

We knew the Secretary wanted a strategy for action. He had, and still has, the job of determining resource allocation. As you know, there is only so much time, so much money, so much personnel, and many more problems than can be handled with the amount of time, money, manpower resources available. Thus the resources have to be divided or allocated on some basis of priority need.

We found that the goals which were being set were being done so at the lower levels of the Department. They didn't seem to relate to any overall policy.

The first thing we had to do was to identify the enemy. The enemy was the environmental insults which occurred in the air, water, on or in the soil, and in the space that humans occupy.

The second thing we decided was where the action should take place. We decided that the direct operations to prevent environmental decay or restore environmental quality ought to be done by the city or in high density urban areas by a metropolitan regional body. Where State lines cut through an urban area, regional bodies should be established to do the job.

The task force did not deal with a State role. But I would say it should be to supplement funding local action programs and to prevent budding urban areas from falling into the same traps existing ones are in.

The State does not need to play a direct role in local action programs, nor should it. The State does not need to be an intermediary between Federal support and local action, and it should not be.

I have long heard the plaintive word that the State must be involved in the planning of environmental improvement in urban areas because of the effect on the rest of the State. All I can say is that the effect on the rest of the State can only be positive. Let the State enter the battle for environmental improvement with its money and its support.

The Federal role we suggested should be to provide the resources which no local or State agency can provide itself. This is essentially research, establishment of criteria, manpower development, and compliance leadership. The Federal Government's direct action role should be limited to those things which are clearly beyond local reach, such as automotive exhaust emission control or consumer protection. But its role should be extended to include authority to take action if local units can't or won't.

Mr. DADDARIO. Mr. Linton, in talking about establishment of criteria, you have gone into problems that the States have and that some of these problems do cut across the State-city lines, as of course they do. Are you talking about the establishment of criteria on a basis of various standards, or do you have this capability? Can you, in fact, meet the criteria requirements of one area without coming to a judgment that will perhaps place you in the position where criteria for the setting of regulations in other places should be higher or lower?

Mr. LINTON. It may be—and I am speaking in terms of standards rather than criteria—that a standard in one area may have a deleterious effect on another area because the standard is either too high or too low. Therefore, I think it is correct to establish a range of criteria, that relates to every conceivable, and possible development that can be evaluated in terms of standards.