

Fri, Ruckelshaus Deputy, Named Acting Administrator of E.P.A.

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WASHINGTON, April 30 (AP) — Robert W. Fri took office today as acting administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency upon the departure of William D. Ruckelshaus to head the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"The policies and objectives of E.P.A. have not changed and will not change under my guidance," Mr. Fri told newsmen.

Mr. Fri said that he would head the agency until a successor was named and then return to the management consulting concern he left two years ago when he was named deputy administrator of the environmental agency.

He said that he knew of no candidates for the agency post.

Counsel Moves Up

John R. Quarles Jr., general counsel moves up to become Mr. Fri's deputy administrator and was replaced in turn by his former deputy, Alan Kirk.

Mr. Fri said that the agency would maintain continuity in both staff and policy, and would complete decisions and actions now pending without unusual delay.

Mr. Fri said that the major task facing the agency was the administrative job of developing and issuing tens of thousands of permits for air and water pollution emissions under national antipollution standards.

He said that he would make the decisions required of an administrator.

Mr. Fri, 37 years old, a native of Kansas City, Kan., holds degrees in physics from Rice University and in business ad-

ministration from Harvard University.

The new administrator, who was a Navy officer from 1959 to 1962, joined McKinsey & Co., Inc., a management consulting concern, in 1963 and became a partner in 1968.

He was named deputy administrator of the environmental agency on June 15, 1971, when it was about seven months old.