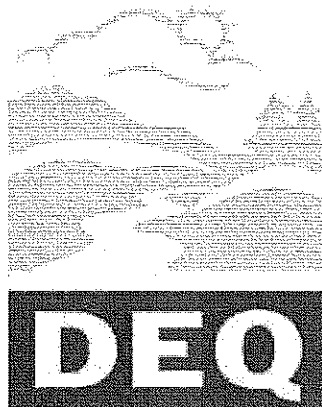


8/13/1969

OREGON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
COMMISSION MEETING
MATERIALS



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

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MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
of the
Oregon Environmental Quality Commission
August 13, 1969

A special meeting of the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission was held at the direction of Governor Tom McCall on Wednesday, August 13, 1969, in the Council Chambers of the Eugene City Hall, Eugene, Oregon. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 8:35 p.m. The members present were B.A. McPhillips, Chairman, E.C. Harms, Jr., George A. McMath, Herman P. Meierjurgan, and Storrs S. Waterman.

Participating staff members were: Kenneth H. Spies, Director; Arnold B. Silver, Legal Counsel; Harold M. Patterson, Director of Air Quality Control Division; and R. Bruce Snyder, Meteorologist.

The Chairman announced to the large number of persons in attendance that this meeting was being held at the direction of Governor McCall for the purpose of considering the emergency conditions that had been caused in the upper Willamette Valley as a result of agricultural field burning. He pointed out that the Commission members are extremely concerned about the gross air pollution that had been created in recent days and particularly its possible injurious effects on human health and safety.

He said that this would not be a formal public hearing, but it was hoped that sufficient testimony would be obtained to permit the taking immediately of whatever action might be warranted and within the Commission's legal authority to abate the pollution and to eliminate the emergency.

He then called on the Honorable Lee Johnson, Attorney General for the state of Oregon, who presented the following statement.

"I appear tonight in my capacity as legal counsel to the Commission and also as the Governor's personal representative.

"You have before you a proposed form of order which the Governor, myself and your staff are convinced is the only feasible alternative to the Commission, if this intolerable air pollution situation in Eugene and the surrounding area is to be corrected.

"But, before discussing the order, a discussion of HB 1228 is in order. I believe that the Commission, and the public, have misinterpreted this law, and have greatly underestimated its scope and effect. As chief legal officer of the state, it is my view that this is a comprehensive statute which gives the Commission more than ample authority to regulate field burning to prevent harmful air pollution.

"I direct your attention to sections 1 and 4 (b) of the Act. Section 1 empowers the Commission to define "marginal conditions" and to "specify the extent and types of burning that may be allowed under different combinations of atmospheric conditions." The statute goes on to proscribe what priorities the Commission shall follow when it allows burning. It is my opinion that this section, together with section 4 (b) empowers the Commission to classify atmospheric conditions, to limit the times of burning, the areas where burning may be conducted, the amount of acreage that may be burned, the method of burning, and to even prohibit all burning if necessary to protect the public health and welfare. In making such schedules, the Commission, of course, must consider weather conditions, the economic consequences, the feasibility of alternative actions and any other factors that may affect the public health and welfare. However, I wish to emphasize that these are factors that must be weighed. No one factor is compelling.

"I now wish to direct you to section 4 (a) which states that "whenever the Sanitary Authority is advised by the United States Weather Bureau that smoke dispersion will be significantly restricted, the Sanitary Authority may prohibit the issuance of permits . . .". Section 4 (c) sets forth the standards the Commission shall follow in exercising the authority vested by this section. It is our interpretation of this section that the Commission does not need to have a specific advisory from the Weather Bureau. Anytime the Commission has weather information indicating that poor dispersion may result, it is empowered to issue an order under this section.

"In conclusion, it is our opinion that the proposed order before you is appropriate under either section 1 or section 2 (4) (a) of the Act.

"The question now before you is whether such an order is justified. The Governor and I believe that it is. We believe the present dispersion of smoke from field burning has created an intolerable condition which poses an immediate danger to the health and welfare of the citizens in the Willamette Valley. We believe that any resulting economic harm to the agriculture industry in this area is minimized by the short duration of the order. Hopefully, during this period, new standards can be developed as recommended by your staff which will set more realistic mixing levels, and which not only limit the time of burning, but also the amount of acreage that can be burned on any given day. In this manner, we should be able to permit these farmers who most need to burn, to complete their burning without impairing the public health, safety and welfare of the rest of the citizenry.

"You will note also that this order can be revoked at any time if there is a significant change in atmospheric conditions.

"Finally, I direct your attention to the portions of the order dealing with burning with propane. Both sections 1 and 2 (4) (a) exempt from any burning restriction fires "where a fuel such as propane is so that combustion is nearly complete . . .". Our opinion is that while you cannot prohibit this one type of burning, you do have authority to establish stringent conditions to ensure complete combustion. We feel the proposed order accomplishes that objective.

"This is not a formal hearing and you are not required to hear testimony. I, together with your staff, have requested certain witnesses to appear here tonight because we believe they can more accurately apprise you of the gravity of the situation. We have also requested representatives from the Oregon Rye Grass Growers to appear as we feel that it is important that you consider their position in weighing the economic consequences.

"I have also placed before you a copy of the Governor's Executive Order of this morning. He has directed the State Police, the State Fire Marshal and the Board of Aeronautics to assist you in any way possible in enforcing any order that you may enter. You can also be assured that I, together with my staff, are ready and willing to assist you."

Following the statement by the Attorney General, the Chairman asked Mr. Patterson to review the present status and past results of the field burning control program. Mr. Patterson then reported as follows:

"The field burning program was initiated on July 21, 1969, under a schedule adopted by the Environmental Quality Commission on June 28, 1969, and filed with the Secretary of State on July 9, 1969.

"The schedule was adopted to limit burning of perennial and annual grass seed and cereal grain fields under meteorological conditions specified in the schedule as follows: Class 6 Mixing depth less than 3000 feet - all burning prohibited; Class 5 Mixing depth 3000 - 3900 feet - only perennial grasses from 1 to 6 p.m.; Class 4 Mixing depth 4000 - 4400 feet - only perennial grasses from announced beginning to sunset; Class 3 Mixing depth 4500 - 4900 feet - perennial and annual grasses from announced beginning to sunset; Class 2 Mixing depth 5000 - 5400 perennial and annual grasses and cereal grains from announced beginning to sunset; and Class 1 Mixing depths greater than 5500 feet - unrestricted burning from announced beginning to sunset.

"A review of the visibility effects occurring under this schedule is as follows. On July 27, one of three unrestricted days, visibility was severely restricted in Salem. On July 28, one of two Class 2 days visibility was severely restricted in Eugene. On July 21, 29, 30 and August 2 and 6 which were five of the 10 Class 4 and 5 days limited to perennial grasses only, visibility was severely restricted.

"This summary does not include lesser visibility and particulate effects that may have occurred on other days but is indicative that the schedule definitely was not adequate to prevent degradation of air quality. The visibility effects are the primary criteria available but do not reflect the heavy smoke, clouds or particulate matter and odors in affected areas. For example, reports from Eugene indicate that on some days visibility in the city was measured in terms of "blocks" and not miles.

"On August 6 an amended schedule providing further restrictions was adopted. The further restrictions were in terms of reducing the burning hours and of limiting burning on checker board fire district by fire district basis.

"Since that amended schedule was initiated on August 7 one Class 3 day on August 12 resulted in severely reduced visibility actually measured in blocks; one Class 4 day, August 7, resulted in severe visibility restriction; one of the two Class 5 days, August 8, resulted in visibility restriction. It can only be concluded that the amended schedule is likewise not working.

"In addition, the staff has received numerous reports alleging burning outside the schedule. Voluminous complaints concerning air quality have been received by the Portland and Eugene offices of the Department as well as by the Governor's office, Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority, and other agencies concerning health, nuisance, and degradation of the air quality in the Willamette Valley. These reports complain of heavy smoke preventing the use of both public and private residential and recreational property, and causing at numerous times red, irritated and "weepy" eyes, raspy throats, fits of coughing and shortness of breath. All of the aforesaid factors were combined with extremely poor visibility and grey haze permeating affected areas.

"It is the conclusion of the staff that as long as open burning is permitted impairment of air quality and reduced visibility will continue in the Willamette Valley and that the problems can only be minimized by restrictions on acreage, time and location of burning."

The Chairman then called on Mr. Snyder for information regarding the prevailing weather conditions. He said that the U.S. Weather Bureau had been contacted for information on dispersion conditions in the Willamette Valley over the next week, in order to determine if there might be a significant change in conditions which have prevailed in the area over the past few days. As a result of that contact, the Weather Bureau forecast center in Portland provided the following advisory:

"The broad-scale weather circulation affecting the Willamette Valley is not expected to change appreciably over the next five days. Except for the period of Friday and Saturday, during which circulations and mixing depths should increase significantly, the Weather Bureau feels the overall mixing depth characteristics for the valley will remain near the levels experienced during the past seven days."

Mixing depths as forecast over the past week have averaged 4300 feet, with the lowest forecast being 3200 feet, and the highest, 5200 feet.

In reply to a question by the Attorney General, Mr. Snyder pointed out that on August 6 with a mixing depth of 9,000 feet and only perennial grass field burning allowed the visibility at Eugene was reduced to 5 miles. More than 5,000 acres were burned in Linn and Lane Counties on that date. He explained that during this time of year the prevailing winds are up the valley and consequently the upper end of the valley is pumped fuller and fuller with smoke.

In answer to questions by Mr. Harms, Mr. Snyder said that most of the daily weather data are from Salem although some are from Eugene, that the mixing depth forecasts are based on Salem data where vertical temperatures are taken twice each day, that the actual mixing depths have lately been fairly close to the forecasts although on some days the forecasts were too high and on others too low, and that if the mixing depths were raised there probably would be a better chance of good dispersion, but it would still require a limitation on the number of acres burned.

In reply to the Attorney General, Mr. Snyder stated that with good forecasting and acreage control it should be possible to alleviate greatly the pollution in the upper end of the valley.

In response to questions by the Chairman, he said that usually the maximum mixing depth occurs in mid afternoon, that burning earlier in the day would be o.k. in the southern part, but not in the north end, and that there is not much chance of getting the U.S. Weather Bureau to establish another weather station in the valley.

Mr. Waterman asked if humidity was taken into consideration and he said that it was, that burning in the afternoon generally resulted in a hotter fire because of lower humidity.

In reply to Mr. McMath he said it is his opinion that the Willamette Valley airshed definitely cannot accept the smoke from the amount of burning that has been practiced and that consequently the burning has to be reduced.

Dr. William W. Service of Eugene and member of the Oregon Medical Association Committee on Air and Water Pollution then presented a statement on the health aspects of the smoke pollution problem. He said that air pollution produces a definite hazard to public health. He referred to the statement made by Dr. Ronald Findlay, also of Eugene, before the Senate Air and Water Quality Control Committee earlier this year. He reported that beginning in July of this year 11 doctors in the Eugene area (2 allergists, 5 general practitioners, 3 internal medical doctors and 1 dermatologist) have made a study under the direction of the OMA Committee on Air and Water Pollution. Thus far 183 patients with mild to acute respiratory symptoms have been treated by these 11 doctors. They have studied the effects of medication and confinement. He said some of the patients have been advised to leave the area in order to obtain relief from the smoke in the atmosphere. In response to a question from the audience he said he did not know how many of the 183 patients were smokers but of his own patients he estimated about one-third smoked cigarettes.

In reply to a question by Mr. McMath, Dr. Service said that if it had not been for the air pollution most of the patients would not have had to go to their doctors for treatment.

Dr. Edward Press, State Health Officer, then presented the following statement:

"With increasing frequency, air pollution has had serious effects on the health of the public during the past decade or two. The episodes in Donora, Pennsylvania and London, England are well known, and have been publicized. A similar demonstration occurred in New York City on Thanksgiving Day in 1966, when a stagnant air mass filled with smoke that did not disperse properly enveloped the city. Before a rain came, it was estimated that eighty persons died and hundreds more became ill because of the heavy concentration of smoke.

"Those primarily affected are individuals with chronic bronchitis and emphysema, as well as those with asthma and allergic disorders, such as hay fever. The elderly and the very young are most vulnerable. The

concentration of smoke usually results in aggravating and precipitating acute attacks of difficulty in breathing. Although these concentrations, of themselves, are not solely responsible for the fatalities and illness that occur, they precipitate serious bouts of illness in persons who have chronic bronchitis, emphysema or these other illnesses, and, occasionally, these acute bouts cause fatalities in persons who might otherwise have lived for five or ten or more additional years.

"Even in healthy individuals, there is a definite irritation of the eyes and of the nose and throat, which causes tearing and paroxysmal cough. However, in individuals who are heavy smokers and in those who have chronic bronchitis, emphysema, asthma, etc., the effects can be much more severe and, as mentioned above, occasionally fatal.

"Both New York City and Los Angeles, as a result of prior conditions similar to that which Eugene had on August 12, have enacted legislation giving health officers the authority, when the conditions were extremely serious, to prohibit major sources of air pollution, even including automobiles, from being operated in the city during such times of emergency.

"Eugene, being in a valley is, in my opinion, particularly susceptible, when the weather conditions are appropriate to develop dangerously high concentrations of smoke that could have serious and possibly fatal effects."

Next the Chairman called on David O. Chilcote, Ph.D. and Associate Professor of Crop Physiology, School of Agriculture, Oregon State University. Dr. Chilcote stressed the point that at the present time there is no ready or easy solution to the field burning problem. He said that other methods are available but they are all more costly and not as effective, and that the main problems are what to do with the straw and how to burn and effect field sanitation without producing smoke. He stated that mechanical removal of straw followed by propane burning costs about \$20.00 per acre and in addition there remains the problem of what to do with the material removed. He claimed that alternate year burning would be acceptable for some crops but not all of them.

The Chairman asked Dr. Chilcote what the effects were last year when many fields could not be burned because of the rains during the month of August. He said he did not have detailed information but at least in some cases the yields this year are less than they would otherwise have been.

Mr. Harms asked if cereal grains have to be burned. He replied that economics is the big factor.

Mr. Waterman inquired if the cost of residue removal plus propane burning was too high to be economically feasible. Dr. Chilcote indicated that in general it would be too expensive.

He did not have the information necessary to answer Mr. McMath's question as to the economic impact of a burning ban on everything except perennial grass seed.

He stated again that it would cost about \$10/acre for mechanical straw removal, plus another \$10/acre for propane burning.

The next person to make a statement was Mr. John Williams, Captain, Oregon State Police. He reported that there had been 12 automobile accidents in the past two weeks directly attributable to field burning, that one pedestrian was killed by a motorist who did not see him because of dense smoke, that in one case the visibility was 0 to 30 feet, that in the vicinity of mile post 72 on Highway 99W the visibility at one time was zero for more than one block. He said the Superintendent of the State Police had instructed the staff to make inspections for violations of the burning schedule.

Mayor Lester Anderson of Eugene then made the following statement on behalf of the Council and residents of the city of Eugene:

"I could read hundreds of letters, relate the conversations of hundreds of telephone calls from citizens here in the Eugene-Springfield area complaining, beseeching, angrily denouncing, reasonably and unreasonably demanding, and just plain mad about what the smoke from the grass and grain fields to the north is doing to our air.

"Since we do not have time to go into all the communications that I have received, and that I know the office of Environmental Quality has received, I will try to summarize.

"There are letters from local citizens who are suffering from respiratory diseases who literally have to leave this area during periods of smoke such as we experienced yesterday. In addition there are citizens here who believe that such physical deterioration has been caused by the smoke.

"There are local physicians who are investigating and documenting such cases. I would venture to say that there is not a person in this room who was here Tuesday afternoon between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. who did not feel the effects of the heavy smoke in his throat and lungs...who did not have burning eyes and an irritated nose. An 11-year-old wrote me today and said there was so much smoke around the Westmoreland School playground yesterday that the kids in the summer park program "were coughing and their eyes were running."

"I do not want you to think that I am exaggerating these conditions in order to achieve our goal. What I am saying is true. The smoke from the burning fields packs into this upper valley region and chokes us.

"It brings with it soot and debris that ruins clothing, makes it impossible to paint a house, settles on the bright finishes of our cars, covers our patios and outdoor furniture, makes it impossible to see from Skinner's Butte to Spencer's Butte..the visibility in this town yesterday afternoon was about three blocks.

"There are realtors in this town who will tell you that potential buyers have disappeared into the smoke and not come back to buy and settle here, developers who they hope will not come to Eugene-Springfield during the smoke season, people who have sold their homes and moved out.

"There are tourists who drive through this area in disbelief, who stay or do not stay..depending on whether or not the pollution where they came from was worse.

"A trucking firm has written me to explain the smoke hazard for its drivers. "The smoke not only cuts the visibility but also is causing their eyes to water, making it more difficult to see."

"Unless you have been here on days like yesterday...and there have been many such days over the years...you cannot know what it is like. Unless you are a person with asthma who can hardly breathe on days like yesterday you can't know what it means to live here in someone else's smoke.

"The people in this town believe that the smoke from the burning grass seed and grain fields is injurious to their health and safety.

"But in addition to that fact...we are extremely upset in knowing that days like today can be turned into days like yesterday by a process over which we have no control. These are our days and it is our sky and air that is being filled with smoke. We are not convinced that this is necessary. There is evidence to indicate the grass-seed and grain growers can solve their problems without ruining our environment.

"We believe that these other methods will diminish their profits for a period of time..but we do not believe they will be forced out of business. It is not our intent to force them out of business. It is our intent to "protect and enhance the quality of our environment so that Eugene will retain its appeal as a good place in which to live. To restore clean freshness to our air and to our rivers the sparkling quality they once had." These goals have been written by our citizens and air and water pollution will be given first consideration in the application of all other policy. Enforcement of present standards has failed to solve the problem. We insist on strict controls on all sources of Air and Water Pollution; public, business and private."

He also said that the city council has resolved to seek a complete elimination of all open burning in the Willamette Valley, that they will seek new legislation to completely ban field burning, that if necessary they will seek relief through the courts. He said further that the Council had recently outlawed all outdoor burning in the city and he gave assurance of a strong citizen action program for air quality control.

The next speaker was the attorney for the Rye Grass Growers Association. He stressed the economic problem confronting the growers and also referred to other sources of air pollution such as wigwam burners and pulp mills. He contended that more time should be allowed to work out a solution. He estimated that 9 out of every 10 growers in the valley would have to quit farming if burning were completely banned.

The Attorney General pointed out that most other industries have spent considerable money for air pollution control and so he asked how much the grass seed industry had spent for that purpose. The speaker did not have any answer.

The final person to make a statement at this meeting was Mr. Charles S. Kizer, Chairman of the Field Sanitation Committee of the Oregon Seed League. He urged the Commission to be as lenient as possible so as to reduce the economic impact on the growers. Unless permitted to burn their fields they cannot survive, he said. He mentioned the possibility of developing a mobile incinerator that would burn the straw and stubble on the field without producing smoke, but said it would take time to develop such a unit. He urged that the law be enforced against the growers who violate the schedule.

The meeting was recessed at 10:35 p.m. and reconvened at 10:55 p.m.

A proposed executive order was then read by Mr. Lee Johnson, Attorney General.

It was MOVED by Mr. Harms, seconded by Mr. Waterman and carried that the proposed executive order be adopted. A copy of said order is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

It was MOVED by Mr. Harms, seconded by Mr. Waterman and carried that the staff be requested to draw up a proposed new schedule for consideration at the earliest possible time by the Commission including acreage limitations by counties.

It was MOVED by Mr. Harms, seconded by Mr. McMath and carried that the staff be requested to propose to the Commission a new schedule with revised mixing depth limitations as follows: Class 1 - 10,000' or more; Class 2 - 9,000' to 10,000'; Class 3 - 8,000' to 9,000'; Class 4 - 7,500' to 8,000'; Class 5 - 6,500' to 7,500'; and Class 6 - 6,500' or less.

It was MOVED by Mr. Harms, seconded by Mr. Waterman and carried that burning on Saturdays and Sundays be prohibited.

It was MOVED by Mr. Harms, seconded by Mr. McMath and carried that the new schedule provide that whenever visibility at the Salem or Eugene airport, as observed by the U.S. Weather Bureau, in the northwest quadrant is reduced to 6 miles or less by smoke or haze for two consecutive hours, or to 3 miles or less at any time under prevailing relative humidities of 70% or less on any day, the following two days shall be prohibited; that the old provision of reclassifying the days following such conditions be deleted but that the final paragraph under "Further Restrictions" of the original schedule be retained.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kenneth H. Spies, Director

EXECUTIVE ORDER
of the

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

PROHIBITING FIELD BURNING

WHEREAS ENROLLED House Bill 1228, Chapter _____, Oregon Laws 1969, provides that the Sanitary Authority of the State of Oregon may prohibit the issuance of permits in any area of the state whenever smoke dispersion will be significantly restricted; and said Act also provides that the Sanitary Authority shall classify different types or combinations of atmospheric conditions as marginal conditions and shall specify the extent and types of burning that may be allowed under different combinations of atmospheric conditions.

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Quality, as successor to the Sanitary Authority has weighed the economic consequences of scheduled burnings and the feasibility of alternative actions and has considered weather reports schedules and conditions necessary to protect the public health and welfare, for a determination as to the extent and types of burning that may be allowed under different combinations of atmospheric conditions, and based upon the aforesaid considerations and the economic consequences of scheduled burnings, it is hereby determined that the intolerable effects of smoke resulting from field burning in Benton, Linn, Lane, Polk and Marion counties has caused in the outdoor atmosphere of said

counties, air contaminants in quantities of characteristics and of a duration that are injurious to human and animal life, or to property, and which unreasonably interfere with enjoyment of air and property in the area of the state ~~offered~~ ^{affected} thereby; it is further determined and found that the immediate danger to public health, safety and welfare and those factors which cause smoke not to be significantly dispersed, outweighs the economic consequences of scheduled burnings, and that an immediate order of temporary nature must be entered to preserve the public health, welfare and safety.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. That no permits for agricultural field burning be issued by any applicable permit issuing agencies for a period of seven (7) days from the date of this Order in Linn, Lane, Benton, Marion and Polk counties, and that the State Fire Marshall immediately shall be notified of this decision and shall cause all fire chiefs in the affected area to be notified of the prohibitions.
2. That all straw and stubble shall be removed from a field prior to its being burned by the use of propane and a permit shall be obtained from the responsible permit issuing agency prior to the utilization thereof which shall insure nearly complete combustion.
3. That in all cases where a permit for propane burning is requested, the office of the State Fire Marshall, as a condition precedent to the issuance of such permit

shall inspect and approve all burning equipment and fuel prior to its utilization and shall prohibit their use in the event combustion will not be nearly complete.

4. That all existing permits whether they be oral or in written form are hereby declared void; and all future permits, shall be in writing and during the burning operations shall be maintained at the burning site by the person granted said permit, for inspection by appropriate authorities.

5. No permit issuing agency or other person authorized to grant permits shall give oral permission to burn fields and future permits shall only be issued in writing, upon a day-to-day basis and shall be issued only upon the schedule for burning adopted by the Department of Environmental Quality. At all times proper and accurate records of the transaction and copies of permits granted shall be maintained for inspection by the proper authority.

This Order being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist and this Order shall take effect immediately.

Dated this 13th day of August, 1969.

B. A. McPhillips

Chairman
Environmental Quality Commission

STATEMENT ON EFFECTS OF AIR POLLUTION ON PUBLIC HEALTH *

With increasing frequency, air pollution has had serious effects on the health of the public during the past decade or two. The episodes in Donora, Pennsylvania and London, England are well known, and have been publicized. A similar demonstration occurred in New York City on Thanksgiving Day in 1966, when a stagnant air mass filled with smoke that did not disperse properly enveloped the city. Before a rain came, it was estimated that eighty persons died and hundreds more became ill because of the heavy concentration of smoke.

Those primarily affected are individuals with chronic bronchitis and emphysema, as well as those with asthma and allergic disorders, such as hay fever. The elderly and the very young are most vulnerable. The concentration of smoke usually results in aggravating and precipitating acute attacks of difficulty in breathing. Although these concentrations, of themselves, are not solely responsible for the fatalities and illness that occur, they precipitate serious bouts of illness in persons who have chronic bronchitis, emphysema or these other illnesses, and, occasionally, these acute bouts cause fatalities in persons who might otherwise have lived for five or ten or more additional years.

Even in healthy individuals, there is a definite irritation of the eyes and of the nose and throat, which causes tearing and paroxysmal cough. However, in individuals who are heavy smokers and in those who have

* Statement presented by Edward Press, M.D., State Health Officer, at a meeting of the Oregon Commission on Environmental Quality at the Eugene City Hall, Eugene, Oregon, 8:30 p.m. August 13, 1969.

chronic bronchitis, emphysema, asthma, etc., the effects can be much more severe and, as mentioned above, occasionally fatal.

Both New York City and Los Angeles, as a result of prior conditions similar to that which Eugene had on August 12, have enacted legislation giving health officers the authority, when the conditions were extremely serious, to prohibit major sources of air pollution, even including automobiles, from being operated in the city during such times of emergency.

Eugene, being in a valley is, in my opinion, particularly susceptible, when the weather conditions are appropriate to develop dangerously high concentrations of smoke that could have serious and possibly fatal effects.

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State of Oregon
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

R E C E I V E D

AUG 14 1969

AIR QUALITY CONTROL