

From our experiences over the years we can draw two important conclusions. First, the technical know-how and the actual control devices are now available for the control of almost any air pollution problem existing from stationary sources. Second, each community must determine for itself the degree of clean air it desires and the price that the community is willing to pay for that degree of clean air.

In Los Angeles the price has been high because the control program was the pioneering effort. The price in other areas should be much lower. The results and answers and techniques now are available that can be of benefit to these other areas. The experiences in Los Angeles need not be repeated in every urbanized area facing an air pollution problem. There are valuable guidelines for other areas to follow, and the price which any community pays for clean air, therefore, should be far less than here locally.

Thank you, gentlemen.

Mr. BROWN. Thank you, Mr. Fuller. Your statement and your report will be of tremendous value to the committee. Your offer of sharing the know-how of Los Angeles County I am sure should be taken advantage of, as many agencies have already taken advantage of it, and if we can be instrumental in helping to further this, I am sure Mr. Bell and I have enough pride in Los Angeles that we will do our best to do that.

Mr. FULLER. I am sure you will.

Mr. BROWN. I wanted to ask a couple of questions.

With regard to the devices which have been developed for controlling the various manifold number of stationary sources of emission around here, is there a problem with regard to proprietary or patent rights that may have been generated on these devices as they are developed, particularly by local industry? Would there be that sort of problem in sharing that know-how, or do you feel this is not significant?

Mr. FULLER. No, I don't think that is a problem, because the device, whether they be precipitators, afterburners, or what ever, are in production by private industries. We do not have a proprietary right to a specific device. When devices have been developed in conjunction with engineers from industry, we finally arrived at solutions to specific problems, and these devices have met the test of our rules and regulations, and they are effective.

I don't think there would be any problem involved there.

Mr. BROWN. I noticed in glancing rapidly through the list of devices and instruments and so forth that there are some which have the effect of cleaning the air, or washing it clean, but in effect translating the pollutant into another medium.

Mr. FULLER. Yes.

Mr. BROWN. Has this problem of translating an air pollutant or air contaminant to a ground contaminant raised any problems as yet in this area?

Mr. FULLER. No. As a matter of fact, there are some industries which are showing a profit as a result of the control device which they are operating.

This is true in evaporation losses from refineries. This is true in the contaminants generated by the making of steel.