

our scientific and technological progress and to achieve the best allocation of scarce resources.

As a specific example I call your attention to the federally-supported atomic energy research laboratories. Unquestionably, these facilities represent a national asset of incomparable value. The plants themselves are outstanding in their quality and diversity. They are staffed by outstanding people, expert in both the physical and life sciences. The systems type approach which they have applied to problems of the magnitude and complexity of development of nuclear energy for peaceful and military purposes especially qualifies these organizations for coping with the Herculean tasks which must be accomplished in order to safeguard our environment against pollution. Moreover, and very importantly, these organizations have had perhaps the most extensive experience in many of the programs which must be pursued now with great vigor, such as measurements of pollution, studies of its effects, and analysis of waste disposal methods.

I have discussed this matter with Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Glenn Seaborg, and have requested him to consider carefully the capabilities of our atomic energy facilities to contribute to the national effort to abate pollution. I am also bringing this to your personal attention because of your position of responsibility concerning the overall programs of Executive Agencies. I hope you will specifically review this subject with Dr. Seaborg to determine how best to utilize these outstanding laboratories. Your efforts to assure that available resources are used wherever possible are of the utmost importance in promoting an effective, timely and economical Federal approach to this problem. You can be assured of my support in these efforts.

I believe it is of vital importance that the matters I have discussed be given full and early consideration. Accordingly, I would appreciate an opportunity to talk with you about them as soon as our mutual schedules permit.

With kindest regards,
Sincerely,

CHET HOLIFIELD, *Chairman.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., January 6, 1967.

HON. CHET HOLIFIELD,
*Chairman, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy,
Congress of the United States,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR CHET: I write in belated response to your letters of November 14 and 15 concerning the problems of pollution control research and development, with specific reference to the possible use of AEC facilities and to certain aspects of procurement practices among the agencies involved.

We have discussed this matter in a preliminary way with AEC, and we plan to make a more detailed exploration into the possibilities identified in your November 15 letter as soon as the current problems of budget preparation are out of the way.