

An article on "Acid Deposition. Smelter Emissions, and the Linearity Issue in the Western United States," in the Aug. 30, 1985 issue of *Science*, reports data that support a linear relation between emissions and sulfate concentrations. The work, by Michael Oppenheimer, Charles B. Epstein and Robert E. Yuhnke, all of the Environmental Defense Fund, Inc., compares the variation in sulfur dioxide emissions from nonferrous metal smelters in the western United States over a 4-year period with the variation in sulfate concentrations in Rocky Mountain states precipitation. The geographic separation of emissions sources and precipitation monitors indicates a sulfur transport scale exceeding 1,000 kms.

The same issue of *Science* (Vol. 229, p. 1070) contains a review by Eliot Marshall of a major acid rain study released on Aug. 29, 1985, by the Environmental Protection Agency. Charles Elkins, the acting air and radiation chief at EPA, called it "the first page in the first chapter" of a long book. It is the first information to come out of the National Surface

Water Survey, a \$6 million project begun by former EPA Administrator William Ruckelshaus. The study describes the acidity and alkalinity of unpolluted waters east of the Rockies as reflected in a one-shot random sample of 1,620 lakes in the fall of 1984. A similar study of western lakes began in August 1984.