

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to adjournment, at 10 a.m., in room 2325, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Hon. Emilio Q. Daddario (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Mr. DADDARIO. This meeting will come to order. Today we continue our inquiry into the status of scientific knowledge and research management in support of our national goals for environmental quality, achieving and maintaining satisfactory air quality impacts most forcefully on our energy industries, electrical power generation, space heating, industrial processing, and transportation burned fossil fuel with the oxygen of the air and thereby encounter the problems of returning that air to the community atmosphere without degrading its quality. The air we breathe is the same air which flows through furnaces and engines. How can we continue to keep these two uses compatible one with the other?

Our witnesses today represent the oil and coal industries as medical and environmental health experts. The adversary nature of their position vis-a-vis the Public Health Service officials is a valuable mechanism which should help achieve the optimum cost benefit relationship in pollution control.

This subcommittee believes it necessary to secure diverse information sources and advice in complex matters of science policy. Therefore, we welcome the testimony today as a further contribution on the critical establishment problem. The Air Quality Act of 1967 provides for appropriate advisory committees to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, which shall include medical and scientific personnel and industrial experts.

The clear intent of the Congress is that air quality criteria shall reflect an honest appraisal of all available facts.

I repeat, therefore, my concern is that the new law cannot function unless criteria are agreed upon which can be practically implemented.

The responsibility for environmental science to achieve this is planned. Dr. Robert Eckardt is representing the American Petroleum Institute. He is accompanied by Mr. Gammelgard. We appreciate the help they have given this subcommittee in the past, and today they are also joined by Dr. Harold MacFarland of the Hazelton Laboratories.

Gentleman, we are pleased you are here with us today and appreciate your coming and are anxious to hear what you have to say.

Dr. Eckardt, if you would proceed, please.