

3. The State Designated Agency needs more flexibility in administering approved projects. The Office of State Technical Services has every right to, and indeed should, hold the Designated Agency accountable for performing the program as approved. However, the excess amount of administration now required—such as control of individual budget line items—causes additional paper work, a time delay, and uses effort that could be spent on more productive pursuits.

4. The STSA was designed as a federal-state partnership; however, to date, the administrative procedures have been imposed rather than developed jointly. In many cases, these have not helped the states in their fostering of the Act. It would be helpful, and the needs of the individual states could be met more fully, if there would be a genuine movement towards a federal-state partnership. The use of the task force idea has been a step in that direction.

5. The Office of State Technical Services should consider using punchcard forms for receiving rate-use and other data. Key-punched cards could speed statistical reporting of program results at both state and federal levels.

In summary, there is an active program in Pennsylvania operating under the State Technical Services Act. Numerous projects of interest and benefit to business and industry are being conducted by various qualified institutions under the auspices of PENNTAP. However, if this service to the business and industrial community is to be continued and/or expanded, financial support from the federal government is necessary.

Mr. MARLOW. Penntap is an abbreviation for the Pennsylvania technical assistance program set up in Pennsylvania to administer the State Technical Services Act.

The Penn State University requested the Government to administer a statewide program. We have some 120 institutions in the State that we contact each year. Approximately now we have 12 institutions of higher learning, Government agencies, and independent laboratories working to disseminate technical information within the State of Pennsylvania.

We are pretty happy with our early results. Our plea would have to be that in the 22 months that we have been operating things are starting to roll. We are able to get our message out now to industry. They are starting to understand what Penntap is.

If we were to stop now or greatly curtail our program now the effort at this point would be lost.

We are able to show at this point successes like Mr. Reilly mentioned today, we are starting to put dollars and cents successes on some of our programs.

We have several dissemination activities that were initiated under the State Technical Services Act that are now going on their own without any State or Federal support.

This, we believe, is the direction it should go. We should like to see the appropriations used to start, to initiate programs and then have them become self-supporting as quickly as possible.

However, at the same time, there are certain kinds of programs like our library commission and reference programs that I don't think will ever be completely self-supporting.

So, an analogy might be drawn to a county agent who helps the farmer with new seed and moves along with it, has had continued Government support.

First, the continuing Federal support will allow us to initiate programs without whose help the programs would never be initiated and; secondly, to provide some continuing support for those activities that because of the nature of them could not become self-supporting.