

we are not able to define in a quantitative manner all the benefits of water pollution control nor assess the total damages resulting from water pollution. Research into the socioeconomic aspects of water pollution control may provide us with some of these analytical tools—tools which will enable us to evaluate the “intangible” benefits.

Our knowledge of the costs and benefits associated with water pollution control is rapidly improving.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Administration has just completed a study entitled “The Cost of Clean Water.” This is in response to section 16(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, which directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the national requirements for and the cost of treating municipal, industrial, and effluent to attain water quality standards established under the act. The first analyses have just recently been completed as they were due for submission to the Congress in January, this month. These studies are extremely important because, although there is widespread agreement that water pollution is a significant, growing problem which must be dealt with, there are no firm estimates as to what the national requirements are, or what it will cost the Federal Government and other affected units of Government to achieve a satisfactory abatement level. Various cost estimate studies of municipal and industrial needs have been conducted in the past but they have not been sufficiently comparable in geographical coverage, time phases covered, cost criteria, types of facilities included, or in cost estimate technique to provide a fully meaningful guide to the national requirements and costs involved.

The cost of clean water study represents the initiation of what will be a continuing evaluation, aimed at developing more accurately the national costs of pollution control. Although it has not been possible to arrive at a completely definitive estimate of required costs, it is believed that the present study provides a more comprehensive cost estimate than has previously been developed and a sound base of information upon which to build future analyses. This estimate is expected to improve in accuracy with each yearly updating.

Mr. Chairman, the first volume of this report has been printed and copies can be made available to the committee and, as subsequent volumes become available, they will, of course, be provided to members of this committee and all Members of Congress.

Mr. DADDARIO. Do you have sufficient copies so that they could be distributed here?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Sir, I do not have sufficient number of copies for this, but I will see that we get them to you as quickly as we can.

Mr. DADDARIO. Fine.

As I understand it, Dr. Weinberger, the estimate for waste treatment, sanitary sewers and water cooling requirements, for fiscal years 1969 to 1973 is somewhere between \$26 and \$29 billion.

Dr. WEINBERGER. Yes, sir. I would like to start dwelling on the research and development program and planning.

I have taken figures 1, 2, and 3 out of the report, made it available to each member of the committee as a separate item.

(See charts in Dr. Weinberger's prepared statement appearing at conclusion of his testimony.)