

biodegradability test. We currently are working with them trying to develop what we call an algal growth potential test. We have done quite a bit of work in terms of measuring how the acute and chronic or long-range effects on fish and aquatic life. We are getting more sophisticated in trying to develop ecological chambers, so you can measure the ecological effects.

Incidentally, we are a long way from being able to do that. I am not even suggesting that we will be able to do this in the near future, and as John points out, at the same time we have got to have the analytical capability to measure these materials.

But here again I think we have to put added responsibility on the industry, when they come up with a new product, to begin requiring them to develop analytical techniques. Incidentally, this is not too different from FDA.

We, of course, would be completely overwhelmed, and I don't think it is a proper Government role, to evaluate every new product under every possible circumstance.

Mr. MOORE. Well, it seems to me this is one of the points at which the practical considerations would have to have some weight. I see no point in requiring a series of registrations or a series of reports or a series of analyses if all you are going to do with them is file them somewhere.

It seems to me some thought would have to be given before you could commit yourself on a program of this scope.

Dr. WEINBERGER. That is right.

Mr. MOORE. I think you would have to give some consideration to what might be required of FWPCA if you were going to do something with them, before you answered the question as to whether they ought to all be just routinely filed.

Now it seems to me that the question I believe you were getting at is one that might be more pertinent, and that is there could be something in the effluent that would not necessarily be in the end product that could be more dangerous than the end product was.

Mr. CARPENTER. That is right.

Mr. MOORE. It seems to me that in any event the primary responsibility for what gets in the effluent has to lie with the industry, because this could happen if the reporting process were working.

Mr. CARPENTER. Yes. The primary responsibility would have to lie with industry, to be sure, as it proceeds, it does not come in conflict with the standards or criteria that have been established by the FWPCA.

Mr. BARNHILL. I hope Dr. Weinberger will agree with you—at least I feel we can work with industry and develop a screening test that would be short and reliable and would very quickly dispense of 95 percent of these chemicals, and then we could develop test procedures—

Mr. CARPENTER. Yes.

Mr. BARNHILL (continuing). For whatever the remaining amount would be, without too much difficulty.

Mr. FELTON. Are you doing anything along this line now?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Oh, yes.