

eastern part of the country. This covers the area of northern Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and so on.

Mr. BELL. You must have coverage in Los Angeles, too?

Dr. LUDWIG. Yes.

Mr. BELL. How accurate have you been there?

Dr. LUDWIG. We have been very accurate in this location, also. I want to make one thing certain. What we are predicting is the stagnation of the atmosphere. This does not necessarily coincide with the formation of photochemical smog which has some additional input to it.

Mr. DADDARIO. What are you alerting the people in north Florida to do? You put this together. You have alerted them. Now what happens?

Dr. MIDDLETON. What happens at this point is a matter of considerable concern to the Secretary of the Department, and in our efforts to implement this section, since this is a new provision of the law, we have assembled in the Center an emergency task force which is concerned solely with emergency actions.

It is headed by the chief of the abatement program, Mr. William Megonnell; he is now in the process of developing, Mr. Chairman, the details that will be required to actually bring about an effective emergency action to control episodic air pollution events.

Since the problem becomes a local one, and effective control can be achieved only at the local basis, we are developing the kinds of criteria—and I use the word to mean the elements involved—which will tell local control officials the levels of pollution their monitoring system should be sensitive to, and to bring about an action to curtail recognized sources of pollution.

These are some of the kinds of items involved in emergency action planning; the finite detail is not now available.

Mr. DADDARIO. Would this include sufficient information so that you could come to some judgment about the effect this might have on people who are suffering from respiratory illnesses? Would you then give advice to the local people that they should move such people out of a zone? Are these the types of things you are concerned with?

Dr. MIDDLETON. There is a proposal now being considered in the New York area in which the Center is looking toward taking care of the difficult health cases you speak of by providing them with special medical attention, such that hospitals may be alerted and be on the watch for people who are in either poor health or in nursing homes and who may need special attention.

Mr. DADDARIO. This brings us to the criteria again, Dr. Middleton. How do you know what type of smog conditions do in fact effect people with respiratory illnesses? Are you guessing at it? At what level would you put up a danger flag so such a serious step could be taken?

I would expect that sometime there will develop such a serious condition and you would have to make recommendations to local authorities.

Dr. MIDDLETON. We are quite prepared to do this with the State and local governments involved, of course. The criteria concerned are the ones we were beginning to speak about but which we have not completed because I have not been able to finish my testimony.