

(3) Considerable room for cooperation and coordination, particularly at the municipal level, exists with regard to the regulatory programs concerning the health and safety aspects of housing and other types of construction. Such agencies as health departments, building departments, fire departments as well as air pollution agencies are frequently concerned with the inspection, surveillance, and enforcement of various local ordinances, rules, and regulations in this field. The difficult problems involved in attempting to coordinate these activities so as to avoid inefficiencies, overlaps, duplications and conflicting requirements upon those subject to such regulation have long been a matter of discussion and controversy. It is, however, an area of great importance to the overall quality of local government and should be of intense interest to air pollution agencies as a possible means of strengthening their programs while conserving scarce resources, funds and personnel.

(4) Greater coordination between air pollution agencies and agencies concerned with the construction of highways, urban renewal projects and other operations of this nature is desirable with respect to the problem of preventing air pollution associated with the disposal of demolition debris. Although improved technology is vitally needed with respect to this problem, greater attention to the utilization of presently available methods and practices can do much to improve existing situations. Further, concerted attention by all agencies and groups concerned is likely to stimulate needed research and development activities concerning this problem.

(5) A particular aspect of the general problem of governmentally controlled or aided construction and facilities relates to urban renewal projects and public housing. With respect to public housing, careful attention needs to be given to the incorporation in such projects of appropriate design criteria with respect to heating and incineration equipment. Further, attention needs to be given to the employment and training of personnel responsible for the maintenance and operation of such equipment. With regard to urban renewal projects, inter-agency coordination in developing criteria and standards with respect to demolition debris disposal, heating, incineration, and other potential sources of air pollution, to which the private developer would agree to conform, would be highly desirable. This, of course, is a special application of a more general problem of carrying out the responsibilities of air pollution control agencies with respect to apartment houses, commercial buildings and other sources under private as well as public control.

SUMMARY

Under the first Federal Air Pollution Act of 1955, which assigned the responsibility for developing a national program to the Public Health Service, a significant phase of the program involved other Federal agencies through a series of contractual relationships. These interdepartmental relationships were limited, however, to the objective of capitalizing on the diverse research facilities and specialized competencies within the Federal establishment, as a means of accelerating the research and technical assistance program authorized under the Act.

With the passage of the Clean Air Act of 1963, a major new emphasis has been added to the Federal air pollution control program. Application of technical knowledge, through broadly accelerated control programs, is the predominant theme of this Act. This emphasis is reflected in current trends in the nature and type of the Public Health Service's developing relationships with other Federal agencies. The emerging PHS programs to prevent and control air pollution from Federal facilities, the PHS role in preventing pollution arising from transportation systems aided under the new Urban Mass Transportation Act, and other developing interagency relationships and problem areas are examples of this recent trend. There are important parallels and implications of these new Federal relationships for State, local, and regional air pollution control programs.

Coordination of Federal efforts in the closely related fields of air pollution control and solid waste management is facilitated by the fact that both Federal programs are located within the same Bureau of the Public Health Service. Furthermore, close liaison is maintained between the staffs of the Office of Solid Wastes and the Division of Air Pollution to assure complete and productive coordination of the research and development activities of the two programs in areas where their interests and responsibilities merge.