

and collecting sewers. However, the life of waste treatment plants usually ranges from 20 to 30 years, the period which would be included within the contract prerogatives of the Secretary. Is it the intent that these major trunk sewers and interceptors be laid down in the case of regional systems with capacities estimated to be sufficient to handle loads 50 or 100 years hence? If this is the intent, it should be pointed out that we are asking the present generation to prepay capital construction that will not be used except by their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. I suggest that the congressional intent on this issue be definitely expressed in the committee report as a guide to executive administration of the act.

INTERSTATE AGENCY APPROVAL

Page 7, line 5, subsection (D). May I suggest that this paragraph be amended to include the *approval, where appropriate, of interstate water pollution control agencies*, as well as the State water pollution control agency. This would conform it better with the following subsection (e) whenever "such works are part of an effective river basin pollution control plan or management program."

PLANT DESIGN AND OPERATION REQUIREMENT

Page 8, lines 17 through 20 requires that the design and operating plant or treatment works be adequate, in the judgment of the Secretary, to insure the maximum efficiency of operation. Again the intent of the Congress should be indicated in the committee report. I am sure that a detailed and duplicatory Federal review of State and interstate design clearances is not intended. It is wholly appropriate that objective site selection and construction and operating criteria, acceptable to both the Federal and State pollution control agencies, be jointly developed and followed in the design and construction of plants and systems.

These, however, should be applied in detail by the first-line reviewing agency. They should not be the subject of a tedious and prolonged second or third review by central authority, which is tremendously short of manpower to handle this job. A form of quality control can be followed here.

OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

Page 9, line 1, et seq., requires initiation of an effective statewide treatment works operator certification program approved by the Secretary by 1970. We think this is good, and would respectfully suggest that while the plan of certification might be established by that time, the development and training of an adequate supply of operators may not be capable of early accomplishment. I suggest that the committee may wish to note that this will have to be a developmental effort, and between now and 1970 it may not be possible to produce the full number of qualified operators that will be needed as this program develops completely.

We do not have comments on the remaining amendments which appear to be largely a matter of corrective detail, rather than substantive additions. Again, I would like to express my appreciation for this opportunity to talk with you on this matter.

Thank you.

THE "WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1968" GENERAL ENDORSEMENT

Mr. WRIGHT. First, I would like to say I do appreciate very much the opportunity to comment on this legislation, and I would like to inform the committee that the general Delaware River Basin Commission does endorse this legislation in general terms and intent.

We estimate our own overall cleanup job in the Delaware Basin has a capital cost of around \$500 million, about \$300 million of this would be from municipal sewage treatment, and of this amount, a Federal contribution in the amount of 55 percent would be some \$165 million.

I think we can establish a substantial interest that will break up the financial logjam that is now holding up so much of the work.