

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT BY THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

*Question 1: What does the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration believe should be the goal of water pollution abatement? What should be the timetable for reaching this goal?*

Answer: The long-range goal of the Federal water pollution control program is to control and prevent pollution to assure an adequate supply of water suitable in quality for public and industrial water supplies, propagation of fish and aquatic life, wildlife, recreation, agriculture, and other legitimate uses.

A greatly stepped-up pollution control effort will be required to meet this goal, both by upgrading water quality condition of presently polluted waters and by protecting waters which are still of high quality.

While remedial schedules have been developed for many rivers, it is difficult to give a precise timetable for the Nation as a whole. Attaining the long-range goal will require overcoming the large existing backlog of unmet waste treatment needs resulting from years of neglect. The rate at which the backlog can be overcome will be dependent in large part on the nature and extent of Federal financial support. This issue is under consideration in legislation currently before the Congress.

In addition to overcoming the backlog of treatment needs, a rate of waste treatment works construction necessary to keep pace with population and industrial growth, urbanization, and obsolescence of existing facilities must be maintained. An accelerated research and development program will also be required to develop new and improved technology and to cope with new and emerging pollution problems. This improved technology must then be put into widespread practice. In addition, new basin planning and development, personnel training, and other related programs must be involved in the pollution-control effort.

The goal of pollution control is a continuous one, therefore it cannot be achieved on a "one-shot" basis. However, the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration believes that the Nation can be brought abreast of the problem within the next decade to the point where it can keep pace on a continuous basis.

*Questions 2 and 3: 2. Please provide a listing of research contracts and grants in the field of water pollution abatement that have been provided by the Public Health Service and the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration within the last several fiscal years under the provisions of section 5 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended. Please divide this by category of contracts versus grants; university in-house effort or other; and also between basic research, applied research, and development. In addition please di-*