

## INADEQUATE FINANCING OF WASTE TREATMENT WORKS CONSTRUCTION

Our present level of expenditures, particularly considering the level of expenditures that has been programed in the budget for the past, that is for this fiscal year and the previous 2 fiscal years, certainly gives us no hope of reaching or stimulating the level of construction that is needed.

In the State of Michigan, Federal grants will go to somewhere between one-third and one-fourth of the eligible applicants and conceivably this year it could run to even a smaller fraction, and we are finding continuing dissatisfaction from the communities and from the States at the level of funding that the Federal Government has made available.

This is a matter of some concern, since I must tell you it is my frank opinion that we are now finding our program of waste treatment plants and sewage abatement works and things of this kind being significantly retarded by the low level of Federal funding that is now being made available. I am sure the record indicates, Mr. Chairman, the figures insofar as construction grants as opposed to the level that this committee has authorized.

I would urge, Mr. Chairman, that this committee in its continuing interest in this matter not simply permit this question of water—of Federal grants under Public Law 660, as amended, to be handled in the rather cursory fashion that it has been handled by the Appropriations Committee and the Bureau of the Budget. I would hope this committee in the exercise of its oversight and its wise policy in the field of water pollution would be most vigorous in compelling a more generous and a more wise and a more realistic level of expenditures, and one which is more closely related to the very carefully planned-out program, in terms of the level of expenditures that has been programed by this committee in terms of the language of the amendments to Public Law 660.

I would point out that in all probability the level of funding that is authorized by Public Law 660 over the next 40 or 50 years is not going to be adequate even if maintained and substantially enhanced. This, of course, is one of the reasons why H.R. 16044 affords opportunity for some advancement.

## H.R. 16044 NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR ADEQUATE TREATMENT

I want to make it very clear, Mr. Chairman, that the purpose of the bill is not to set up a substitute for adequate treatment. It is to do two things, Mr. Chairman. First of all, during this time when funds are short and can be expected to be short, it is my hope that this legislation will afford the basis for improving significantly the quality of our water treatment through encouraging States, municipalities, communities, interstate, intermunicipal agencies to utilize the most modern and efficient operation of their treatment plants.

## POTENTIAL EFFICACY OF CHEMICAL TREATMENT

Potentially, it is possible, Mr. Chairman, to remove, through the utilization of polyelectrolytes, polymers and a number of other things. The significant improvement in waste treatment, conceivably in well-operated plants, operated on a secondary basis, it is possible to remove as much as 90 percent of phosphates and to have a significant improve-