

time.
We are advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.
Sincerely,

JOHN W. GARDNER, *Secretary.*

EXHIBIT 16

AMERICAN NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION,
Denver, Colo., October 12, 1967.

HON. ABRAHAM RIBICOFF,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Executive Reorganization, Senate Committee on Government Operations, Senate Office Building Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR RIBICOFF: It is our understanding that hearings are to be held before your subcommittee, October 17-19, on S. 886, which would set up a new Department of Natural Resources. The American National Cattlemen's Association is vitally interested in this measure and wishes to comment upon it in this letter which we respectfully request to be included in the hearing record.

Our interest in this legislation is prompted by two very important agencies now within the U.S. Department of Agriculture . . . the Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service. We work with these two agencies on matters of mutual concern frequently throughout the year. It is our considered judgment that they are properly located in the Department of Agriculture, so should remain there.

The Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service

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sibilities conflicts with the overall water quality control program. The agency charged with irrigation responsibility will be under pressure to frustrate efforts for control of pollution from irrigation run-off; the power people will be under pressure to frustrate efforts for strict temperature standards; and the mineral resource people will place mining and drilling ahead of water quality control.

Transfer of the air pollution control function into an agency charged with the responsibility of the Department of Natural Resources environmental quality programs deserve special and singular attention. It may then be necessary to establish an independent agency to deal with these problems. However, until such time, I believe that wisdom dictates retention of the program in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare where a forward moving program is now getting under way. To move the program now would be to create disruption and delay in the national effort to preserve the quality of our environment and to secure clean air for all.