION ABATEMENT

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1966

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to adjournment, at 10:08 a.m., in room 2325, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Hon. George E. Brown, Jr., presiding.

Mr. BROWN. The subcommittee will come to order.

In the absence of Mr. Daddario, I have had thrust upon me the honor of opening the meeting here this morning. We will call the first witness, Dr. MacLeod, Deputy Director, Office of Science and Technology.

Dr. MacLeod, we are happy to have you here this morning. You may proceed at your pleasure.

STATEMENT OF DR. COLIN M. MacLEOD, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Dr. MacLEOD. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I'm very pleased to be given the opportunity to testify before this committee this morning on some of the questions that relate to pollution of the environment. I have provided a statement to the committee and for that reason I shall confine my remarks to a brief summary of some of its contents and a few additional observations in amplification of some of the observations contained in the submission.

This committee has had extended testimony by various people who are concerned with problems of pollution. It is now apparent that almost all segments of our society are concerned with the ill effects of pollution and that there is a growing national determination to restore damage that has already occurred to our natural environment as well as to prevent further degradation.

We shall never restore the primeval wilderness that our forefathers saw and we shouldn't expect to, but we can prevent further encroachment and restore much of the damage that has been done. However, we must all remember that this is going to be exceedingly costly. To understand the magnitude of the problem we should recall that the production of solid wastes per city dweller per year is about 1,600 pounds and this does not include the great variety of other wastes such as sewage, automotive effluents and industrial and agricultural