

Presidential order, it was admonished to consult with the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements on scientific matters.

Such a body would establish *criteria*—with the responsibility of government to establish *standards*—accepting or rejecting the proposed criteria as a basis. We might avoid such crises as occurred recently with the Public Health Service Sulfur Dioxide Criteria. Had these criteria been developed by an eminent and independent scientific body, they would have had a much higher degree of sanction and acceptance. With such a council providing the scientific interpretation, a Council of Ecological Advisers would be helped in integrating the other factors, social, economic, political into the kinds of recommendations our society needs and must have.

I am sure that when you sent me your letter you didn't expect such a fulsome reply. This background, however, may give some added weight to my enthusiastic endorsement, and my encouragement to press forward with your proposed legislation. In fact, I feel so deeply about the urgency of these problems that I'm changing my base of action, by taking an early retirement from Kodak (next February 1) and becoming Professor and Chairman of the Department of Environmental Health in a new School of Public Health in Houston, Texas. The new school will be a part of the University of Texas system and will be located in the Medical Center in Houston.

I shall be pleased to do anything I can to advance the proposal which you have made. I'm enclosing two examples of my "missionary" efforts to create an awareness of the serious job ahead.

Sincerely,

JAMES H. STERNER, M.D.,
Medical Director.