

ments and agencies. The proposed Flood Insurance Act, currently before the Congress, is an example of a bill on which the Council usefully worked before the administration's report was transmitted to the Congress. Besides the Department of Housing and Urban Development which would administer the flood insurance program, certain of the provisions of the bill relate to the work of the Departments of the Army, Agriculture, and the Interior.

Of necessity, of course, the Council must consider proposed legislation that would involve an addition, I might even just say a change, to its own functions. For example, S. 2564, now before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, provides that the Atomic Energy Commission, prior to determining whether or not a license for a nuclear powerplant shall be issued, shall request the advice of the Water Resources Council regarding "the compatibility of the proposed facility with any comprehensive, coordinated joint plan for water and related land resources development which has been approved for a region, river basin, or group of river basins in which such facility is to be located."

The Council's legislative reports, like those of all Federal departments and agencies, are cleared with the Bureau of the Budget before they are transmitted to the Congress. Thus, the role of the Council in this field does not infringe upon the longstanding role of the Bureau of the Budget. What the Council usefully adds, in my opinion, to the process of consideration within the executive branch is face-to-face interdepartmental consideration in an effort to identify oversights, improve clarity, and overcome any interdepartmental disagreements. Such useful face-to-face consideration is not normally a part of the clearance procedure of the Bureau of the Budget.

Because the Assistant Director for Policy and legal adviser is now preoccupied for half his time, at least, with the next matter I will discuss, with title III, and with other legal matters, his professional input to policy development along with that of his one professional assistant is clearly inadequate to meet the Council's needs.

To make up for this present deficiency, the Council has called upon staff in the several Federal departments and agencies associated in its work to perform necessary staff work. Such assistance will always be useful and desirable. Necessary competence on particular matters might not otherwise be possible to procure. Nevertheless, greater WRC professional staff is clearly required.

Next, we shift to the Deputy Director and the Task Force on Institutional Arrangements for River Basin Management.

Institutional arrangements for river basin management, as has been noted, also come within the Council's second function implementing section 102(d) of the act. In addition to his duties of assisting the Executive Director in overall management of the WRC staff and of sharing with him and the administrative officer and Council secretary, the staff burden relating to the Council's sixth function—responsibilities regarding creation, operation, and termination of Federal-State river basin commissions, the Deputy Director is Chairman of the Council's Task Force on Institutional Arrangements for River Basin Management. He is assisted in this role by the Assistant Director for Policy and legal adviser.

You will recall in Chairman Udall's testimony, at the present time we are making an appraisal of proposed Federal-interstate compact