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5-YEAR AMORTIZATION OF CONTROL DEVICES ON EXISTING FACILITIES NOW AVAILABLE

Special provision for amortization of certified air and water pollution control facilities over 60 months when added after Dec. 31, 1968, to plants which were in operation on that date is included in the Tax Reform Act of 1969 signed into law by President Nixon. The provision, which is expected to cost the Federal Government $120-million when fully effective, is intended to encourage pollution abatement expenditures by minimizing effect of repeal of the 7% investment tax credit for business equipment purchases retroactive to last April 18.

The amortization will be allowed only for the proportion of the equipment's cost attributable to the first 15 years of its normal useful life, as recommended by the Treasury Department. If the property has a normal useful life of more than 15 years, the taxpayer can, in effect, treat his facility as if it were two separate facilities. One facility could receive the 5-year amortization, and the other normal depreciation based on normal useful life of the property. The taxpayer could write off the two facilities concurrently.

The rapid amortization provision will apply only to air and water pollution control facilities completed or acquired before Jan. 1, 1975, and is not available for facilities included in plants built after Dec. 31, 1968.

The Tax Reform Act follows a Treasury Department recommendation that the definition of an eligible pollution control facility be limited to exclude facilities which serve any function other than pollution abatement. No rapid amortization will be permitted on facilities that only diffuse the pollution and which do not serve to abate the pollution. In passing the measure, Congress agreed to Treasury's insistence that the amortization provision apply only to installations which prevent or minimize the direct release of pollutants into air or water in the course of manufacturing operations. Thus, for example, facilities which remove sulfur from fuel would not be eligible for the amortization.

The control facilities must be approved by appropriate state authorities, pursuant to the Air Quality Act of 1967 and Water Quality Act of 1965.

While control facilities in new plants are not eligible for the 5-year amortization provided in the Tax Reform Act, tax concessions for such are expected to receive fresh attention in Congress next session. Some 13 bills are already pending in Congress to amend the Internal Revenue Code with tax credits to encourage construction of control facilities, and more are expected to be introduced as national pressure for pollution cleanup mounts.

DSW 201612

Bullish Effect on Pollution Control Stocks

The 5-year amortization provision approved by the President had an immediate bullish effect on stocks of pollution control companies. Pollution control stocks accounted for more than one-half the new yearly highs posted, Dec. 26. Among those setting highs were Buffalo Forge, American Air Filter, Zurn Industries, Joy Manufacturing, Aqua-Chem, Sybron Corp., Combustion Engineering, and Bell Intercontinental which holds control interest in Wheelabrator Corp.

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STLCOPCB4059679

PRESIDENT SIGNS ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY BILL CREATING 3-MAN ADVISORY COUNCIL

In his first official act of 1970, President Nixon signed into law Jan. 1 the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (S. 1075) creating a 3-man Council on Environmental Quality charged with formulating and recommending national environmental policy and appraising government programs (A/WPR, Dec. 15, 1969, p.437). This landmark legislation, originally introduced by Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D.-Wash.), also requires government departments and agencies to consider the environmental consequences of all actions and provide for an annual President's report on the environment similar to the nation's yearly economic report.

In signing the bill, Nixon termed the fight against air and water pollution and population growth a "now or never" proposition. "A major goal...for the next 10 years for this country must be to restore the cleanliness of the air, the water and that, of course, means moving also on the broader problems of population congestion, transport and the like....Unless we move on it now, believe me, we will not have an opportunity to do it later, because then the people will have millions more automobiles and, of course, the waters and so forth developing the way that they do without plants for purification, once the damage is done, it is much harder to turn it around. It is going to be hard as it is."

Nixon said he will soon nominate "highly-qualified" people to the 3-member council of environmental advisers, but otherwise gave no hint of what he has in mind to step up the national cleanup program. The new council, whose members must be approved by the Senate, is expected to be more effective in dealing with environmental problems than the existing Environmental Quality Council created last year by Executive Order and composed of Cabinet members having many other duties. The 3-member council is expected to function in relation to the Cabinet-level group much as the Council of Economic Advisers functions in relation to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Policy.

Improving quality of the environment is expected to comprise a major portion of Nixon's State of the Union message to Congress, Jan. 22.

Ask Nixon to Halt Oil Drilling

Even as the President was calling for action from state and city governments and "massive volunteer activities" to help improve and preserve the environment, a Citizens Committee to Get Oil Out (GOO) appealed to him to stop installation of another drilling platform off the Santa Barbara beach, some 150 miles from the President's Western vacation office at San Clemente, Calif. Precipitating the latest citizen action was another major oil spill from Union Oil Co.'s operations in the Santa Barbara channel.

One of Union's offshore pipelines sprung a leak; production was stopped to fix the pipe, and flow increased from seepages in the ocean floor left from the blowout last January. Although this latest pollution has been cleaned up and the leak stopped, reaction against installation of another drilling platform is mounting.

Union Oil has announced it will install a third platform soon, and said that the recent seepage demonstrates that "the only solution...is to remove the oil from underground as rapidly as possible. In order to deplete more rapidly the large oil and gas reserves...it is necessary to install...a total of three platforms as originally approved by Federal agencies. We are preparing to do this as soon as possible."

Members of GOO were seeking to meet with the President at the Western White House to try to persuade him to stop Union Oil's expansion. Also, they are urging a boycott of Union Oil's products.

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FPC ESTABLISHES OFFICE OF ADVISOR ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY; NAMES HEAD

Federal Power Commission, which has been undergoing increasing criticism for lack of attention to environmental matters, announced Dec. 29 establishment of new Office of Advisor on Environmental Quality which will be headed by Frederick H. Warren, formerly senior vice president and engineering consultant of NUS Corp., Rockville, Md.

The new Office will be responsible for developing, evaluating and advising the Commission and staff officials on FPC policies and actions affecting environmental protection in relation to the generation and transmission of electricity and the production and delivery of natural gas. These responsibilities relate to environmental science, ecology, biology, air and water pollution, fish and wildlife protection, recreation, scenic values, natural and historic preservation, and similar matters.

DSW 201613

MUSKIE CALLS FOR NEW ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

"An independent, watch-dog agency to exercise the regulatory functions associated with environmental protection" should be created within the Executive Branch, Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D.-Me.), chairman of the Air and Water Pollution Subcommittee, told the 136th meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Boston, Dec. 29.

This is needed, he said, to provide a "more formal reorganization...to insure proper status for environmental protection.... Bureaus, divisions, and administrations housed in separate (Federal) departments cannot marshal the resources required to combat the interlocking assaults on our air, water and land resources."

In calling for a new agency to assume protection responsibilities now placed in the Departments of Health, Education, and Welfare; Interior; Agriculture; Atomic Energy Commission and others, Muskie said he was not "talking about a new Department of Natural Resources or Department of Conservation. Environmental protection is not the same as conservation, although sound conservation practices should enhance the environment...The traditional concerns of conservation activities have been too closely identified with the protection of natural resources separated from the population centers. Our primary concern must be man where he lives and the interrelationship between the natural environment and his man-made environments.

"An independent agency, charged with the responsibility for developing and implementing Federal environmental quality standards, supporting basic research on problems of environmental quality, stimulating and supporting research on control techniques, and providing technical assistance to state, interstate and local agencies, would reflect the national commitment we need if we are to avoid ecological disaster."

Muskie was sharply critical of the Nixon Administration for showing "more form than substance" on environmental protection policies, "professing its concern with the environment, but unwilling to spend the $1-billion authorized for water pollution control, willing to put a new face on NATO with a Brussels conference on environmental protection, but unwilling to take a tough line on international oil pollution negotiations in that same city."

Muskie told the scientists that "environmental protection is too important to be left to the emphases of public opinion polls, or the prospects of political action, confrontation and court suits. It is too vital to man's survival to be dressed up in new committees, councils and agencies--unsupported by a willingness to invest in that survival." He called on them to "free man from unnecessary hazards and to enable him to live in harmony with his environment."

* * *

DOT TO FUND BASIC RESEARCH PROGRAM BY USC ON JET ENGINE NOISE & ABATEMENT

Department of Transportation has awarded a $529,000 grant to University of Southern California, Los Angeles, to conduct a 3-year program of basic research on jet engine noise and its abatement. Dr. John Laufer, chairman of the USC Department of Aerospace Engineering, has been named chief investigator of the project.

"The commercial aviation industry has had limited success in developing and applying devices for jet noise suppression. As we approach the age of supersonic flight, it is apparent we must greatly increase our knowledge of jet noise if we are to contain it within an acceptable level," DOT Secretary John A. Volpe said.

Under the program, Dr. Laufer and his associates will develop methods of predicting the noise field of a given jet engine configuration and a more reliable approach to the suppression of such noise. Elements to be considered in the research include upstream flow conditions, jet temperatures and effects of concentric nozzles in jet engines. Both conventional speed and supersonic jets will be studied.

Results of this basic research program are not expected to be immediately applicable to reducing the noise of present aircraft. However, they will add to the body of information being developed for future designs by coordinated efforts of DOT, National Aeronautics and Space Administration and other agencies participating in the Federal Interagency Aircraft Noise Abatement Program.

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DOMINION FOUNDRIES AND STEEL CO., Hamilton, Canada, announced Dec. 23 a $28-million 6-year program to correct existing pollution problems. This is in addition to $14-million spent on pollution problems in past 10 years.

DSW 201614

STLCOPCB4059681

UNITED NATIONS ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON 1972 WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

United Nations General Assembly, Dec. 15, adopted a resolution authorizing Secretary-General U Thant to proceed "immediately" with detailed preparations for a two-week United Nations World Conference on the Human Environment to be held in June, 1972, in Sweden. Assembly's decision endorses the main purposes and objectives of the Conference as proposed last summer by the Secretary-General in a report on Problems of the Human Environment (A/WPR, Sept. 29, 1969, p.327).

Main purpose of the conference, according to the resolution, is the practical encouragement and development of guidelines for international cooperation and action to "protect and improve the human environment...remedy and prevent its impairment" and to help developing countries avoid environmental problems afflicting industrialized nations.

Overall responsibility for Conference organization is entrusted to the Secretary-General who is requested to set up a small Conference secretariat "immediately." It also calls for a Preparatory Committee of "highly qualified" representatives to be set up to advise the Secretary General. Total of 27 nations invited to name representatives to this Committee, whose first session is expected to be held in March, 1970, are: Ghana, Guinea, Mauritius, Nigeria, Togo, United Arab Republic, Zambia, Cyprus, India, Iran, Japan, Singapore, Czechoslovakia, USSR, Yugoslavia, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Mexico, Canada, France, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom, and United States.

The General Assembly also decided that "any interested Member State not appointed to the Preparatory Committee...may designate highly qualified representatives to act as accredited observers at session of the Committee, with the right to participate in its discussions."

As proposed in the Secretary-General's Problems of the Human Environment report, approximately 1,200 high-level representatives of governments throughout the world are expected at the conference. Discussion will be on the policy-making level rather than on detailed technical matters. Conference is being organized to stimulate international agreement and cooperation for action on "the crisis of the human environment" that threatens the very "future of life on earth."

Urgent Need to Reverse Trends

There is an urgent need to halt and reverse trends towards pollution of air and water, overcrowding and deterioration of cities, improper and over-use of land and the potential extinction of many forms of plant and animal life, the Secretary-General's report said. "Man is at last becoming aware of the extent of the damage caused to his environment by uncontrolled use of the earth's resources. The developing countries, fortunately, can avoid the dangers which the industrialized countries now must correct at very great cost."

Major goal of the 1972 conference, report said, is "concentration on the need for action by public authorities, at the local, national, regional and international levels, to deal with the problems of planning, management and control of the human environment for economic and social development."

Sweden first called for the World Conference in a memorandum to U.N. Economic and Social Council at its spring 1968 session. General Assembly, on Dec. 3, 1968, adopted a resolution incorporating that suggestion, stating that it is "desirable to provide a frame for comprehensive consideration within the United Nations of the problems of human environment in order to focus the attention of Governments and public opinion on the importance and urgency of this question and also to identify those aspects of it that can only or best be solved through international cooperation and agreement."

That resolution identified two main types of world-wide human environmental problems as: (1) changes in the natural surroundings of man brought about by increasing population and the uncontrolled use of modern technological advances in industry and agriculture; (2) impact of these changes on man himself, on his health, and on working and living conditions.

* * *

RUSSIA TESTING HYBRID CAR IN MOSCOW

Russia reports that a "hybrid" electric and conventional automobile, designed to reduce harmful exhaust emissions, is being tested on Moscow streets. It obtains power from a storage battery and a generator, whose rotor is turned by an internal combustion engine operating at a constant speed.

DSW 201615

STLCOPCB4059682

PESTICIDE RELEASE INTO ENVIRONMENT MUST BE CUT DRASTICALLY, NEW COMMISSION WARNS

Federal Commission on Pesticides and Environmental Health, in its full report released Dec. 24 (A/WPR, Nov. 17, 1969, p.397), emphasized the urgency of drastic reduction of use of pesticides which may even be threatening the earth's oxygen supply by "adversely affecting...photosynthesis in the oceans."

Although the panel said "there is little ground for foreboding of disaster, there is even less for complacency." And it bemoaned the lack of information on the effects of pesticides on living things and "the general backwardness" of pesticide research. Evidence, however, indicates the chemicals upset the balance of nature and even eliminate valuable species from a local area.

The report, whose summary and major conclusions were made public in November (A/WPR, Nov. 17, 1969, p.397), recommended minimization of the spread of such "biocidal" materials by improvements in industrial handling of waste water, and disposal of unused stocks, and more careful use in the home and in large-scale operations. The complete report included masses of details on which the previously published recommendations were based, and included suggestions of subcommittees and advisory panels.

One subcommittee charged that the effect of pesticides on the full range of living things in the U.S. could not be properly assessed because less than 1% of species in the country have been studied from this viewpoint. Therefore, release of the chemicals should be reduced as much as possible in combination with stepped-up research and public education.

Another subcommittee cited a report stating that photosynthesis by oceanic algae dropped 50-90% on exposure to 100 parts per billion of DDT. And another report showed that one type of algae was affected by exposures as low as 3 parts per 10 billion over 3 days.

Knowledge Fragmentary & Indirect

Turning to possible effects on human beings, the report stressed that "the field of pesticide toxicology exemplifies the absurdity of a situation in which 200 million Americans are undergoing lifelong exposure, yet our knowledge of what is happening to them is at best fragmentary and for the most part indirect and inferential."

Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Robert H. Finch, acting on recommendations of the 14-member commission chaired by Dr. Emil M. Mrak, chancellor emeritus of University of California at Davis, announced he is establishing a new pesticide clearing-house in the office of his assistant secretary for health to act as an operating base for a new permanent advisory committee. He is establishing a departmental task force to help implement commission recommendations. In addition, Finch said, a new interagency agreement on pesticide responsibilities will be negotiated, and testing for hazardous effects of pesticides will be improved and expanded.

* * *

KLEIN REPORTS 'CONSIDERABLE PROMISE' IN DEVELOPING SELF-DESTRUCTING PESTICIDES

Preliminary results of a research project, initiated by Aerojet-General Corp., El Monte, Calif., last July with a $96,520 FWPCA contract, are showing "considerable promise" at developing self-destructing pesticides, Carl L. Klein, Assistant Secretary of Interior for Water Quality and Research, announced Dec. 24. While much experimental work remains to be done, he said, continued progress in the research could go a long way toward eliminating the most harmful effects of DDT.

Emphasis in the research is placed on finding a catalyst that will cause DDT to self-destruct. Dr. Keith H. Sweeny, program manager for Aerojet, said laboratory tests indicate the possibility of removing three of five chlorine atoms contained in DDT. Toxicity of the resulting chemical compound was only 10% of the toxicity of the original DDT as measured by preliminary tests on mice. Sweeny stated that tests to date show that time control of the breakdown of DDT can be accomplished as soon as six hours after the period of application, and can be limited to days or even weeks at the discretion of the applicator of the catalyst.

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CONSERVATIONISTS PETITION U.S. APPEALS COURT FOR STRICT BAN ON DDT

Petitions seeking a strict ban on the use of DDT have been filed in District of Columbia U.S. Court of Appeals by four conservation organizations and six individuals who

(Continued on following page)

DSW 201616

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U.S. APPEALS COURT ASKED TO BAN DDT NOW (Cont.)

contend that the Government has not gone far enough in restricting use of the pesticide and that recent actions against DDT leave loopholes. In earlier petitions to the Departments of Agriculture and Health, Education and Welfare, the groups charged that there was evidence that DDT was an imminent hazard to man, animals and the environment and asked that steps be taken to end its legal use as a pesticide and declare that traces of it are no longer permissible in food.

One petition, filed by Environmental Defense Fund, Inc., Sierra Club, West Michigan Environmental Action Council, and National Audubon Society said that Agriculture's order that DDT not be used on shade trees, in house and garden, and in aquatic areas did not prohibit sales but only required a change in labels. This petition asked the Court to review Agriculture's actions in light of the earlier petition asking for a complete ban on DDT.

Agriculture, more than a month ago, also ordered "that there be a publication of intent to cancel all other DDT uses with a request for comment within 90 days. Exceptions would be made where DDT is needed for prevention or control of human disease and other essential uses for which no alternative is available. Action will be completed by Dec. 31, 1970."

The other petition, filed by Environmental Defense Fund and six California residents, requested the Court to review HEW's rejection of an earlier petition asking that no traces of DDT be permitted in foods. HEW had said this was impossible because of the widespread distribution of the pesticide, and it would be years before traces of DDT could be eliminated from foods even if use of DDT were stopped immediately.

Petitioners cited evidence that DDT has been found capable of causing cancer in mice that have been given large doses. They seek to have the pesticide banned under a provision of Federal law prohibiting use of any food additive demonstrated to be cancer-causing in any species. They said that tests have shown that mother's milk contains 5 to 7 times as much DDT as is permitted by Food and Drug Administration in cow's milk.

* * *

ILLINOIS BANS USE OF DDT EXCEPT FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Illinois Interagency Committee on Pesticides has approved a ban on sale or use of DDT in the state effective Jan. 1, except by special permit from directors of the Departments of Public Health and Agriculture. Such permits will be granted "only when there is an immediate and serious threat by pests to the health or welfare of the citizens of Illinois and when no other effective pesticide is available."

New regulations require sellers of DDT to maintain records of all sales, including copies of permits authorizing purchases, and make an annual report on amount of the pesticide sold. Ban also applies to farmers and use of DDT in attacking Dutch elm disease.

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BRITAIN IMPOSES WIDESPREAD CURBS ON USE OF DDT AND RELATED PESTICIDES

Strict curbs on use of DDT and other pesticides, including prohibition of their use in homes and gardens, has been announced by British Minister of Agriculture Cledwyn Hughes. Speaking before the House of Commons, Hughes said he had accepted the findings of an advisory committee on pesticides which said that even low concentrations of DDT were undesirable although there was no evidence that present concentrations were a health hazard.

* * *

USPHS AWARDS GRANT TO CINCINNATI MEDICAL CENTER FOR STUDY OF CADMIUM TOXICITY

USPHS Environmental Control Administration has awarded a $115,575 grant for a 3-year study of mechanism of cadmium toxicity to Dr. H. G. Petering, associate professor of environmental health and assistant professor of biological chemistry, together with two of his colleagues at University of Cincinnati Medical Center.

Cadmium, one of a group of metals poisonous to man, "is widely used in industrial processes, the production of alloys, the plating of hardware goods to provent rust formations, and in chemical processes," Petering explained. "It is present in air, foods, feeds, and in some water supplies. In large doses it causes acute toxicity. In low doses it has been implicated in hypertension and some other chronic diseases."

STLCOPCB4059684

CALIFORNIA MOVES TO CONVERT FLEET VEHICLES TO SMOG-FREE NATURAL GAS POWER

A 6-point smog control program aimed primarily at converting public and private fleet vehicles to relatively smog-free natural gas power was announced, Dec. 22, by California's Gov. Ronald Reagan. Key proposals calls for converting some state vehicles to natural gas for urban driving and reducing the state tax on natural gas for vehicle use in the hope of encouraging other fleet operators to make similar conversions. The state conversions are to begin at once, but the 60% tax reduction sought will require legislative approval. Natural gas-powered vehicles have been tested extensively throughout the country and reduce smog-producing emissions about 90%.

The Governor's program provides: (1) Immediate conversion of 175 state-owned vehicles to dual gasoline-natural gas system, enabling them to use latter in urban driving.

(2) Additional conversions on regular basis, at expected rate of 100-200 vehicles annually. Governor's office said California operates 25,843 vehicles and buys about 2,000 new ones annually.

(3) Newly converted vehicles as well as 1970 gasoline-powered models, with required reduced pollutant emissions, will be sent to areas of worst pollution. Of first 175 conversions, 100 will go to Los Angeles, and 25 each to San Diego, San Francisco, and Sacramento.

(4) 1971 models purchased by state for use in heavy smog areas must meet 1975 emission standards recently set by the Air Resources Board.

(5) Approximate 60% reduction of state tax on gas used for vehicles.

(6) Development of tune-up and testing procedure to insure that vehicle emissions remain low.

Reagan acknowledged that there are some disadvantages in operating on compressed natural gas, including the initial $400 conversion cost, present scarcity of natural gas stations, and relatively limited range per tank. "However, we can start achieving low pollution now, and that outweighs any disadvantages as far as we are concerned," he said. He estimated that tax and fuel savings would total about $100/year under normal fleet operation.

Not for Public in Foreseeable Future

Following Reagan's announcement, John A. Maga, executive officer of the Air Resources Board, said the dual-system car was not for the general motoring public in the foreseeable future, and would not make a dent in solving the state's smog problem attributable to motor vehicles. California has 12-million registered vehicles, of which 9.3-million are passenger cars.

Maga pointed out it was practical to use the dual system only on cars returned to a central garage for overnight storage, since a compressor and operator must be available to refuel the cars. California has such garages in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, and Sacramento.

Maga stressed that the principal purpose of the state program is to encourage other fleet operators -- such as, telephone companies, electric and gas utilities, city and county governments -- to follow suit. He said cars can be driven 30-100 miles a day in metropolitan areas on compressed natural gas. He indicated the state was in no position, even if it could be done legally, to establish fuel centers so the public could use the system, and that he knew of no private interests with plans to establish fuel centers for the public.

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GENERAL MOTORS JOINS FORD IN PROMISE TO ATTACK AUTOMOBILE POLLUTION

General Motors has committed itself "to take the automobile out of the smog problem altogether," Chairman James M. Roche told GM employees in a Christmas message Dec. 23. Speaking on the heels of a Ford Motor Co. anti-pollution pledge (A/WPR, Dec. 15, 1969, p.436), Roche said that "we must meet the transportation needs of our customers, at a price they can pay, and eliminate the automobile as a cause of smog."

Elimination of the smog-causing capacity of the automobile has been a GM and industry objective for some time, and substantial progress has been made, he said. "The great challenge in the Seventies is to fulfill our responsibility to the American environment."

He reasserted company policy to "explore through research potential new power sources which can be developed on a practical basis."

DSW 201618

STLCOPCB4059685

'SUNSHINE SIMULATOR' TO BE INSTALLED AT FWPCA'S SOUTHEAST WATER LABORATORY

Controlled Environment Systems, Inc., Rockville, Md., and Interior Department's Southeast Water Laboratory, Athens, Ga., have signed a $147,000 contract for a "sunshine simulator" to be installed this spring as a component in the lab's environmental chamber used to study water pollution.

The "sunshine simulator," which will duplicate sunrise and sunset as well as intensity and other factors, will consist of more than 1,000 gas discharge and infrared lamps and will irradiate an artificial stream inside the laboratory. There is already a backlog of priority problems for the environmental chamber to tackle, according to Dr. Walter M. Sanders, III, chief of the National Pollutants Fate Research Program at FWPCA's lab. These include study of the interrelationships between bacteria and algae in a stream environment, and the study of thermal pollution, he said. "We hope to achieve operational capability by mid-summer 1970."

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NEW YORK STATE PURE WATERS AUTHORITY REPORTS $46-MILLION CONTRACTS WITH 21 MUNICIPALITIES

New York State Pure Waters Authority, created in 1967 as a special task force to assist municipalities struggling with waste-management problems, announced that at year-end it had more than $46-million worth of pollution-control construction under contract with 21 municipalities.

Outlining the Authority's business picture, Chairman George A. Dudley said that it had arranged 26 loan agreements for a total of $27-million to help finance construction; had signed contracts to supply advisory services to 12 other communities; and was in pre-contract negotiations for construction or construction-management work involving projects valued at another $72-million.

He also cited several contracts signed during the year, including $10.7-million in sewage-treatment and related facilities for City of Amsterdam, $7-million worth of sewerage and sewage treatment design and construction for 5 cooperating Herkimer County communities, and $3.8-million in construction for Villages of Carthage and West Carthage cooperating in a joint municipal-industrial project.

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AROUND THE STATES -- WATER

MISSOURI: St. Louis -- Federal Water Pollution Control Administration has turned down National Lead Co.'s proposal to end its pollution of the Mississippi River by 1974 "because we think it's reasonable and feasible for a treatment plant to be completed early in 1972. Positive action is long overdue." Metropolitan Sewer District has estimated daily sewage flow from titanium pigment plant to be about 54,000 gallons. Effluent containing sulfuric acid, iron sulfate, silicon oxide, calcium sulfate, titanium oxide and solids is estimated to be about 16,000 gallons daily. Meeting of state, Federal and company officials has been set for Jan. 12 to set construction schedule that would end pollution.

PENNSYLVANIA: Harrisburg -- Pennsylvania Department of Health has begun notifying more than 200 state industries to prepare plans to prevent accidental stream pollution and to minimize damage if accidents occur. Plans must be submitted to the Department within 180 days of receipt of notice. The 200 companies now being notified are engaged in industries judged by Board to be most in danger of a serious incident. Later, all holders of industrial water discharge permits will be required to comply with the new Pollution Incident Prevention Program.

WASHINGTON: Seattle -- State believes terms of waste-discharge permit issued to Scott Paper Co. pulp mill at Everett are still in effect despite institution of legal challenge, according to Water Pollution Control Commission. Permit requires reduction of flow of waste sulfite liquor from mill by 80% by 1976, with half reduction by 1972. Scott contends permit does not give sufficient time to install and test equipment necessary for first-phase reduction, and permit requires company to proceed with second phase before determination of effectiveness of first-phase work.

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ELLIS NAMED PRESIDENT OF TRAVELERS RESEARCH CORP.

Dr. Robert H. Ellis has been named president of Travelers Research Corp., Hartford, Conn., succeeding Dr. Douglas L. Brooks. Ellis joined Travelers in 1964 as director of operations research division of mathematical sciences department.

DSW 201619

STLCOPCB4059686

OSU TO DEVELOP SMOKELESS INCINERATOR TO BURN RESIDUE FROM GRASS SEED FIELDS

Oregon State University's Agricultural Experiment Station, Corvallis, has been grante $75,000 by the state to design, build and test a portable incinerator to burn straw residues from grass seed fields. At present, in the Willamette Valley, residue from about 140,000 acres of perennial grasses and 90,000 acres of annual ryegrass is removed through open burning. Residue amounts to about 5 tons per acre.

The proposed incinerator would limit smoke emission levels to less than 10% of that now released into the air from open field burning. Scorching the soil surface at extremel high temperature will destroy certain disease organisms and weed seeds, while at the same time provide the physiological stimulus to maintain optimum yield from the perennial seed crops. Plans include "laboratory" testing prior to the 1970 harvest and field burning following that harvest.

Ultimately, field burning equipment will be incorporated into a plan involving total straw residue usage, for such things as livestock feed and paper.

Supervising development of incinerator will be OSU engineer Russell Bonlie and a university technical advisory committee including Dale Kirk, Glen Page, Dr. David Chilcote Dr. Richard Boubel, and Walter Matson.

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NAPCA SEEKS FIRMS FOR STUDIES OF RENDERING INDUSTRY AND DAMAGE TO METALS & ALLOYS

NAPCA's Division of Air Quality and Emission Data is seeking an organization to perform stack testing for odors in the rendering industry, as part of overall effort to establish information on air pollutant emissions and control practices within the industry Negotiation No. CPA 70-Neg.65 (P356).

Division of Economics Effects Research is seeking organization to make a comprehensive study of the economic loss to the nation from air pollution damage to metals and alloys. Eight-month study will not involve testing or laboratory research, but must project losses through 1980. Effects to be considered are various types of corrosion and the economic burden imposed by the requirements to use coatings and substitute materials to combat air pollution corrosion. Negotiation No. CPA 70-Neg.67 (P356).

Contact: DHEW, PHS, CPE, NAPCA-Office of Administration, Negotiated Contracts Branch, 411 W. Chapel Hill St., Durham, N.C. 27701.

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FPC EXAMINER SAYS CON EDISON CORNWALL PROJECT SHOULD BE LICENSED

Consolidated Edison Co.'s controversial pumped-storage hydroelectric project on the Hudson River at Cornwall, N.Y., -- stalled before the Federal Power Commission and the courts since 1963 -- should be licensed and built, an FPC examiner ruled, Dec. 23. In a decision subject to review by the Commission, the examiner noted that estimated cost of the 2,000 megawatt generating facility has increased from $184-million in mid-1967 to a projected $234-million by mid-1973.

The Scenic Hudson Preservation Conference said it still opposes the project and "unless the FPC overturns the examiner's recommendation, we surely intend to go back to the courts."

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AROUND THE STATES -- AIR

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston - Gov. Francis W. Sargent has asked the Massachusetts Port Authority to discuss with airlines using Logan International Airport the possibility of installing smokeless engines on their jets. Citing the New Jersey suit against airlines using Newark, Sargent said he has written Transportation Secretary John A. Volpe and Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Robert H. Finch, to determine what legal action the state could take against air and noise pollution generated by aircraft in interstate commerce.

WASHINGTON: Tacoma -- Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency has scheduled hearing Feb. 11 on American Smelting & Refining Co.'s proposal to construct a 957-foot smokestack at its Tacoma smelter. Strong opposition will be voiced by Clean Air for Washington and Washington Environmental Council which will cite possible health hazards, economic damage caused by excessive SO_2 concentrations, H_2SO_4 and other emissions, techniques and costs of alternative methods of emission control, and probabilities of controlling ground-level concentrations by increasing stack height. Agency control officer, Arthur R. Dammkoehler, said American Smelting had violated sulfur emission regulations 27 times in November, and were issued 4 citations against the smelter.

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COMING UP -- CALENDAR OF AIR AND WATER RESOURCES MEETINGS

Jan. 15-16: 14th annual Pulp & Paper Conference, Western Michigan University Student Center. Contact: Dept. of Paper Technology, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Mich. 49001.

Jan. 25-30: Research Conference on Waste Water Engineering in Food Industry, Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, Calif.

Jan. 28-30: 43rd annual convention of Soap and Detergent Association, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City. Contact: Robert C. Singer, SDA, 485 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

Jan. 30: Solvent Pollution Problems & Control of Them, seminar sponsored by New York State Technical Services Program, at Cooper Union's School of Engineering and Science, 51 Astor Place, New York City. Registration fee $6. Contact: Technical Services Information Center, Cooper Union.

Jan. 30: Conference on Pollution in Rural Areas, part of 1970 New Jersey Farmers Week, Columbus Grange Hall, Trenton, N.J., sponsored by New Jersey Dept. of Agriculture. Contact: Phillip Alampi, P.O. Box 1888, Trenton, N.J. 08625.

Feb. 11-12: Nitrate & Water Supply: Source & Control, 12th Sanitary Engineering Conference, University of Illinois. Contact: R.S. Engelbrecht, professor of sanitary engineering, 3230 Civil Engineering Bldg., University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. 61801.

Mar. 9-13: Symposium on Use of Isotopes in Hydrology, convened by International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria. Contact: John H. Kane, Division of Technical Information, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C. 20545.

Mar. 12-13: Conference on "Is Water Quality Enhancement Feasible?", sponsored by Sanitary Engineering Division, Hydraulics Division and National Capital Section, American Society of Civil Engineers. Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C. Registration $15. Contact: Stanley E. Kappe, conference chairman, P.O. Box 1036, Rockville, Md. 20850.

Mar. 18-19: 2nd Mineral Waste Utilization Symposium, sponsored by U.S. Bureau of Mines and IIT Research Institute, Chicago. Contact: Murray A. Schwartz, IIT Research Institute, 10 W. 35th St., Chicago, Ill. 60616.

Mar. 24-26: National Industrial Solid Wastes Management Conference, sponsored by University of Houston and Environmental Control Administration, at U. of Houston. Contact: H. Nugent Myrick, Cullen College of Engineering, U. of Houston, 3801 Cullen Blvd., Houston, Tex. 77004.

Mar. 30-31, Apr. 1: 11th Methods in Air Pollution & Industrial Hygiene Studies Training Conference, co-sponsored by University of California at Berkeley, California Air Resources Board, California Health Department, and National Air Pollution Control Administration, on campus of UC at Berkeley. Contact: Emmett E. Jones, Air & Industrial Hygiene Laboratory, California Dept. of Public Health, 2151 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, Calif. 94704.

Apr. 1-3: National Pollution Control Conference & Exposition, sponsored by Houston Junior Chamber of Commerce, Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, Calif. Contact: Aubrey La Fargue, Conference Registration Dept., P.O. Box 13116, Houston, Tex. 70019.

Apr. 9-10: 19th Southern Water Resources & Pollution Control Conference, at Engineering Auditorium, Duke University, Durham, N.C. Contact: Dr. Edward H. Bryan, Dept. of Civil Engineering, Duke University, Durham, N.C. 27706.

May 17-20: National Incinerator Conference & Exhibit, sponsored by American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Incinerator Division, Netherland Hilton Hotel, Cincinnati, O. Contact: Junius W. Stephenson, Havens and Emerson, 233 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10007.

June 14-19: 63rd annual meeting of Air Pollution Control Association, Chase Park Plaza, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Arnold Arch, executive secretary, APCA, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.

July 26-Aug. 1: 5th International Water Pollution Research Conference & Exhibition, Brooks Hall-Civic Center, San Francisco; reconvened session, Aug. 2-5, Ilikai Hotel, Waikiki Beach, Honolulu, Hawaii. Contact: Dwight F. Metzler, deputy commissioner, New York State Dept. of Health, Albany, N.Y., chairman of U.S. National Committee/International Association on Water Pollution Research.

Oct. 4-9: 43rd annual conference, Water Pollution Control Federation, Boston, Mass. Contact: Robert A. Canham, executive secretary, 3900 Wisconsin Ave., Washington, D.C. 20016.

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