

Mr. FULTON. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. DADDARIO. Mr. Bell.

Mr. BELL. Mr. Chairman, while you were talking with the learned doctor I thought I might ask him this question. He was talking somewhat about the administrative problems, and the central focus and conflicts which might arise. I would infer from what he said that he would agree, would he not, that when States have an interest or a particular desire, such as the area of Los Angeles in California, to increase and to better their pollution battle a little bit beyond what the Federal Government wants, you would favor that, would you not, at least having the leeway to do so? There was an amendment which some of us know about called the Dingell amendment.

Mr. DADDARIO. I would say that that is a leading question, but you may answer it, Doctor.

Dr. HORNIG. I would like to see us maintain the highest possible standards of quality everywhere, not to have the lowest common denominator.

Mr. FULTON. Could you go a little further on that point? The question is whether the standards are high and being generalized, or whether should we take them on an instance-by-instance basis? What do you think? Should we be practical, do it that way, or leave our high standards nationally?

Dr. HORNIG. I think that question involves a lot of very complicated problems because when one talks of uniform standards, certainly the circumstances differ very widely from one area to another. On the other hand, if one has a widely fragmented set of standards, we fail to make use, for instance, of the total national market as an incentive to produce abatement devices. I think this is a question which requires very careful consideration.

Mr. DADDARIO. Mr. Bell.

Mr. BELL. I think you recognize there are many differences in States, such as the way the smog, or whatever the pollutant is, affects an area. It seems to me we should have the right to upgrade, to increase, to make better our pollution battle beyond what the Federal Government wants.

Mr. FULTON. Will you yield to me?

Mr. BELL. Yes.

Mr. FULTON. I think I disagree with you both because possibly it should be on a physical basis of pollution basins or environments, more or less unified, rather than either Federal or State. What do you think as to that?

Mr. DADDARIO. I can see no particular disagreement with what you have just said and what Dr. Hornig has been telling us.

As I understand the statement, he does believe the country is vast and that there are so many differences which exist. We have to recognize that you may need to establish different criteria in different places for certain purposes.

Mr. FULTON. I am talking as to standards. Maybe you might have to have three or four States together in a basin concept rather than to do it State by State.

Mr. DADDARIO. I would think that that would be implicit in what has been said. You should comment on that, however, Dr. Hornig.