

Last winter and spring, under the close supervision of a committee of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare—headed by Mr. Jack Copeland—a survey was taken by Steuart Petroleum Company on some 20 installations of residual oil burning equipment here in Washington. The results of that survey point out and prove that residual fuel oil can and does burn cleanly.

The amount of sulfur in a fuel has no bearing whatsoever on smoke emission. For example, a fuel with a high sulfur content—say 5%—can be made to burn without *any* smoke; while a fuel with *no* sulfur *will smoke* if burned without sufficient combustion air.

For a fuel with 2% sulfur, only about .15% of sulfur dioxide will be found in the stack gases and only .002% by volume of sulfur trioxide might be produced.

This gas is normally invisible and only under rare cases can it be seen in the form of a white water vapor. Normally, however, the white vapor seen on a cold day coming from the top of a stack is the result of hydrogen burning which has no pollutant or detrimental effects. It is immediately reabsorbed by the atmosphere.

Quality equipment is available today from a variety of manufacturers which has been designed and field proven to be capable of burning residual oil completely, efficiently and cleanly. It must merely be installed and adjusted properly.

I repeat—residual oil properly burned—does not smoke!

Mr. MULTER. Our next witness is Mr. Frederick Babson.

STATEMENT OF FREDERICK A. BABSON, PRESIDENT, METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Mr. MULTER. Introduce yourself for the record.

Mr. BABSON. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, my name is Frederick A. Babson. I am president of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and a member and past Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia. I have with me Dr. Hohn J. Lentz, Director of Environmental Health for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

I am grateful for the opportunity to appear before you this morning. The Council of Governments is deeply concerned with the air pollution problem in this region and with the urgent need for a broad and intensive battle against this threat to our health and our economy.

The Council of Governments is the cooperative organization of the District of Columbia and the 14 other major local governments of Maryland and Virginia within the National Capitol Region. It is composed of the District Commissioners, members of the governing bodies of six counties and eight cities, and members of the U.S. Congress and the General Assemblies of Maryland and Virginia who represent portions of the National Capital Region. Through its members, the Council is responsible to more than 2½ million people.

In its ten years of operation, COG has contributed materially to the solution of areawide problems in such fields as Environmental Health, Public Safety, Transportation and Regional Planning. It has helped to pioneer the vigorous campaign against air pollution by embarking two years ago on a thorough three-year analysis, which is now almost two-thirds complete, to identify the kinds of pollution of our air and the most effective means of combating this enemy of life and property.

In cooperation with the local governments and the U.S. Public Health Service, our Council developed a scientific laboratory containing the latest technical equipment and a network of monitoring stations which enables us to sample air on a continuing basis in every part of the metropolitan area. This data in turn are providing the basis