REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

AMERICAN WATER WORKS CONFERENCE

Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 9, 1975

It is an honor to be here today to address the 95th Annual Conference of the American Waterworks Association. The Association has done a fine job in helping to improve the quality of water service to the American people. Judging from its past record, I am certain that the Association will continue to provide an invaluable service to the American water industry and the American public.

I am particularly gratified that you have chosen the great state of Minnesota and the lovely city of Minneapolis as the site for your annual conference. Minnesota has been one of the leaders in the movement to improve the quality of our water.

Today I would like to discuss with you two closely related subjects -- the challenges that face us in providing clean water in the future, and the steps that we can take to make our water safe and pure.

I think we can all agree that water is one of our most precious resources and that we must do what we can to ensure that future generations will have adequate supplies of safe water.

However, we face a major challenge in achieving this goal.

I can't help but recall a story I heard several years ago. A distinguished scientific researcher was participating in a panel discussion with other learned scholars on the results of a comprehensive study of the nation's future water supply which he and his colleagues had just completed.

"Gentlemen," the scientist said, "I have some good news and some bad news for you. Our study shows that by the year 2000 everyone in the United States will be drinking recycled sewage from his home water tap."

"Great Scott!" came a shout from the audience. "Quick, tell us the good news."

Replied the scientist, "That was the good news. The bad news is that there won't be enough to go around."

The story is amusing -- but it is not that far from the truth.

Man needs water -- not only for direct consumption, but also for food and industrial production. As the population grows, as man's world becomes more complex, as more nations demand to reap more of the benefits of modern society, man's need for water to produce food and run machines grows. His increasing needs are causing a tremendous growth in water consumption.

Look at the statistics: Our nation's use of water was increased from a mere 40 billion gallons a day in 1900 to over 400 billion gallons daily -- a ten-fold increase. By

1980, we will be using at least 415 billion gallons of water a day. But, over this 80-year period, our population will only have tripled.

We in America still are using only 30 percent of our economically available supply of water. But some ecologists predict that we will face a potential water deficit of 30 percent in the United States by the year 2020. And, whether or not we face such a deficit, water recycling may very well be required in many places by the end of the century.

The ancient mariner's plaint, "Water, water everywhere, and not a drop to drink," may well come true for some of us landlubbers.

Why? Because while we are using only 30 percent of our economically available supply of water, we are also, through our industrial and domestic waste disposal practices, our land use policies, and possibly even through some of our anti-pollution efforts, reducing our supply of clean, safe water.

In many places, our supply is being cut back because we are short of the facilities needed to collect, store, treat, and deliver safe, clean water to those who need it, where and when they need it.

This is true, right here in my own state, in the city of Duluth and in the communities on the west bank of Lake Superior. Their water supply is being affected by the dumping of 67,000 tons of taconite tailings into Lake Superior each day by the Reserve Mining Company. These tailings have infested the water with asbestos particles, a possible health hazard.

While the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit has ordered that the dumping of tailings must stop within a reasonable period of time, these communities must face a shortage of safe drinking water, because the order is not immediately effective.

The city of Duluth simply cannot use the water from Lake Superior unless it can be properly filtered. And our present filtration technology is inadequate to do the job.

Fortunately, something can be done to improve filtration technology. The Congress has adopted my amendment to appropriate $4 million for demonstration grants under the Safe Drinking Water Act. This money is earmarked for an improved filtration system for Duluth.

Earlier in my remarks today, I suggested that even our current efforts to improve the quality of our water may unwittingly cause problems for us.

Chlorination, the single most effective treatment to remove bacteriological agents which cause typhoid from water, may have unintended side results.

There is mounting evidence that chlorine may react with certain industrial compounds to form carcinogenic compounds. Preliminatry EPA tests in 79 cities located at least one and up to four carcinogenic compounds in the drinking water of every one of these cities. More extensive tests in ten cities now are being conducted to determine if chlorination poses a serious health hazard. If it does, we will have difficult choices to make and difficult challenges to meet.

Can we meet the challenges of the future -- to provide adequate, clean, safe water for agriculture, industry, commercial, public, and home use? I think we can. The Congress thinks we can. And you think we can. But meeting the challenges has to be a cooperative effort between government, the water industry, and the public.

The federal role -- both at the Congressional and Executive levels -- in this cooperative effort will be to set national water quality policies and standards and to provide supportive and cooperative assistance to states and localities to translate these national standards into local realities.

We can guide, we can set goals, we can provide assistance. But it is up to states and localities and public and private water utilities to translate these goals into quality water service. It is neither proper nor possible for the federal government to determine how and if the 240,000 separate water systems in our country are implementing these national standards and providing quality water to their customers.

I am proud to report that the Congress is following through on its responsibility. I wish I could say as much for the executive branch.

Over the past three years, Congress has enacted two comprehensive pieces of legislation to improve the quality of our water. These acts are the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 and the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (FWPCA) stand as one of the most comprehensive pieces of environmental legislation on our law books. The legislation was passed in October, 1972, over former President Nixon's veto.

The Act set as its national goal the achievement of "zero discharge" of pollutants into our rivers and lakes by 1985. In the interim, it calls for the protection of aquatic life and wildlife and for recreation in and on the water.

Stringent interim requirements for municipalities, industries, and other point sources are established to achieve these goals. These requirements call for industries to achieve the "best practicable technology" by 1977 and "best available technology" by 1983, and for municipalities to achieve "secondary treatment" of wastes by 1977.

The Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 is even more significant for the quality of our drinking water. This legislation, passed at the conclusion of the 93rd Congress, in December, 1974, is intended to protect the public health by regulating the water quality of our nation's public drinking water systems.

The Safe Drinking Water Act authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency to prescribe national primary drinking water standards to protect health. It directs the states to assume the principal responsibility for primary enforcement of these standards. It establishes a program for the protection of underground sources of drinking water. And it provides for research, technical assistance to states and localities, and special studies and demonstrations to insure safe and dependable supplies of drinking water to the public.

The FWPCA will enable us to control and eventually eliminate municipal and industrial discharges of pollutants into the waters, so that one day every body of water will be safe for fish and wildlife, and can be used for recreational purposes. The Safe Drinking Water Act will protect the quality of our water coming out of the home tap, and eliminate adverse health effects from untreated or poorly treated water.

Has the federal government effectively implemented these laws? The record of the executive branch so far has been far from perfect.

Soon after enactment of the FWPCA and again in January of 1974, the Administration impounded a total of $9 billion, or half of the $18 billion total authorized to municipalities for the construction of public sewage treatment facilities. The money remained impounded until early this year, when the Supreme Court ruled that the Environmental Protection Agency must make the funds immediately available to the States.

It took the Courts to force the President to clean up our lakes and rivers, and take the sewage out of our drinking water.

But the Act has run into other problems. The transition between the previous water quality control program and the new one, and the lack of adequate staff, and the newly evolving federal requirements also have hamstrung the program.

As a result of these difficulties, EPA has only obligated $3.9 billion from October, 1972, through December, 1974, and has spent less than $500 million during this period.

This, in my opinion, is deplorable. But the EPA asserts that it has overcome its internal difficulties and is on its way to full and effective implementation of the law.

It now anticipates that all $18 billion will be obligated by mid-1977. Hopefully, definite improvements in our nation's waterways will become apparent by the turn of the decade as a result of the municipal and industrial water quality programs under the FWPCA.

The Safe Drinking Water Act has encountered equally disturbing delays in effective implementation.

I am concerned that EPA, by concentrating on meeting the statutory deadlines set by the Safe Drinking Water Act for establishing federal standards and regulations, may meet the deadlines but establish standards and regulations that are not worth a thin dime. I have heard rumors that this may be true in the area of primary interim standards for drinking water. I hope the rumors are just that -- rumors, not accurate prophecies.

I am even more concerned that EPA, in the rush to meet the deadlines for regulations, is paying inadequate attention to the provisions of the law for assistance to states and training and R&D grants.

This year's Presidential budget request for funds to implement the Act is for only $32.5 million. Of this, only $7.5 million is earmarked to assist states to set up their regulatory programs, and $2.5 million for underground protection grants.

No money has been specifically requested for demonstration grants or for training or R&D grants to universities and research groups for fiscal year 1976, even though the Safe Drinking Water Act authorizes such programs.

I can assure you that I intend to do something about this in the Congress. I know that such programs are vital if we are serious about cleaning up our water supplies.

Our states need assistance. We need to have demonstration projects, such as that which the Congress has voted for Duluth, to put our research finding in practice.

We need to strengthen our training and R&D programs -- to develop the experts we need to make and keep our water clean and to undertake the research that will lead to new techniques for purifying and delivering clean, safe water.

And, as in our efforts in so many other areas of national importance, there must be federal participation.

But you in the audience must shoulder the major part of the responsibility for clean water. You must do the research to develop new methods of cleaning up our water and to develop new ways to store and deliver it when and where it is wanted.

You must find ways to provide service to customers 24 hours a day -- and at a reasonable cost. You must provide the talent to develop answers to the challenges facing us in providing the best possible water service to all our people.

You and I both know this nation faces many serious problems today.

-- Our economy is in sad shape, and this Administration has done little to help it.

-- Our cities are reeling under the dual burdens of inflation and recession.

-- 9.2% of Americans are out of work; in some cities, such as Detroit, 25 percent are unemployed.

-- We face serious shortages in our major sources of energy, and what we can get is costing us much more.

-- Pollution is fouling our lakes and rivers and our drinking water.

But we can meet these problems. We can turn these problems into a challenge for a better future.

-- We can turn the economy around.

-- We can make our cities healthy again.

-- We can give every American a meaningful job.

-- We can lick the energy problem.

-- We can clean up our rivers and lakes.

-- We can provide high quality water service to all Americans.

We can do all this and more if we have the <u>will</u> and if we make the financial and moral commitment to <u>do so</u>.

We always have faced problems -- ever since we first became a nation. We always have met them and done our best to solve them. We still can.

Victor Hugo once said, "The future has several names. For the weak, it is the impossible. For the faint-hearted, it is the unknown. For the thoughtful and valiant, it is ideal. The challenge is urgent. The task is large. The time is now."

Our challenge is urgent. Our tasks are large. Our time is now. I urge you to join in meeting this challenge.

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Robert Hilbert - President

HILBERT

Mr Eric Johnson -
Exec Director

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

95th annual Convention

AMERICAN WATER WORKS CONFERENCE

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

JUNE 9, 1975

IT IS AN HONOR TO BE HERE TODAY TO ADDRESS THE 95TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN WATERWORKS ASSOCIATION.

THE ASSOCIATION HAS DONE A FINE JOB IN HELPING TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF WATER SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. JUDGING FROM ITS PAST RECORD, I AM CERTAIN THAT THE ASSOCIATION WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AN INVALUABLE SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN WATER INDUSTRY AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

I AM PARTICULARLY GRATIFIED THAT YOU HAVE CHOSEN THE GREAT STATE OF MINNESOTA AND THE LOVELY CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS AS THE SITE FOR YOUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE. MINNESOTA HAS BEEN ONE OF THE LEADERS IN THE MOVEMENT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF OUR WATER.

Minn - 10,000 lakes
mpls City of lakes

TODAY I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU TWO CLOSELY RELATED SUBJECTS -- THE CHALLENGES THAT FACE US IN PROVIDING CLEAN WATER IN THE FUTURE, AND THE STEPS THAT WE CAN TAKE TO MAKE OUR WATER SAFE AND PURE now!

I THINK WE CAN ALL AGREE THAT WATER IS ONE OF OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCES AND THAT WE MUST DO WHAT WE CAN TO ENSURE THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL HAVE ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF SAFE WATER. (Water, air, land - resources
People

HOWEVER, WE FACE A MAJOR CHALLENGE IN ACHIEVING THIS GOAL.

I CAN'T HELP BUT RECALL A STORY I HEARD SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

A DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCHER WAS PARTICIPATING IN A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH OTHER LEARNED SCHOLARS ON THE RESULTS OF A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF THE NATION'S FUTURE WATER SUPPLY WHICH HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES HAD JUST COMPLETED.

"GENTLEMEN," THE SCIENTIST SAID, "I HAVE SOME GOOD NEWS AND SOME BAD NEWS FOR YOU. OUR STUDY SHOWS THAT BY THE YEAR 2000 EVERYONE IN THE UNITED STATES WILL BE DRINKING RECYCLED SEWAGE FROM HIS HOME WATER TAP."

"GREAT SCOTT!" CAME A SHOUT FROM THE AUDIENCE. "QUICK, TELL US THE GOOD NEWS."

REPLIED THE SCIENTIST, "THAT WAS THE GOOD NEWS. THE BAD NEWS IS THAT THERE WON'T BE ENOUGH TO GO AROUND."

THE STORY IS AMUSING -- BUT IT IS NOT THAT FAR FROM THE TRUTH.

MAN NEEDS WATER -- NOT ONLY FOR DIRECT CONSUMPTION, BUT ALSO FOR FOOD AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION. AS THE POPULATION GROWS, AS MAN'S WORLD BECOMES MORE COMPLEX, AS MORE NATIONS DEMAND TO REAP MORE OF THE BENEFITS OF MODERN SOCIETY, THE NEED FOR WATER TO PRODUCE FOOD AND RUN MACHINES GROWS. THESE INCREASING NEEDS ARE CAUSING A TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN WATER CONSUMPTION.

LOOK AT THE STATISTICS: OUR NATION'S USE OF WATER HAS INCREASED FROM A MERE 40 BILLION GALLONS A DAY IN 1900 TO OVER 400 BILLION GALLONS DAILY IN 1975 -- A TEN-FOLD INCREASE.

BY 1980, WE WILL BE USING AT LEAST 415 BILLION GALLONS OF WATER A DAY. BUT, OVER THIS 80-YEAR PERIOD, OUR POPULATION WILL ONLY HAVE TRIPLED.

WE IN AMERICA STILL ARE USING ONLY 30 PERCENT OF OUR ECONOMICALLY AVAILABLE SUPPLY OF WATER. BUT SOME ECOLOGISTS PREDICT THAT WE WILL FACE A POTENTIAL WATER DEFICIT OF 30 PERCENT IN THE UNITED STATES BY THE YEAR 2020. AND, WHETHER OR NOT WE FACE SUCH A DEFICIT, WATER RECYCLING MAY VERY WELL BE REQUIRED IN MANY PLACES BY THE END OF THE CENTURY.

THE ANCIENT MARINER'S PLAINT, "WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE, AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK," MAY WELL COME TRUE FOR SOME OF US LANDLUBBERS.

WHY? BECAUSE WHILE WE ARE USING ONLY 30 PERCENT OF OUR ECONOMICALLY AVAILABLE SUPPLY OF WATER, WE ARE ALSO, THROUGH OUR INDUSTRIAL AND DOMESTIC WASTE DISPOSAL PRACTICES, OUR LAND USE POLICIES, AND POSSIBLY EVEN THROUGH SOME OF OUR ANTI-POLLUTION EFFORTS, REDUCING OUR SUPPLY OF CLEAN, SAFE WATER.

IN MANY PLACES, OUR SUPPLY IS BEING CUT BACK BECAUSE WE ARE SHORT OF THE FACILITIES NEEDED TO COLLECT, STORE, TREAT, AND DELIVER SAFE, CLEAN WATER TO THOSE WHO NEED IT, WHERE AND WHEN THEY NEED IT.

THIS IS TRUE, RIGHT HERE IN MY OWN STATE, IN THE CITY OF DULUTH AND IN THE COMMUNITIES ON THE WEST BANK OF LAKE SUPERIOR.

THEIR WATER SUPPLY IS BEING AFFECTED BY THE DUMPING OF 67,000 TONS OF TACONITE TAILINGS INTO LAKE SUPERIOR EACH DAY BY THE RESERVE MINING COMPANY. THESE TAILINGS HAVE INFESTED THE WATER WITH ASBESTOS PARTICLES, A POSSIBLE HEALTH HAZARD.

WHILE THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT HAS ORDERED THAT THE DUMPING OF TAILINGS MUST STOP WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME; THESE COMMUNITIES MUST FACE A SHORTAGE OF SAFE DRINKING WATER, BECAUSE THE court ORDER IS NOT IMMEDIATELY EFFECTIVE.

THE CITY OF DULUTH SIMPLY CANNOT USE THE WATER FROM LAKE SUPERIOR UNLESS IT CAN BE PROPERLY FILTERED. AND OUR PRESENT FILTRATION TECHNOLOGY IS INADEQUATE TO DO THE JOB.

FORTUNATELY, SOMETHING CAN BE DONE TO IMPROVE FILTRATION TECHNOLOGY. THE CONGRESS HAS ADOPTED MY AMENDMENT TO APPROPRIATE ~~$40~~ #4 MILLION FOR DEMONSTRATION GRANTS UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT, THIS MONEY IS EARMARKED FOR AN IMPROVED FILTRATION SYSTEM FOR DULUTH.

EARLIER IN MY REMARKS TODAY, I SUGGESTED THAT EVEN OUR CURRENT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF OUR WATER MAY UNWITTINGLY CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR US.

CHLORINATION, THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE TREATMENT TO REMOVE BACTERIOLOGICAL AGENTS FROM WATER WHICH CAUSE TYPHOID, ~~FROM WATER~~, MAY HAVE UNINTENDED SIDE RESULTS.

THERE IS MOUNTING EVIDENCE THAT CHLORINE MAY REACT WITH CERTAIN INDUSTRIAL COMPOUNDS TO FORM CARCINOGENIC COMPOUNDS. PRELIMINARY EPA TESTS IN 79 CITIES LOCATED AT LEAST ONE AND UP TO FOUR CARCINOGENIC COMPOUNDS IN THE DRINKING WATER OF EVERY ONE OF THESE CITIES. MORE EXTENSIVE TESTS IN TEN CITIES NOW ARE BEING CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE IF CHLORINATION POSES A SERIOUS HEALTH HAZARD. IF IT DOES, WE WILL HAVE DIFFICULT CHOICES TO MAKE AND DIFFICULT CHALLENGES TO MEET.

CAN WE MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE -- TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE, CLEAN, SAFE WATER FOR AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY, COMMERCIAL, PUBLIC, AND HOME USE? I THINK WE CAN. THE CONGRESS THINKS WE CAN. AND YOU THINK WE CAN. BUT MEETING THE CHALLENGES HAS TO BE A COOPERATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN GOVERNMENT, THE WATER INDUSTRY, AND THE PUBLIC.

THE FEDERAL ROLE -- BOTH AT THE CONGRESSIONAL AND EXECUTIVE LEVELS -- IN THIS COOPERATIVE EFFORT WILL BE TO SET NATIONAL WATER QUALITY POLICIES AND STANDARDS AND TO PROVIDE SUPPORTIVE AND COOPERATIVE ASSISTANCE TO STATES AND LOCALITIES TO TRANSLATE THESE NATIONAL STANDARDS INTO LOCAL REALITIES.

WE CAN GUIDE, WE CAN SET GOALS, WE CAN PROVIDE ASSISTANCE. BUT IT IS UP TO STATES AND LOCALITIES AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WATER UTILITIES TO TRANSLATE THESE GOALS INTO QUALITY WATER SERVICE. IT IS NEITHER PROPER NOR POSSIBLE FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO DETERMINE HOW AND IF THE 240,000 SEPARATE WATER SYSTEMS IN OUR COUNTRY ARE IMPLEMENTING THESE NATIONAL STANDARDS AND PROVIDING QUALITY WATER TO THEIR CUSTOMERS.

I AM PROUD TO REPORT THAT THE CONGRESS IS FOLLOWING THROUGH ON ITS RESPONSIBILITY. I WISH I COULD SAY AS MUCH FOR THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS, CONGRESS HAS ENACTED TWO COMPREHENSIVE PIECES OF LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE QUALTIY OF OUR WATER. THESE ACTS ARE THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1972 AND THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT OF 1974.

THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1972 (FWPCA) STAND AS ONE OF THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE PIECES OF ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION ON OUR LAW BOOKS. THE LEGISLATION WAS PASSED IN OCTOBER, 1972, OVER FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON'S VETO.

THE ACT SET AS ITS NATIONAL GOAL THE ACHIEVEMENT OF "ZERO DISCHARGE" OF POLLUTANTS INTO OUR RIVERS AND LAKES BY 1985.

IN THE INTERIM, IT CALLS FOR THE PROTECTION OF AQUATIC LIFE AND WILDLIFE AND FOR RECREATION IN AND ON THE WATER.

STRINGENT INTERIM REQUIREMENTS FOR MUNICIPALITIES, INDUSTRIES, AND OTHER POINT SOURCES ARE ESTABLISHED TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS. THESE REQUIREMENTS CALL FOR INDUSTRIES TO ACHIEVE THE "BEST PRACTICABLE TECHNOLOGY" BY 1977 AND "BEST AVAILABLE TECHNOLOGY" BY 1983, AND FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO ACHIEVE "SECONDARY TREATMENT" OF WASTES BY 1977.

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT OF 1974 IS EVEN MORE SIGNIFICANT FOR THE QUALITY OF OUR DRINKING WATER. THIS LEGISLATION, PASSED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE 93RD CONGRESS, IN DECEMBER, 1974, IS INTENDED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH BY REGULATING THE WATER QUALITY OF OUR NATION'S PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS.

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT AUTHORIZES THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO PRESCRIBE NATIONAL PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS TO PROTECT HEALTH. IT DIRECTS THE STATES TO ASSUME THE PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT OF THESE STANDARDS. IT ESTABLISHES A PROGRAM FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNDERGROUND SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER.

AND IT PROVIDES FOR RESEARCH, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES AND LOCALITIES, AND SPECIAL STUDIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS TO INSURE SAFE AND DEPENDABLE SUPPLIES OF DRINKING WATER TO THE PUBLIC.

THE FWPCA WILL ENABLE US TO CONTROL AND EVENTUALLY ELIMINATE MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGES OF POLLUTANTS INTO THE WATERS, SO THAT ONE DAY EVERY BODY OF WATER WILL BE SAFE FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE, AND CAN BE USED FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT WILL PROTECT THE QUALITY OF OUR WATER COMING OUT OF THE HOME TAP, AND ELIMINATE ADVERSE HEALTH EFFECTS FROM UNTREATED OR POORLY TREATED WATER.

HAS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENTED THESE LAWS? THE RECORD OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH SO FAR HAS BEEN FAR FROM PERFECT.

SOON AFTER ENACTMENT OF THE FWPCA AND AGAIN IN JANUARY OF 1974, THE ADMINISTRATION IMPOUNDED A TOTAL OF $9 BILLION, OR HALF OF THE $18 BILLION TOTAL AUTHORIZED TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITIES.

THE MONEY REMAINED IMPOUNDED UNTIL EARLY THIS YEAR, WHEN THE SUPREME COURT RULED THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY MUST MAKE THE FUNDS IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO THE STATES.

IT TOOK THE COURTS TO FORCE THE PRESIDENT TO CLEAN UP OUR LAKES AND RIVERS, AND TAKE THE SEWAGE OUT OF OUR DRINKING WATER.

BUT THE ACT HAS RUN INTO OTHER PROBLEMS. THE TRANSITION BETWEEN THE PREVIOUS WATER QUALITY CONTROL PROGRAM AND THE NEW ONE, AND THE LACK OF ADEQUATE STAFF, AND THE NEWLY EVOLVING FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS ALSO HAVE HAMSTRUNG THE PROGRAM.

AS A RESULT OF THESE DIFFICULTIES, EPA HAS ONLY OBLIGATED $3.9 BILLION FROM OCTOBER, 1972, THROUGH DECEMBER, 1974, AND HAS SPENT LESS THAN $500 MILLION DURING THIS PERIOD.

THIS, IN MY OPINION, IS DEPLORABLE. BUT, THE EPA ASSERTS THAT IT HAS OVERCOME ITS INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES AND IS ON ITS WAY TO FULL AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW.

IT NOW ANTICIPATES THAT ALL $18 BILLION WILL BE OBLIGATED BY MID-1977. HOPEFULLY, DEFINITE IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR NATION'S WATERWAYS WILL BECOME APPARENT BY THE TURN OF THE DECADE AS A RESULT OF THE MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL WATER QUALITY PROGRAMS UNDER THE FWPCA.

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT HAS ENCOUNTERED EQUALLY DISTURBING DELAYS IN EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION.

I AM CONCERNED THAT EPA, BY CONCENTRATING ON MEETING THE STATUTORY DEADLINES SET BY THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT FOR ESTABLISHING FEDERAL STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS, MAY MEET THE DEADLINES BUT ESTABLISH STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS THAT ARE NOT WORTH A THIN DIME.

I HAVE HEARD RUMORS THAT THIS MAY BE TRUE IN THE AREA OF PRIMARY INTERIM STANDARDS FOR DRINKING WATER, I HOPE THE RUMORS ARE JUST THAT -- RUMORS, NOT ACCURATE PROPHECIES.

I AM EVEN MORE CONCERNED THAT EPA, IN THE RUSH TO MEET THE DEADLINES FOR REGULATIONS, IS PAYING INADEQUATE ATTENTION TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAW FOR ASSISTANCE TO STATES AND TRAINING AND R&D GRANTS.

THIS YEAR'S PRESIDENTIAL BUDGET REQUEST FOR FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE ACT IS FOR ONLY $32.5 MILLION. OF THIS, ONLY $7.5 MILLION IS EARMARKED TO ASSIST STATES TO SET UP THEIR REGULATORY PROGRAMS, AND $2.5 MILLION FOR UNDERGROUND PROTECTION GRANTS.

NO MONEY HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED FOR DEMONSTRATION GRANTS OR FOR TRAINING OR R&D GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH GROUPS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1976, EVEN THOUGH THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT AUTHORIZES SUCH PROGRAMS.

I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT I INTEND TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS IN THE CONGRESS. I KNOW THAT SUCH PROGRAMS ARE VITAL IF WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT CLEANING UP OUR WATER SUPPLIES.

OUR STATES NEED ASSISTANCE. WE NEED TO HAVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS, SUCH AS THAT WHICH THE CONGRESS HAS VOTED FOR DULUTH, TO PUT OUR RESEARCH FINDING IN PRACTICE.

WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN OUR TRAINING AND R&D PROGRAMS --

TO DEVELOP THE EXPERTS WE NEED TO MAKE AND KEEP OUR WATER

CLEAN AND TO UNDERTAKE THE RESEARCH THAT WILL LEAD TO NEW

TECHNIQUES FOR PURIFYING AND DELIVERING CLEAN, SAFE WATER.

AND, AS IN OUR EFFORTS IN SO MANY OTHER AREAS OF NATIONAL

IMPORTANCE, THERE MUST BE FEDERAL PARTICIPATION.

BUT YOU IN THE AUDIENCE MUST SHOULDER THE MAJOR PART OF

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR CLEAN WATER. YOU MUST DO THE RESEARCH

TO DEVELOP NEW METHODS OF CLEANING UP OUR WATER AND TO DEVELOP

NEW WAYS TO STORE AND DELIVER IT WHEN AND WHERE IT IS WANTED.

YOU MUST FIND WAYS TO PROVIDE SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS 24 HOURS A DAY -- AND AT A REASONABLE COST. YOU MUST PROVIDE THE TALENT TO DEVELOP ANSWERS TO THE CHALLENGES FACING US IN PROVIDING THE BEST POSSIBLE WATER SERVICE TO ALL OUR PEOPLE.

YOU AND I BOTH KNOW THIS NATION FACES MANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS TODAY.

-- OUR ECONOMY IS IN SAD SHAPE, AND ~~THIS ADMINISTRATION~~ all to little HAS DONE ~~LITTLE~~ TO HELP IT.

-- OUR CITIES ARE REELING UNDER THE DUAL BURDENS OF INFLATION AND RECESSION.

-- ~~8.9%~~ 9.2 PERCENT OF AMERICANS ARE OUT OF WORK; IN SOME CITIES, SUCH AS DETROIT, 25 PERCENT ARE UNEMPLOYED.

-- WE FACE SERIOUS SHORTAGES IN OUR MAJOR SOURCES OF ENERGY, AND WHAT WE CAN GET IS COSTING US MUCH MORE.

-- POLLUTION IS FOULING OUR LAKES AND RIVERS AND OUR DRINKING WATER.

BUT WE CAN MEET THESE PROBLEMS. WE CAN TURN THESE PROBLEMS INTO A CHALLENGE FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

-- WE CAN TURN THE ECONOMY AROUND.

-- WE CAN MAKE OUR CITIES HEALTHY AGAIN.

-- WE CAN GIVE EVERY AMERICAN A MEANINGFUL JOB.

-- WE CAN LICK THE ENERGY PROBLEM.

-- WE CAN CLEAN UP OUR RIVERS AND LAKES.

-- WE CAN PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY WATER SERVICE TO ALL AMERICANS.

WE CAN DO ALL THIS AND MORE IF WE HAVE THE WILL AND IF WE MAKE THE FINANCIAL AND MORAL COMMITMENT TO DO SO.

WE ALWAYS HAVE FACED PROBLEMS -- EVER SINCE WE FIRST BECAME A NATION. WE ALWAYS HAVE MET THEM AND DONE OUR BEST TO SOLVE THEM. WE STILL CAN.

VICTOR HUGO ONCE SAID, "THE FUTURE HAS SEVERAL NAMES. FOR THE WEAK, IT IS THE IMPOSSIBLE. FOR THE FAINT-HEARTED, IT IS THE UNKNOWN. FOR THE THOUGHTFUL AND VALIANT, IT IS IDEAL. THE CHALLENGE IS URGENT. THE TASK IS LARGE. THE TIME IS NOW."

OUR CHALLENGE IS URGENT. OUR TASKS ARE LARGE. OUR TIME IS NOW. I URGE YOU TO JOIN IN MEETING THIS CHALLENGE.

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