

(3) In the light of our research and investigations, we feel that a proper amendment to this legislation would provide that fuels of more than one percent sulfur content could be burned if the operator of the facility involved incorporated processes or systems which so reduced the amount of SO₂ at the point of emission to a safe level.

The coal industry, in our discussions with them, has given evidence that it might be a tremendous hardship on the coal industry and also the people they serve if they were compelled to supply only one percent sulfur coal.

There are processes being developed, and some of them already are at the point where they could be used in industry, where you could burn possibly an oil of more than one percent sulfur but by the process in burning and in passing out of the flue the sulfur dioxide would be reduced so that by the time the emission went into the atmosphere the sulfur dioxide would be reduced to a safe level. I think this is a worthwhile amendment.

(4) This amendment I discussed earlier; certainly this legislation or any bill pertaining to air pollution that is adaptable to the old Commissioner form of government will have to be amended to apply to the new Commissioner-Council form of government. And briefly I think the legislation should provide that the administrative functions would be conferred upon the Commissioner, while the rulemaking authority would be given to the council.

I have some editorials I request to be included as part of my remarks.

Thank you, Mr. Multer.

Mr. MULTER. Without objection, the articles referred to will be included with your statement.

WWDC EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL NO. 14—THE AIR WE BREATHE

(Broadcast of this editorial by WWDC Vice President Ben Strouse began on March 14, 1967. We welcome comments.)

The air pollution hearings conducted by Senator Joseph Tydings have been a most valuable exercise in public education. A long list of experts have discussed this area's dirty air in language a school child could understand.

Example: The Federal government—responsible for developing air pollution standards for the whole country—is itself causing from one-third to forty percent of the "highly dangerous" levels of sulfur dioxide in Metro-Washington's air. The sulfur dioxide comes straight out of government smokestacks on Capitol Hill, at the NASA complex in Greenbelt, at the Bureau of Standards in Gaithersburg, at the Pentagon in Arlington, and most anywhere else you see a big government installation.

To reduce the release of this poison it will be necessary for Uncle Sam to quit burning fuels of high sulfur content. Fortunately moves are underway in this direction. We suspect the Tydings hearings will speed up the corrective action.

Legislation by Congressman Gilbert Gude would require the government to use fuels with a sulfur content of less than one percent by weight. The President is about to issue an Executive Order along these lines. But it would apply only to Federal facilities in New York, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles.

Let's make it apply to the National Capital Area as well, Mr. President.