

panies. Dr. Gershinowitz retired in 1966. He is now Chairman of the Environmental Studies Board of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering, consultant to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (Paris), and affiliate in the Faculty of the Rockefeller University.

STATEMENT OF DR. HAROLD GERSHINOWITZ, CHAIRMAN, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES BOARD, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

Dr. GERSHINOWITZ. My name is Harold Gershinowitz and I am Chairman of the Environmental Studies Board of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering.

I am particularly pleased to have this opportunity to present to you this report on the activities of the Environmental Studies Board.

The existence of the Board itself is, in a very large measure, due to the desire of the two Academies to provide a scientific-engineering resource for the Federal Government, and that desire was very much stimulated by the interests of your subcommittee in the problems of the environment, particularly as exemplified in the hearings which you held in 1966. We were very honored, Mr. Chairman, when you attended our initial meeting on the 27th of January of last year.

Mr. DADDARIO. I was honored to be asked, Dr. Gershinowitz.

Dr. GERSHINOWITZ. After rereading the initial draft of this report, which I am making to you, I felt a bit apologetic about the emphasis which I had placed on matters of organization, but after hearing the tenor of discussion this morning perhaps it is what you are interested in hearing.

I do give a substantial amount of detailed information about the origin of the Environmental Studies Board, the responsibilities assigned to it, and the organization through which it operates. Most of this is included, because the way in which the Board has found it desirable to operate is indicative of the character of the problems with which it is faced.

The first thing that one can say about any one problem of the environment is that it cannot be considered in isolation. Air pollution cannot be considered without also examining fuel resources, solid waste disposal cannot be discussed without reference to potential air and water pollution. Both in science and governmental organizations knowledge and responsibilities are divided in ways which make difficult comprehensive examination of either causes or remedies. Much previous work, both in the realms of technology and of policymaking, has been done without adequately taking into account side effects and interrelationships.

The Environmental Studies Board with its broad charter has considered it essential to take these interrelationships into account. Much of what may seem to be a preoccupation with organization which has taken up much of our time for the first 6 months of our existence has been due to the need to provide mechanisms which would make it possible to include interactions. This need is clearly reflected in the opinions and suggestions currently being reviewed by the Environmental Studies Board, and which constitute the major part of this statement.