

burse the State the amount the Federal share, which the State had agreed to pay in advance as part of its prefunding. I'm very concerned that the proposed Act before Congress may impair the State's position in funding local construction by months if not years. In that much confusion has resulted in the terms of the proposed act, I would appreciate answers to these questions as soon as possible.

Signed "Forest M. French, Orono Town Manager."

Adding to that list that we went through, would you like to add New Hampshire?

Mr. OEMING. Yes, sir; that is correct.

Mr. McCARTHY. And Vermont. I believe you mentioned Pennsylvania.

Mr. OEMING. Yes, I did.

Mr. McCARTHY. Massachusetts?

Mr. OEMING. Massachusetts; yes, sir.

Mr. McCARTHY. So I think we enumerated about a dozen States there that have gone ahead with the prefinancing provision as the foundation.

Mr. OEMING. That is correct, sir.

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Denney?

PLANT DESIGN AND OPERATION REQUIREMENT OF H.R. 15907

Mr. DENNEY. Mr. Oeming, in your testimony, it looks like you made a careful study of H.R. 15907. On page 8, subsection (g), (1), it says:

The design and operation plan for treatment work shall be adequate in the judgement of the Secretary to insure the maximum efficiency in operation.

Do you have any idea what that means?

Mr. OEMING. Yes. Well, I have an idea what it means and if I interpret this correctly, I think it could be very well imposing another period of delay in this whole process of getting pollution abated.

Here we have a situation, sir, where the States have gone sled length to adopt water quality standards and plans of implementation, and if those are to meet anything, the States must provide the kind of treatment, require the kind of treatment of the municipalities to meet those standards.

Now, I am concerned about the necessity for another set of approvals on these designs and operations.

Now, it is true that under the Federal programs presently, the designs of the treatment facilities, the plans go to the Secretary of the Interior after they have been reviewed by the States and certified by the States as being adequate.

We have had no trouble with this, but now we get into this operating problem here and I just wonder how the Federal Government can get into the problem of operating a facility of a town of 2,000 or 5,000 people, or in the metropolitan statistical area. There are some small towns.

PROSPECT OF INCREASING FEDERAL CONTROL SEEN IN PRESENT PROPOSALS

Mr. DENNEY. This morning I asked the Secretary a question, it looks to me like the thrust of this law is to put more and more control at the Washington level, and yet the basic concept of the act was to preserve