

esthetic values or beneficial uses would occur or be continued. Still, it must be recognized as current fact that a clear definition of acceptable quality for various environmental uses is not now known. Accordingly, the derivation of quality objectives for any given situation must perforce rely to a considerable extent on expert opinion and judgment, weighing the requirements of what may be competing beneficial uses. If requirements go beyond those necessary to safeguard esthetic values and beneficial uses, the cost of meeting them may be, and in many instances certainly would be, unnecessarily expensive without compensating tangible benefits. Experience and changing circumstances may indicate the desirability of either stiffening or liberalizing controls, and the avenue to modification should remain open.

Uniform regulation is an illusory concept. One has only to contrast a large installation on a small stream to a small installation on a large stream to illustrate the lack of logic in having the same waste controls apply to both. Further, no matter what is permitted (short of complete prohibition), an unsatisfactory condition could result from too many separate installations located near one another. The notion is further confounded by wide differences in natural water quality and in the relative priority of various beneficial water uses from one locale to another.