

Dr. LUDWIG. Yes, Mr. Chairman. What I would like to comment on is the prediction system as it applies to the meteorological aspects. In the National Center over the last 10 years there has been developed, in cooperation with the Environmental Sciences and Services Administration, a system where every day we determine and carry, over the U.S. Weather Bureau network, a warning system termed "an air pollution potential advisory."

What these do is designate large areas of the country where the ventilation of the atmosphere is very minimal. This is both in the vertical and in the horizontal. Essentially it is concerned with low horizontal sweep of the air out of the region and a very limited mixing depth where the pollutants can mix vertically into the atmosphere.

Mr. DADDARIO. What is the mechanism through which you establish this?

Dr. LUDWIG. This is done at the present time by the U.S. Weather Bureau in Suitland, Md. It is done by professional meteorologists.

Mr. DADDARIO. Is this information made available to you on a daily basis?

Dr. LUDWIG. Yes. This information is transmitted by a teletype network and is made available to all major Weather Bureau stations in the whole country. This has already been set up.

In addition to this, at the present time, in some of the major communities of the Nation we have additional meteorologists who are working on schemes which will further improve on this locally. This is the second thing that is going on.

Mr. DADDARIO. Are they also U.S. weather people?

Dr. LUDWIG. Yes. These are Environmental Science and Service Administration people who have been assigned to the National Center and who work as a portion of the National Center for Air Pollution Control.

Mr. BELL. Does this work throughout the country as a coordinated effort, or just in this area here?

Dr. LUDWIG. This service goes on all over the country for the whole contiguous 48 States.

Mr. BELL. You are talking about predictions. What kind of a time-lag do you have on this?

Dr. LUDWIG. At the present time we are predicting the continuation of low-ventilation potential for a period of 36 hours.

At the present time, also, we are attempting to improve this system so that we can predict it on a 12- to 24-hour period in advance.

Mr. BELL. Then you would be able to have information back here that tomorrow morning in Los Angeles, for example, you will have a smog alert. Is it that type of thing you are talking about?

Dr. LUDWIG. That is right in part. We issue air pollution potential advisories. These advisories do not predict air pollutant concentrations per se but rather meteorological elements which, when combined with source configurations, can lead to a buildup of pollution in an area.

Mr. BELL. What is your degree of accuracy? Have you checked that out?

Dr. LUDWIG. Yes. We have issued advisories for most all of the major air pollution stagnation conditions, for instance, the one which occurred Thanksgiving a year ago in the eastern seaboard. At the present time, yesterday, an alert went out for the area in the south-