

# Government News Business

National movement to abolish EPA is being headed by Idaho Congressman, Steve Symms. His office referred Bill HR-9819 to the Congressional Governmental Operations Committee on September 24, 1975. The Bill asks for abolishment of EPA and a reallocation of all EPA programs back to the original federal agencies. EPA programs would be returned to the jurisdiction of USDA, Departments of Transportation and Interior, and HEW. The Bill's final provision calls for review and revision of all EPA legislation. Symms said his office is through trying to talk common sense with EPA bureaucrats. "I can only conclude that we have finally created an agency whose power is running out of the control of any Constitutional branch of the government," he said.

Weed Eaters, Inc., has moved its distribution center and other operations to 36,580 square feet of the new Beltway Service Center in west Houston. The company has also expanded its molding shop to occupy the approximate 6,000 square feet of space that became available in Windsor Plaza because of the move to the Beltway. Weed Eaters' Beltway office is located at 10515 Harwin Dr., Suite 138, Houston, Texas 77027.

Congress indicated some dissatisfaction with the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1972 by not extending FIFRA for three years as requested in July. Instead, a 90-day extension until September was granted. Now, another 90-day extension has been proposed, until December 31, 1975, to enable additional review of EPA's activities. Presently several amendments under consideration would place specific restrictions on EPA.

Century/Rain-Aid Supply Corp. is the new franchised turf distributor for Rain Bird sprinkler equipment serving the greater Chicago area, northern Illinois and northwest Indiana markets. Sources claim this is one of the fastest growing irrigation markets in the U. S.

EPA boss, Russell E. Train, has established an Administrator's Pesticide Policy Advisory Committee. Train said the move is designed to better "articulate the objectives of the pesticides program and the basis on which decisions are made. There is also need to facilitate the input of outside groups in these matters."

Federal Power Commission is considering the decontrol of natural gas. Allocation priorities are established by law and accord highest priority to human needs. As a consequence, shortages must be borne by business. Pending Senate action is S-692 (Hollings, D-S.C.) which would establish higher rates at the well-head for new gas and thus encourage increased exploration and drilling. Bill would also extend Power Commission control to intrastate market, reserve low cost gas for residential users, allocate higher cost gas (new, synthetic natural and liquified natural) to industrial users, and prohibit all boiler uses of natural gas.

EPA has also released a public opinion poll entitled, "Public Attitudes Toward Environmental Tradeoffs." EPA claims the survey reaches several conclusions useful in examining environmental issues. The poll was completed and released by the Opinion Research Corporation. EPA reports no involvement in the preparation or financing of the poll but Opinion Research has given the Agency permission to reproduce and distribute.