

The Air Quality Act sets up a research and control system which will be coordinated at the Federal level but will involve a high degree of participation by other levels of government and by all segments of industry. I will take just a few minutes to explain, without going into great detail, how the Air Quality Act will affect air pollution research and development activities in the months and years ahead and, more importantly, how these activities and control activities are interrelated and interdependent.

Air pollution, as I have already said, is inherently a regional problem, simply because the air, whether polluted or not, flows freely across the boundary lines that divide States and cities. This means, of course, that in most, perhaps all, places where air pollution is a problem, effective control action will require the coordinated efforts of numerous local governments and, in many instances, of two or more States. This is fully recognized in the Air Quality Act.

One of the chief purposes of the act is to insure that State governments, in cooperation with municipal and county governments, will develop and apply air quality standards on a regional basis in all parts of the country. Toward this end, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare will designate air quality control regions, each of which will consist of a group of communities that share a common air pollution problem. Air quality control regions will be designated on the basis of such factors as meteorology and topography, jurisdictional boundaries, and the extent of urban-industrial concentrations.

States will not actually be obligated to begin developing air quality standards for any pollutant until the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare publishes air quality criteria for that pollutant and information on available control techniques applicable to the various sources of that pollutant. Air quality criteria will describe the effects of air pollutants on health and property. They will reflect the best available scientific knowledge, even though that knowledge may not be as complete as we would like it to be. The information we will publish on control technology will identify the best techniques available for reducing pollutant emissions at their various sources, whether those techniques involve the application of control equipment, changes in fuel used or industrial processes, or any other practical approach. Since air quality criteria and information on control technology must be published before States can be called upon to begin developing air quality standards, the Air Quality Act must clearly be implemented as fully as possible on the basis of the best scientific and technical knowledge already available, while at the same time, an expanded research effort is undertaken to fill the gaps in this knowledge. Any other course would inevitably result in a slowdown of the Nation's efforts to deal with a problem that is already serious and threatens to reach critical proportions all too soon.

Mr. DADDARIO. At this point your statement appears to support the idea that States should not act at the present time, and that they ought to wait until you establish this criteria.

What arrangements have you made in order to allow States which do have the capability, even though such criteria do not presently exist, to move ahead?