CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

Some of the things that came out of this Conference are that we need to look more and more at performance based codes and standards and get away, as much as we can, from the hardware type. We also need to look at risk based requirements, a still more difficult step ahead for us. In other words, all situations are not the same, we have to look very critically at the requirements to determine the best possible way to handle each of the situations. We heard a great deal about how filters might be modified, and why they should be modified. The work that Werner Bergman showed us yesterday with computerized fluid-dynamic simulations, whereby we can follow one particle at a time as it goes through the maze of a filter is an indication of what the future holds. This is where we are going, but we have to keep in mind that we should always endeavor to verify the results of these very powerful tools to make sure that we still have our feet on the ground and know precisely what we are doing.

We had a lot of input on HVAC, and I think that's a good thing because air and gas cleaning is basically inseparable from the subject of HVAC in general, they do go together very well. We had a session on waste management and this, again, is a wave of the future. We have to become more and more involved in this; not because we want to guide these operations but because we have to look closely at the operations in order to design the air cleaning and HVAC systems that will be necessary to carry out the decommissioning, remediation, and the restoration without endangering people, the environment, and all the other things that we stand for in this activity that we are engaged in.

I think it has been a very successful conference. I do want to thank all of you who have participated, particularly those who participated by presenting papers and those who made commentaries at the conclusion of presentations. As you know from past conferences, some of the most valuable parts of the Proceedings are the discussions which follow the presentation of papers and panel sections. I have one last thing to do before concluding this conference and that is to ask where would you like to have the next conference, in 1998? We try to determine where the majority of people would like to go, and try to make such arrangements. We meet in July or early August, before schools start so families can come together. I will make inquiries at the locations suggested and will consult with the program committee on a final decision. It has been a great pleasure to meet you all again, and I thank you all for coming and contributing.

Note: Minneapolis has been selected for the site of the 25th DOE/NRC Nuclear Air Cleaning and Treatment Conference, the meeting dates are August 3-6, 1998 at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center Hotel.