

APPENDIX A

Staff Meetings on Environmental Quality

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1968

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND ASTRONAUTICS,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT,
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Joseph M. Felton, counsel, and Mr. Richard A. Carpenter, Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress, met with Dr. John Middleton, Director, National Center for Air Pollution Control, and other officials of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, in room 2062, South Building, HEW, at 2:20 p.m. Accompanying Dr. Middleton were Mr. S. Smith Griswold, Special Assistant to the Director, NCAPC; Dr. Emanuel Landau, statistical adviser, Office of the Associate Director for Criteria and Standards Development; Mr. Thomas F. Williams, Chief, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs; Mr. Irwin Auerbach, Chief, Legislative Section, Office of Legislative and Public Affairs; and Dr. Bernard Steigerwald, Chief, Office of Program Planning and Evaluation.

Mr. FELTON. First of all, I would like to thank you for meeting with us this afternoon. As you know, Mr. Daddario indicated at the hearing that the subcommittee would send written questions to you. Subsequently, he decided it might expedite matters if we sit down across the table and discuss these things back and forth.

You have a copy of the general questions we propose to cover, so I do not think we should have any problems.

The question I want to start with has to do with the definition of who we are talking about when we use the word "persons" in the act.

Can you give us some idea of what you have in mind or what you consider to be "persons"? Is it someone who is sick, healthy, old, young, or is there some norm to which you direct these criteria?

Dr. MIDDLETON. Your question, then, is, what air quality criteria are, or, in other words, what they mean. The answer is that air quality criteria are an expression of available scientific knowledge of the relationship between various concentrations of pollutants in the air and their adverse effects on man, animals, vegetation, materials, and so on. Criteria are descriptive. That is, they describe the effects that can be expected to occur whenever and wherever the ambient air level of a specific pollutant or combination of pollutants reaches or exceeds a specific figure for a specific time period. Insofar as human health is concerned, air quality criteria reflect knowledge derived from epi-