

possible avenues for presenting financial incentives for polluters to take prevention and control measures. The Division of Air Pollution has been providing technical background on air pollution to assist in consideration and formulation of Federal policy in this area.

IMPLICATIONS FOR STATE, LOCAL, AND REGIONAL AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAMS

The various kinds of interrelationships between air pollution and other facets of public and private activities, which are the basis for the interagency relationships at the Federal level discussed above, are, of course, relevant to State and local programs for the prevention and control of air pollution. In the United States the primary responsibility for the control of air pollution at its source rests with State and local governments; consequently, the need for and the opportunity to develop a high degree of coordination and cooperation among all agencies of local government is particularly great. The keynote to this approach to air pollution control was well stated by S. Smith Griswold, Air Pollution Control Officer of the Los Angeles County Air Pollution Control District, as follows:¹

"Across the country thousands of municipal, county and State officials are vitally concerned with the development and redevelopment of our Nation's urban and metropolitan communities. We're demolishing old structures, redesigning our transportation systems, and executing a wholesale physical reconstruction of our community core areas. While we're doing this, we should also be concerned with the quality of air our citizens are breathing. We should place the protection and preservation of acceptable air quality on a par with the physical reconstruction of our communities, and we should give increased attention to the many facets of community design that must affect our future community air quality configuration."

The possible ways in which this concept might be implemented are discussed below:

(1) An obvious parallel at the State and local levels to the Federal program for control of air pollution from Federal installations, discussed above, is the importance of making sure that the State, county, and city conduct their activities with the least possible contribution to local air pollution problems. Steps need to be taken to insure that the very best available technology for controlling air pollution is incorporated in the plans and specifications for the construction of public facilities such as schools, hospitals, public housing, public works operations, incinerators and similar types of projects. There are many ways that this can be administratively accomplished but the essential ingredient is that an explicit element of the planning for such facilities be consideration of their air pollution potential. This can be accomplished by requiring all such plans to be reviewed by the air pollution agency or requiring adherence to technical criteria established by the air pollution control agency. The effective implementation of any such system will obviously require the strong support and commitment of top officials and legislative bodies to the need for air pollution control.

(2) Many of the crucial decisions concerning whether or not we are presently creating air pollution problems for the future are made prior to the actual time that a particular construction program is implemented. These decisions are made in connection with community planning with regard to land uses and the subsequent zoning decisions to administratively implement such plans. The kinds of uses to which land will be put and the criteria or standards used for determining the specific characteristics of activities permitted to be conducted can be crucial in determining the air quality of our communities in the future. As such, there is a clear need for the consideration of the air pollution potential involved in such decisions. In the light of these considerations, the air pollution agency should be recognized as an important technical advisor to planning and zoning agencies. There are, of course, in addition to the air pollution factor, a number of other important considerations and issues which will affect the final decisions which are made. It is important, however, that air pollution considerations be explicitly available to the decision-maker; the lack of information available to the decision-maker should not be the basis for creation of new air pollution problems by default.

¹ "Response: The Reasonable Approach to Air Pollution Control," *National Conference on Air Pollution (1962)*, Proceedings (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963), p. 14.