

this area and of the critical role played by the availability of sanitary utilities.

At this time, Prince William County is experiencing the same growth and having the same related problems that Arlington County had approximately 10 years ago. The rapid pace of the county's growth will continue for many years to come as industries and Federal agencies seek breathing room in the Greater Washington, D.C. area.

The industrial, governmental and domestic demand being placed on the sanitary facilities supplied by Prince William County is indeed a challenge. The need for a reliable source of water in adequate quality and quantity and the need for acceptable methods of waste disposal is a most pressing one, not only in Prince William County but also for Fairfax, Arlington, and Loudoun Counties, plus the cities of Alexandria and Fairfax.

The water quality of the Potomac at Washington and the upstream use of these waters to supply the needs of the Washington metropolitan area has already received considerable attention from this Congress as well as from the executive branch. The demand for sanitary facilities to meet the needs of the Northern Virginia and Maryland areas can be best supplied from a combination of facilities along the Potomac and the Rappahannock Rivers. These water supply needs have now become critical to Prince William County. The influx of industry to Prince William County, even today, is inhibited by the limited water supply available from existing resources.

Internal county resources are limited. A large percent of these resources are controlled by agencies external to the county. Water supplies for the Virginia Suburban-Washington metropolitan area are presently being drawn for the most part from the Occoquan Creek and, to some extent, from wells. The Occoquan Creek, as a main source of supply, serves the city of Alexandria, a large portion of Fairfax County, the Fort Belvoir military reservation and a significant portion of Prince William County. The ability of the Occoquan to meet this continually growing need is limited. This stream cannot satisfy the thirst for water that will grow ever greater as our population and industries expand.

County studies over the past several years indicate that the county must look beyond its boundaries for water that is economically available. Several courses have been evaluated. Withdrawal of water from the upper Potomac River, by Prince William County, would conflict with plans of the District and Fairfax County to utilize this supply in areas to the north.

Also, such a project would entail a long and costly pipeline across the breadth of Loudoun County. The quality of the water in the Potomac as it passes Prince William County to the east would result in treatment costs, making its use prohibitively expensive. The most feasible and economical course would be to use a supply resulting from the Salem Church Reservoir project on the Rappahannock River. The Salem Church Reservoir will impound vast amounts of high quality water that can be piped into the Occoquan Basin at a reasonable and attractive cost.

Salem Church Reservoir will assure ample water for the county and therefore, all of the Virginia suburban-Washington metropolitan area to meet its needs for the foreseeable future. It is further noted