

JAN 15 1981

Ms. Sharon E. Ahmad
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
European and Canadian Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Mr. Edward G. Lee
Assistant Under Secretary for
USA Affairs
Department of External Affairs
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

Dear Ms. Ahmad and Mr. Lee:

We are pleased to submit the Interim Reports of Work Groups 1, 2, 3B and 3A. In accordance with the coordinating function assigned to Work Group 3A in its terms of reference, we have reviewed and incorporated summaries of the Interim Reports of Work Groups 1, 2, and 3B in our interim report.

These interim reports are a first step in the preparation of technical and scientific groundwork for negotiation of a cooperative agreement on transboundary air pollution. In view of the importance and urgency of this problem, however, they may also assist in formulating the interim actions by both countries called for in the Memorandum of Intent to deal with the problem, pending conclusion of an agreement.

The information on what is known and hypothesized about acid deposition in the interim reports indicates that the problem is genuine and serious. It is a problem which could, if allowed to go unchecked, carry substantial economic and social costs. Further research must obviously continue, but solutions should be sought in the near term. As a practical matter, the only way to reduce acid deposition is to reduce the emissions of the pollutants that cause the problem. Most existing air pollution legislation was designed to address the local impacts of air pollution. Although this legislation can be useful in addressing the phenomenon of long range transport of air pollutants and acid deposition, new legislation will likely be required to fully and expeditiously address this problem.

Concerning other matters, Work Group 2 has requested that their name be changed to "Atmospheric Sciences and Analysis Work Group" and that "evaluate and employ available field measurements, monitoring data, and other information" be added to their terms of reference. Work Group 2 believes that their terms of reference require them to consider in depth monitoring network results, experimental field studies, etc., in order to make comprehensive recommendations to the other Work Groups. Additionally, they believe that their recommendations must include both modeling estimates and/or predictions, as well as evaluations of experimental results, because an integrated analysis which incorporates both areas is crucial to understanding regional air pollution phenomena. We support these recommendations and urge you to approve these changes.