

Answer: Inability to supplement Bureau of Mines research programs with research contracts to universities and private firms has hindered some of our pollution abatement programs. However, this problem will be much more serious in the future if some of the additional funds requested become available for use by the Bureau, without at the same time being given authority to contract out some of the research.

*Question 4: What is the extent of coordination between the Bureau of Mines and other agencies and to what extent does the Bureau maintain contact with overseas programs in other countries?*

Answer: As stated during the hearings, the Bureau of Mines has an excellent working relationship with the Japanese and maintains close contact with work being done in Britain, Germany, and other European countries. For the most part, the Bureau of Mines research program on pollution abatement is markedly different than other Interior agencies with the exception of water pollution. In the field of air pollution, the Bureau has assumed primary responsibility in the Department's efforts. Periodic meetings with representatives of other agencies in the Department tend to keep them aware of progress in the field and needs for increased efforts. These contacts will be maintained to insure that there will be no overlapping of efforts among the various agencies. As stated previously, there is a close working relationship between scientists in the Bureau of Mines and those in the Division of Air Pollution, Public Health Service. Since that organization has primary responsibility for the overall Federal program, there would seem to be little need for further coordination with other departments. Additionally, Bureau scientists keep in touch with programs of other departments through interdepartmental-type committees. The Bureau of Mines work on acid mine drainage is unique to the mining industry, and the problem is of little or no interest to most other departments. Its recently expanded work is done in close cooperation with the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, the Geological Survey, and State and local water pollution control organizations. Generally, solid waste disposal research and development is coordinated with the corresponding work in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. For the most part, the Solid Waste Disposal Act of 1965 clearly defines the areas of responsibility of the two departments, and no difficulties are anticipated.