

the construction of waste treatment plants before receiving a Federal grant. Any waste treatment facility which was not under construction by next July 1 would be no longer eligible for reimbursement.

In Wisconsin all projects financed since June 30, 1966, have been proceeding under the reimbursement provision. Many projects have now been approved by the State of Wisconsin or are nearing approval under this provision. But in a substantial number of these projects, construction cannot as a practical matter be begun before July 1, 1968, the proposed cutoff date. The result will be that a number of Wisconsin projects which will not be reached for several years if a full Federal grant must be given, will have to be delayed. I am sure there are similar situations in other States.

Thus, to clear the pipeline I propose that the cutoff date on reimbursement be extended from July 1, 1968 to January 1, 1969.

This would allow communities with advanced plans for waste treatment facilities to begin construction rather than suffer a 2- or 3-year delay.

Mr. Chairman, in order not to lose the momentum given to the drive for clean water of the 89th Congress, the 90th Congress should enact this legislation.

Mr. BLATNIK. Thank you very much.

There are no further witnesses for today, and the hearings are now adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

(Whereupon, at 5:55 p.m., the subcommittee recessed, to reconvene at 10 a.m., Thursday, April 25, 1968.)