

APPENDIX F

AEC POLLUTION RESEARCH

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY,
November 15, 1966.

MR. CHARLES L. SCHULTZE,
*Director, Bureau of the Budget,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. SCHULTZE: I am writing to discuss the overall pollution of our environment, which President Johnson has described as "one of the most pervasive problems of our society." I also wish to offer some suggestions concerning use of existing facilities to help resolve this critical problem affecting our Nation and the entire world.

Month by month the degree of concern over pollution, within the scientific community and the public at large, becomes more intense. Clearly, it is the responsibility of the Federal Government to furnish dynamic leadership in planning and conducting a long-term program to deal with this matter. In this connection, I have reviewed and been impressed by last November's report of the Environmental Pollution Panel of the President's Science Advisory Committee. On several occasions I have publicly called attention to some of the Panel's most significant conclusions.

One of these conclusions is that an urgent need exists to provide additional trained personnel, with adequate facilities, to launch the required broadscale attack on the manifold causes of environmental pollution. While I generally agree with this view, I am concerned that we may lose irretrievable lead-time in establishing new organizations and facilities, which will result in wasteful duplication and fail to achieve the desired results. We can and must make the optimum use of the qualified people and facilities currently available to us.

For more than two decades, the Federal Government has supported a vast program of research and development including the construction of expensive laboratories and other scientific establishments. These plants are furnished with the most advanced equipment. Thousands of scientists and engineers have been trained at Federal expense, and there exist in this country a number of highly skilled organizations which we have built up and supported in order to devote their energies to the attainment of various national research and development objectives. My efforts on the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and the Government Operations Committee have convinced me of the critical need for making better use of these Federal research establishments in solving the dilemma of environmental pollution, particularly as it relates to urban design. This needs to be done in order to maximize