

clean water from tributaries, in neutralizing the self-polluting condition of such lakes. In short, the condition of the receiving body will demand just as much attention as the waters which flow into it.

ONONDAGA LAKE

The Government Operations Committee Report, which I referred to earlier, comments on a lake situated within my congressional district. Onondaga Lake was described by the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration in 1966 as being the most serious pollution problem in the Lake Ontario Basin. It said, "Literally used up, its waters are extremely degraded, and in the south end in particular, the lake is an ugly eyesore." The south end of the lake lies within the city of Syracuse.

"To Save America's Small Lakes" comments favorably on a community consensus that the lake can and should be rehabilitated. Local government has already taken advantage of the opportunity to demonstrate the advantages of joint industrial-municipal waste treatment by applying for and receiving a grant under the section 6 program. I believe that this community intends to take the steps necessary to see that all wastewater entering Onondaga Lake is adequately treated. The great difficulty, of course, is to determine what treatment is adequate in view of the complex condition of the lake itself. It would be regrettable should many millions of dollars be invested in the construction of waste treatment facilities only to learn that the lake's usefulness will not be appreciably expanded. Our situation cannot be unique, and it is the purpose of H.R. 10751 to set in motion the kind of research and demonstration projects needed to find the answers before new facilities are constructed.

R AND D THE BASIS FOR ACTION TO IMPROVE LAKE WATERS

A body of water's usefulness is determined by its quality, and with certain lakes, the quality of wastewater is but one factor which will determine the quality of the lake's waters. Substantial investment in treatment facilities must be justified in terms of providing public benefits, and I believe that the expenditure of funds for facilities without taking into account other relevant factors will be wasteful. Unless we can know with a degree of certainty that our financial commitment is really going to bring about usable bodies of water, we ought to question the advisability of the commitment. To provide this degree of certainty is the principal reason why I have introduced H.R. 10751.

Of course, there is the difficulty in determining what should be the reasonable use of a certain body of water.

Obviously, some lakes will never again be able to support the full spectrum of water-related recreation, but they might be able to serve as a source of supply for industries and municipalities. They may also be able to support certain forms of fish and wildlife. It seems to me that the citizens of an area, in the last analysis, will make the determination as to the future uses of a body of water, and hopefully, their decision will be based on knowledge of what is feasible and what costs