

partment of Health, Education, and Welfare the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration. Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1966 transferred the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to the Department of the Interior. Under the terms of the transfer, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare retained the responsibility for advising the Department of the Interior on the public health aspects of water pollution.

An interdepartmental agreement of September 1966 between the Department of the Interior and HEW, following the transfer, defined HEW responsibilities in the following broad areas: (1) public health aspects of water pollution related to man's drinking water; (2) man's contact with water in recreation and work; (3) contamination of food sources, particularly shellfish; and (4) to the breeding of specific vectors of disease.

Mr. DADDARIO. Is that a proper definition of responsibility?

Mr. EVERTS. Yes, sir, we think so.

Mr. DADDARIO. Why do you say that?

Mr. EVERTS. We feel in the Public Health Service we have capabilities to assess the effects of pollution on man, particularly as it relates to his drinking water, and to his contact with recreation waters. We have had long experience in estuarial pollution. Since 1925, we have worked in a cooperative program in the sanitation of shellfish, with both the State agencies and industries. While we frankly admit that we do not have all of the answers, we do have our program plans made to seek solutions to those problems of communicable disease and illness which may result from contaminants in water.

Mr. DADDARIO. I will go into that in greater length, but there is some question about the way we are organized and whether or not it is the most efficient way to organize and whether necessarily these things are compatible one with the other.

Mr. EVERTS. Yes, sir.

In fulfillment of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare responsibility for implementing this agreement between the two agencies, the Public Health Service, where requested to do so, has reviewed and commented on those State water quality standards as related to pollution control, as submitted to the Department of the Interior before June 30, 1967. Such water quality standards proposals from 36 States have been reviewed by PHS field offices and comments have been made on the adequacy of those standards to protect drinking water supplies as well as waters to be used for water contact sports or shellfish production. Twelve States are now under review and two have not yet been received.

The Public Health Service has under preparation health guidelines for water quality as related to pollution control, in the following areas: Water to be used for domestic purposes and food processing; recreation use; estuarial waters and vector control. These guidelines are under intensive review by the Public Health Service and will be furnished to the Department of the Interior as soon as they are finally approved.

While the public health drinking water standards and the proposed new health guidelines represent the best current knowledge in protect-