

Mr. BROWN. It bothers me a little to see these projections made for a period of time which it appears as if we can handle the results, yet in a very short period of time after that for reasons which are uncontrollable, we could not handle the results. For example, the total water supply of the United States. I am becoming more and more concerned about the need to do planning for what you might call a stable state society, a condition of society in which these problems are solved rather than just saying, "Well, we cannot project what will happen in another 50 years."

Dr. TAPE. You are suggesting consideration of a very broad problem. My memory, for example, of the population that is figured into the year 2000 projection of ours is 300 million people—for the United States.

Mr. BROWN. And about 7 billion for the whole world.

Dr. TAPE. We have based these evaluations on 300 million people for the year 2000. Actually, I am afraid we are going to have have many, many other problems with 300 million people that just the electrical power problem.

Mr. BROWN. We are going to have many others. Well, I do not want to pursue this any further, Mr. Chairman, but I think it is a significant problem.

Mr. DADDARIO. Commissioner Tape and Dr. Lieberman, we still have a number of other questions which we will submit for the record. We do have two other witnesses who I hope we might hear before the day is out.

Dr. TAPE. We would be pleased to supplement in any way that you like.

Mr. DADDARIO. Thank you. We will be in touch with you. We do appreciate everything you have said. It has been a very interesting morning for the subcommittee.

Dr. TAPE. Thank you very much.

Dr. LIEBERMAN. Thank you.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO DR. JOSEPH A. LIEBERMAN BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

Question 1. The central question is whether we are proceeding to count on nuclear energy to fill our power requirements before all the dangers have been identified, techniques for eliminating them have been devised, and a complete cost-benefit analysis performed. The pressure of economics, the momentum of a commercial power reactor program, and tendency for the short term gain at the expense of long term environmental effects makes this question very important now. What research strategy is being followed to gain confidence that nuclear power will be a tolerable factor in the world of tomorrow?

Answer. The nature of radioactivity as a potential hazard to man and his environment and the importance of satisfactory radioactive effluent control were recognized when the atomic energy program was conceived under the auspices of the Manhattan Engineer District in 1942. As a consequence, careful attention has been given by the Atomic Energy Commission from the outset to the measurement, evaluation, and control of potential hazards to the environment from all Commission production and developmental activities.

In the planning and development of nuclear and reactor technology over the past 20 years, it has been a continuing research policy of the Commission to