A growth in expenditures in this program can be expected, to more nearly match actual replacements to requirements for replacement, and for augmentation of facilities in rough proportion to the increase in gross national product.

11. At what level are the personnel responsible for the various parts of the program coordinated to determine if the program as a whole is being efficiently carried out?

The program directors named in question 2 are responsible for program coordination.

12. Is there a continual program review within the agency, other than the annual budgetary review, to determine more effective and efficient ways to achieve these program objectives?

Continual program review is accomplished routinely by Headquarters review of project proposals, drawings, specifications, and estimates. Constraints in the form of limitations on obligations, expenditures, and personnel require review of the program. Reductions and reallocation of resources also lead to review. In addition, some projects contain a "value engineering" clause in the contract.

13. To your knowledge, does this program duplicate or parallel work being done by any other agency?

The Coast Guard engages in construction, repair and modernization of facilities necessary to meet the requirements of our mission performance. The program does not duplicate the capital investment programs of other agencies. We frequently can and do "add on" our requirements to DOD construction contracts and capital equipment procurement contracts.

14. Is your organizational structure such that the program is being carried out most efficiently and effectively?

Our organizational structure has met our needs in the past. However, the introduction of PPBS has resulted in certain changes to date, and further changes will probably result, to match organization to program structure as it evolves in the Department of Transportation.

15. Are there any outstanding GAO reports on this program? If so, what is the status of the GAO recommendations the report contains?

No final GAO reports on this program exist to which the Coast Guard has not responded.

16. What significant problems, if any, are you facing in accomplishing the program objectives?

The erosion of the value of the dollar has led to shortages of funds due to construction bids higher than estimated at the beginning of the budget process, several years before the bid opening date.

17. Do you administer any grants, loans, or other disbursed funds related to this program? If so, is the size of your administrative staff commensurate with the magnitude of the outlays?

The Truman-Hobbs Act provides that the Federal Government shall share the cost of altering bridges to remove obstructions to free navigation of navigable waters of the United States. Disbursements are reimbursements to the bridge owner. It is now administered by the Coast Guard through an administrative staff including navigation specialists, bridge engineers, and managers.

18. If your appropriations were reduced, how would you absorb the cut—by an overall reduction, or by cutting or curtailing certain activities?

Certain activities—projects—would be curtailed to absorb a cut in the appropriation.

19. If additional funds were available, what would you do with the new money?

Additional funds, over and above those currently appropriated, would be applied to the highest priority areas currently agreed upon with the Department. More particularly the highest priority would generally be reflected in the restoration of such reductions from the President's fiscal year 1969 budget as the House Appropriations Committee may effect, or that may be made in the event a general retrenchment were ordered from the fiscal year 1969 program now before Congress.

Activity 3 (U.S. Coast Guard): Research Development, Test, and Evaluation

1. What is the nature of and authority for this program?

This program is for necessary expenses for basic and applied scientific research, development, test, and evaluation; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; maintenance, rehabilitation, lease and operation of facilities and equipment. Funds remain available until expended. Authority for this program is found in title 14.