

*Estuary study*

The requirements of this bill are in line with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and they bring into focus the special problems of tidal estuaries. It is pointed out, however, that if control efforts are concentrated on the major sources of deleterious contributions to estuaries, that is, pollution control in the freshwater streams feeding the estuaries, surface runoff, and its attendant problems, ground water contributing to estuaries and undesirable discharges from sources such as vessels, that the condition of estuaries would be so markedly improved that this need for this type study would be diminished greatly.

*Plant design and operation—operator certification*

Finally, the bill would require that the owner of a water pollution control facility operate it to obtain maximum efficiency and that each State participating in the plan would bring its plant operating surveillance to a proper level and engage in a program of plant operator certification. These requirements strike at the heart of plant operating needs and the Water Pollution Control Federation has made major contributions to these efforts. For this reason, the federation endorses these provisions with great enthusiasm.

By the sheer size of the water pollution control problem, it seems virtually impossible for it to be primarily a Federal program. For this reason, the Federation hopes that maximum use will always be made of the State technical staffs who have worked with this problem devotedly for many years. Full support of the efforts of all States will pay off handsomely in returns for effective control of water pollution in the United States.

S. 2760

*Lake pollution control provision*

The intent of subsection (h) of section 5 providing for developing and demonstrating new or improved methods of water pollution control agrees with the general intent of the Water Pollution Control Federation's objectives except that this section of the bill restricts the effort to pollution problems in lakes. It can be pointed out that much of the problem in lakes is caused by the components of the water discharged into them from streams. Therefore it can be argued that if the streams are properly handled there would not be a need to emphasize lake pollution to a discriminatory degree. This is not altogether true in the literal sense because of pollutorial and/or nutritional additions from surface runoff in a lake watershed, and there are other factors of course. However, it emphasizes the need to consider the overall problem including source, carrier, and receiver, rather than to fragment an effort with concentrated emphasis on one segment even though that segment may not be the weakest or strongest link in the chain.

This organization believes that pollution problems including eutrophication should receive great attention but that the source and streams should receive great attention also. It further believes that lakes that are not already in serious condition can be protected with stronger emphasis directed toward the objective of higher water quality of the water entering lakes which we believe is the underlying intent of the basic act.