

your 90-percent design to assure 80-percent overall treatment? Does it have to do with storms?

Mr. BARNHILL. Well, it might have to do with storms, but it might have to do with emergencies in the plant.

Mr. CARPENTER. Yes.

Mr. BARNHILL. There are times when the character of the sewage changes and so forth.

Mr. CARPENTER. Now, I would like to use this example of your administrative action to help illustrate the sequence of selecting water quality standards and associated abatement technology that one would install.

As we heard from Dr. Weinberger in the hearings, the first consideration would have been the use of the Lower Hudson River, not only the present use but what you might anticipate as future desirable uses, from which you would have examined the criteria corresponding to those uses, these criteria including the residual BOD, perhaps nutrients and so on.

But could you tell us the sequence that you follow to arrive at this 90-percent treatment and how you would—I believe you mentioned that this plant would be 53 percent, at its 2010 capacity—

Mr. MOORE. On the 22 acres.

Mr. BARNHILL. The present.

Mr. CARPENTER. So unless more land is acquired as we go along, this percent removal will degrade to 53 percent?

Mr. BARNHILL. Yes.

Mr. CARPENTER. Just due to the volume which has to be passed through a limited plant site?

Mr. MOORE. Yes, sir; that is correct.

Mr. CARPENTER. Well, could you—

Dr. WEINBERGER. Could I add something to that? I think that one must recognize also that in the intervening period there is very little question but what we are going to be able to perhaps modify the existing treatment at existing sites and obtain increased treatment.

Mr. MOORE. By modify, you mean improve?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Improve, yes. So we can operate these plants so we do remove more of the impurities. So I think during this period that the plant is coming up to design capacity—and you do have to seek alternate solutions, one of which is perhaps going to be treating the wastes elsewhere. We should not write off the idea that at a particular site, with changing economics, we can perhaps put in a more expensive type of treatment. Some of these are not available now, but we are talking of 40 years in the future.

Mr. CARPENTER. Right. This would suggest that there would be ample opportunity through research, development, if you will, to come up with improved treatment within the constraints of a particular site.

Now what will the citizens of New York get for their money in installing this plant?

Mr. MOORE. Higher quality of water in the Hudson River.

Mr. CARPENTER. With respect to what uses?

Mr. FELTON. To put it another way: You can't swim in it even though it may not be polluted, you still couldn't swim in that type of situation?