

First of all, the Fish and Wildlife Service at its laboratory, the one I am generally familiar with being in North Carolina, has done an extensive amount of work on the behavior and uptake of radioactive materials by various marine organisms. This has provided the basic information which is required to do the kind of thing indicated in the statement.

From the standpoint of the regulatory function of the Commission, when they get an application for a license for a commercial plant they routinely send these applications over to the Fish and Wildlife Service and ask for their comments. As far as I know there has been no instance where the Fish and Wildlife Service has come in with a comment which indicates that something more has to be done where this has been overridden by the regulatory people.

I think the answer to your question is, therefore, that if indeed there were an argument that developed in a particular situation, while the Fish and Wildlife Service as a result of this relationship would not have a veto power, their comments would be considered and would be made available to the public in accordance with regulatory procedures. Insofar as this comments relates to radioactivity and radiological safety, the AEC regulatory function would be such that what the Fish and Wildlife Service means would be incorporated in whatever requirements the regulatory people came up with and which a licensee would have to meet.

Mr. DADDARIO. The Fish and Wildlife people probably would have to depend pretty much on information you give them as to the effects of this.

Dr. LIEBERMAN. No, because they have done work in this area themselves with their own people. They have carried out in their laboratories uptake studies and reconcentration studies of various radioactive materials. They have done it in the past and so far as I know they are continuing this work.

This is another example of not building up a tremendous duplicating competency within our own in-house organization in a specialized aspect of the business.

If radioactive materials might get to where fish will get to them we ought to know how they interact and we ought to go to the people who have the experience and competence in these areas. This is what was done. This does not mean the Fish and Wildlife Service are the only ones who have been working in this area. The comments and views that the Fish and Wildlife Service would come up with in this connection would be based on their own knowledge, experience, and competence.

Mr. DADDARIO. We can take that as a somewhat typical example of a Government agency with which you have worked over the course of time and which has developed an ability to look into radioactive problems and to come to a judgment as to how they can accomplish their own missions. Then you work with them in both providing the answers and coming to solutions.

Dr. LIEBERMAN. That is quite right, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DADDARIO. Dr. Lieberman, it probably comes as no surprise to you that we might on occasion have some national coal policy newsletters come to this committee. There is in here a statement about a