

these vital subjects within the last year has exceeded 2,500 people. The attendees represented primarily key professional leaders in industry, education, agriculture, medicine and research. The information and activities developed in these conference findings are extensively expressed through development and production activities across the length and breadth of our region. Among our states there is a very high interest, at this moment, in a proposed national 200 billion electron volt atomic particle accelerator for advanced studies in high energy physics.

The Southern Interstate Nuclear Board continues to work vigorously in assisting the states in the upgrading of their own programs, committees, or commissions for science and technology. The advanced position of the southern states in other nuclear activities is currently evident, for example, in the transfer from the Atomic Energy Commission to the states of authority for licensing and inspection of nuclear materials. Of the 11 states in the nation which have undertaken this authority, seven are in the SINB community of states.

The value and soundness of the approach taken in the development and execution of the Southern Interstate Nuclear Board has gained far-reaching endorsement on a national scale. At a recent meeting in Washington, D. C., Dr. Glenn Seaborg, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, in speaking of the Southern Interstate Nuclear Board, said:

“This is a Board that the Atomic Energy Commission appreciates very much. We feel that this group has played a very vital role in the development and progress of the atomic energy program. It is the sort of group we would like to see emulated in other parts of the country, and we have encouraged other parts of the country to make moves in the same direction on several occasions. We look forward to your cooperation, your help, and certainly pledge our continued support.”

It is my pleasure to act also for Governors Harrison, Moore, and Smith—the other members of your Nuclear Energy and Space Committee—in presiding over this session in presenting the report of the program and activities of the Southern Interstate Nuclear Board.