

Division of Water, Air, and Waste Chemistry

Members of the Division of Water, Air, and Waste Chemistry request a change in name to the Division of Environmental Chemistry. The present name is the result of gradual expansion of scope and interest over a period of time when the aqueous, gaseous and solid phases were treated as separate entities. Officers of the Division believe that this is not a reasonable basis, since the regimes are not independent and the total ecological state is affected by stresses or alterations on any given element. "Environmental Chemistry" covers the topics about which the Division needs to be concerned concisely and completely, and reflects the interests of the Division with a name in modern terms.

There are on-the-other hand aspects of the total environment that are not appropriate to ACS Divisional promotion such as extended biological or engineering design aspects. Environmental Chemistry covers the topics about which the Division needs to be concerned concisely and completely.

A minor but real consideration of the name change involves the attitude of some foreign and domestic scientists/engineers. In the past, invitations to present papers to some has brought a frank response that their Director wanted to know if the Division name meant it was the "garbage division"?

Division name change occurred April 10, 1973.