

do you put Government patent policy in relationship to industry. Is it positive or negative, and under which of those subheadings?

Dr. WEINBERGER. I would say from the viewpoint of many of the industries I have talked with, it would be on the negative side. I might say that the patent policy—

Mr. DADDARIO. Then you would add another category to the negative side?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Yes, sir. This patent would be covered really in terms of the fact of disclosure of work being carried out, the rights to patents and the background patents which are all bound up in our patent policy.

Mr. DADDARIO. Let's not get into that.

Dr. WEINBERGER. On a number of other occasions I have mentioned the importance of demonstration and field evaluation. As a matter of fact, I believe I mentioned that when I appeared before this committee last time.

The Clean Water Restoration Act passed by the Congress in 1966 amended the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and makes it now possible for us to support large-scale field evaluation and demonstration projects. This program is approximately 1 year old but there is already ample evidence to indicate that the most significant contribution to the solution of water pollution by the development and application of new and improved technology will result from this program.

I have made available copies to the members of the committee of all of the grants we have made in this program for your review.

I would like to just quote something from an annual report that came to my attention just last week. This is the Pulp Manufacturers Research League, who in their 1967 annual report made the following references to grant support which they received from the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration:

A fair estimate is that this League-Federal project will move ahead by as much as five years the time when pulp and paper mills will have a solid dollars and cents foundation upon which to base a yes or no decision for reverse osmosis. If this in-plant process proves as sound financially as it is already proved technically, the industry will have an effective and economical method for treating dilute effluents to a previously unattainable level of purity.

Mr. DADDARIO. Do you assume that a previously unattainable level of purity, which does not mean absolutely pure, is going to fall within criteria of purity which will satisfy you?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Yes, sir. I might comment on that because one of the approaches being taken by this particular project in so many other of our grants is leading to a recycle of water. If successful, many installations will have no liquid waste discharge by recovering the impurities and simply recycling the water, thereby perhaps having no liquid discharge or a minimal discharge.

Mr. RYAN. Do you anticipate that that process will be applicable, and, if so, when, to municipal sewage waste?

Mr. DADDARIO. If it is applicable.

Dr. WEINBERGER. Yes; if it is. I would say that the work on the applicability of reverse osmosis to municipal waste, although it is under intensive study by our program, and these are listed in a number of locations, the need to accomplish the desired results is not as