

job, but I don't want you to disqualify my Department in this field at the same time.

Senator NELSON. Mr. Secretary, I wasn't suggesting disqualification. I was suggesting adding the expertise that is available throughout the Federal Government. Where, for example, in any one of these areas on the private lands do you have employees of your Department working?

Soil Conservation has experts in the area right now and they have been there for years and years—40 years—working in the area. You have all kinds of experts. An awful lot of them are here, but you have nobody that I know of in my State, save one, who is a first-rate fellow, top notch. But we have Soil Conservation men in every district in the State of Wisconsin. They are Federal employees and they are on the spot. That is my point. Why don't we use them? You don't want such expertise to be competitive but to be used.

Mr. UDALL. Senator, you are quite right in terms that the Soil Conservation Service is a national program and is in all of the States. We also have a "Soil Conservation Service," a very good one, that manages the Bureau of Land Management lands—they are mostly in the West.

We have a "Soil Conservation Service" in the Indian Bureau managing Indian lands, also, but the problem that we are going to face with this bill—I am talking now about Senator Jackson's bill, not your bill, and I differentiate between the two, as you can see—is that in terms of working out the type of standards that we are going to need, the type of national program with the States, I think Interior should use the expertise of Agriculture in drafting these as we did in carrying out our report.

They played an important role in that report, but I think that my Department is the proper one to manage this new national program with regard to the future because we are doing something very similar to this with the States in the water pollution control program. It is working very well, and I think with our intimate knowledge of the mining industry, because that gives us some insights that we would otherwise lack, we can do the job. I think part of my job, if I can do it, and I have tried to do it for 7 years, is to persuade the petroleum industry, and the mining industry, and the other use industries that they have heavy duties and responsibilities in terms of conservation, in terms of carrying out their activities, so that they do not do damage to the other resources of the Nation. I think we have made some real headway and I would say the coal industry, for example, has really turned around in the last few years.

It may be that many of the pictures we showed you are recent, and they are, because there wasn't much reclamation until a few years ago, but the industry is doing a lot voluntarily.

I still don't think it is enough and I would like to see it done on a national basis with equal footing for industry, but I think we can move the mining industry in the same direction that the water using industries are moving with water pollution control, if we act now.

Senator NELSON. Mr. Secretary, a couple of aspects about that. In the first place, if you hadn't been hitting them on the head at the State level and furnishing them guidelines a lot of them wouldn't have come up with water quality standards, anyway.