



NETWORK NEWS

Clean Car Campaign Supporters Take Action

The Clean Car Campaign, a coalition of national, regional, state and local organizations, has collected over 90,000 names of people who have taken the Clean Car Pledge. By signing the Pledge, individuals challenge automakers to make cleaner vehicles, and agree to use the Clean Car Standard to guide their next vehicle purchase. Recently, pledgers took action and sent a message to top-ranking officials at Ford and Daimler-Chrysler asking them to eliminate polyvinyl chloride (PVC) from cars and trucks.

At the Detroit Auto Show last January, the Campaign congratulated General Motors for becoming the first auto company to commit to eliminating PVC from the interior of all their cars by 2004. PVC is a plastic widely used in today's cars. During the disposal of PVC, dioxins, one of the most hazardous class of substances known to human health and the environment may be formed. By eliminating the use of PVC in cars and trucks, exposure to dioxin is reduced and the vehicles may be more readily recycled. Fax machines at Ford and Daimler-Chrysler were jammed due to the volume of letters.

In response, Ford committed to reviewing the company's product planning processes to determine whether they could make a commitment to phase out PVC in a timely manner. Daimler-Chrysler representatives agreed to meet with Campaign representatives about the company's hazardous materials policies, but have not committed to phasing out PVC.

Supporters also displayed their activism by encouraging Governor Davis of California to strengthen the Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) mandate when it comes up for review in September. The ZEV program is the only program in the country that requires carmakers to develop pollution-and gasoline-free motor vehicles, such as battery electrics and fuel cell vehicles. But, just as ZEV's are beginning to hit the market, the car companies are trying to kill the program. They have fought the program every step of the way, just as they did with seat belts and air bags. Campaign supporters demonstrated that the public stands behind the program and wants to move toward zero-emission vehicles by faxing their Governor.

The Campaign encourages others to join this group of engaged supporters by signing the Pledge and taking actions, with the campaign's help, to promote cleaner vehicle choices. For more information on the Clean Car Campaign and how to take the Pledge, contact Kevin Mills at 202-387-3500, kmills@environmentaldefense.org, or visit <http://www.cleancarcampaign.org>.

What is the Clean Car Campaign?

The Clean Car Campaign is a coalition of organizations dedicated to promoting the transformation of the motor vehicle industry by encouraging auto makers to produce vehicles that meet the Clean Car Standard. Supporters of the Campaign can sign the Clean Car Pledge to make your next vehicle purchase one that meets the criteria of the Standard. Vehicles that meet the Standard are:

- 50% more fuel efficient than other vehicles in its class,
- Meet California's stringent tailpipe emission standard (SULEV) <http://www.cleancarcampaign.org>,
- Cleanly manufactured using non-toxic, recyclable materials.

Inside: Citizen-Based, Ozone Monitoring Project Launched in Cleveland (p3)
New Report Shows Ontario is Dumping Ground For U.S. and Canadian Hazardous Waste (p4)
14 Substances Added to List of Suspected Carcinogens, 2 Removed at Industry's Request (p5)
Browner and Carabias Claim US/Mexico Environmental Progress (p6), and more.....

**Environmental Defense Executive Director,
Fred Krupp, Buys A Prius**

To help demonstrate the impact an individual's vehicle purchasing decision can have on the environment, Executive Director of Environmental Defense, Fred Krupp, bought a Prius, Toyota's hybrid-electric vehicle. The Prius is over 50% more fuel efficient than cars and cuts vehicle emissions by 90% overall (the Prius is rated at 52 mpg city/ 45 mpg highway, and meets California



's SULEV- super ultra low emissions vehicle – standard). Given the amount of driving Fred does,

he will consume a mere 1.2 gallons of gasoline each week compared to the 2.7 he was consuming weekly in his four-door sedan, and he will cut nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbon emissions by 97%.

The Prius is the first mass-market car sold in North America that meets both the fuel-efficiency and tailpipe emission components of the Clean Car Standard. Toyota indicates that the Prius also meets the standards for recyclability, use of recycled materials and avoidance of priority toxic materials.

The American Council for and Energy Efficient Economy, publisher of the Green Book, gives Prius its highest rating for a gasoline-using vehicle (a hybrid-electric vehicle uses both gasoline and electricity for power but never needs to be plugged in for charging). The Honda Insight, another hybrid-electric vehicle now available, runs a close second based on its pace-setting fuel economy (61 mpg/city, 70 mpg/highway). While 90,000 people have pledged to use the Clean Car Standard to guide them in their next vehicle purchasing decision (see story on page 1), US automakers have not yet tried to match these Japanese innovations.

Livability Report Gives a “D” to Dayton

A transportation report for Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio released in July by Environmental Defense, Ohio Citizen Action and the Ohio Sierra Club, showed that the Dayton metropolitan area is one of the most

The Pollution Prevention Alliance (PPA) joins Environmental Defense with regional, state, tribal, and community-based activists working to promote pollution prevention and sustainable communities in the Great Lakes region. PPA is supported by the C.S. Mott Foundation, The Joyce Foundation, and The George Gund Foundation.

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dependent on cars in the US. This report, which is the third installment of the Environmental Livability Index, was featured in the Dayton Daily News, and on all three Dayton television stations.

According to the report, Dayton residents drive more annually than people in Chicago, Cleveland and Milwaukee. In addition, the Dayton area has more miles of paved roadway than most other metropolitan areas of similar size.

The timing of the report coincided with discussions about major road expansions in the area, including a new outer beltway around Dayton and a widening of I-75 (the major north-south highway through the city). Because of the high costs and negative environmental and social impacts – such as sprawl, loss of farmland and open space, air and water pollution – associated with these projects, Dayton area environmental groups are pushing for increased public transportation and better land-use planning as alternatives.

Three other livability reports on Dayton cover cleanup needs, childhood lead poisoning, and air and water quality. The final installment of Dayton's Environmental Livability Index, which covers childhood lead poisoning, will be released in early August. To obtain a copy of the reports or for more information, visit <http://www.environmentaldefense.org/programs/ppa/livabilityindex.html>, or contact Lisa Gomes-Casseres at Environmental Defense at (202) 387-3500, lgomescasseres@environmentaldefense.org, or Jane Forrest Redfern at Ohio Citizen Action at (937) 277-7194, jforrest@dayton.net.

Community-Based Ozone Monitoring Project Launched in Cleveland

The Clean Air Conservancy and Environmental Defense launched a community-based, ozone monitoring project in Cleveland on August 7, 2000. Volunteers in the community are taking air readings daily in Cleveland neighborhoods to learn what ozone quality is outside their door.

A Cleveland air quality livability report released on June 21, 2000 criticized the area's bad air quality and graded it a 'D,' due to the lack of ozone monitoring, and the failure to implement a strategy to address industrial ozone smog. The federal ozone monitoring network includes just 3 monitors in Cuyahoga county, 1 of which is within the Cleveland city limits, resulting in only a regional measurement of ozone. Moreover, there are variations between the data recorded by the 3 county monitors. With community-based monitoring, the public can determine ozone levels in their own backyards.

Cleveland is the first city in the nation to use the newly developed hand-held monitoring devices, which are about the size of a cell phone. The monitors contain ozone-sensitive cards that change color depending on how much ozone is present. By next spring, the Clean Air Conservancy expects to add up to 40 more monitors to the current 10 around Cuyahoga County.

For more information, or if you are interested in learning more about developing a community-based monitoring project in your area, please contact Halley Rosen at Environmental Defense at 202-387-3500, hrosen@environmentaldefense.org. (See related article "US EPA Report Shows Smog Increasing in Several Rural Areas" pg.6)

Farewell to Bill Davis

Although he will be sorely missed by the Pollution Prevention Alliance, we wish Bill Davis success in his new position as the Director of the State Environmental Leadership Program (a coalition of state environmental groups). Bill has been dedicated to the environmental movement in the Great Lakes for years and will continue to play an integral role in promoting environmental progress both within the region and nationally. Bill can be contacted through e-mail at [wjedavis@chorus.net](mailto:wjdavis@chorus.net), as he does not yet have an office phone.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL NEWS

Local Campaign Forces Cincinnati Specialties to Reduce Pollution

The Safer Neighborhoods Campaign, led by Ohio Citizen Action (OCA) and the Environmental Community Organization (ECA), celebrated a victory after an eighteen-month campaign. Cincinnati Specialties, an organic chemical producer that makes saccharine, flavorings, pesticides and rust inhibitors, has agreed to take steps to reduce its pollution. The company has a long history of peculiar noxious odors, toxic air releases, and accidental chlorine releases.

Cincinnati Specialties has agreed to 1) build an enclosure to contain accidental chlorine releases, 2) upgrade the methanol recovery unit at the facility to reduce the release of methanol waste to municipal sewers, 3) change how they handle solids and packing of liquids to reduce odors, 4) pay for an independent technical consultant that the community chooses, and 5) hire an independent facilitator to work with a permanent community group which all meet with the company. For more information, contact Ohio Citizen Action at 513-221-2100, rbelz@ohiocitizen.org.

United States Environmental Protection Agency Approves Six State's Programs to Reduce Discharges to the Great Lakes

The United States Environmental Protection Agency approved six Great Lakes states programs to reduce pollution to the lakes. Under the Clean Water Act, states can adopt their own programs provided that they are consistent with, and as stringent as, federal criteria and standards. The Agency determined that programs in Minnesota and Pennsylvania are fully consistent with Clean Water Act standards and the 1995 Great Lakes Guidance (all eight Great Lakes states agreed to adopt their own programs under the Great Lakes Guidance). The Agency also approved programs in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio with minor exceptions in each state.

This fall, the EPA will make decisions concerning programs in New York and

Wisconsin. The Agency will be posting approval statements in the Federal Register at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/2000/August/Day-04/w19792.htm>

New Report Shows Ontario is a Dumping Ground For U.S. and Canadian Hazardous Waste

Ontario has become a dumping ground for hazardous waste from the United States and the province's own industries due to weak provincial environmental laws, says a newly released report by the Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy (CIELAP). According to the study, toxic waste imported from the US increased 138 percent from 1994-1998, and hazardous waste produced by Ontario industries increased by 42 percent.

The report can be viewed at <http://www.cielap.org/infocent/research/HAZARD.PDF>. For more information, contact Anne Mitchell at the Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy at 416-923-3529, anne@web.net.

New Data Show that Utilities are the Largest Releasers of Toxic Chemicals in Minnesota and Michigan

With both mining facilities and electric utilities now required to submit data on their toxic releases, the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) indicates that utilities are the largest emitters of toxic chemicals in Michigan and Minnesota. In Minnesota, electric utilities account for one third of the total toxic emissions, with Sherco Power Plant ranking among the highest polluting power plants in the Upper Midwest (emitting 6.7 million pounds of toxic pollution annually). Data released by the State of Michigan revealed that the Monroe Power Plant (Detroit Edison), JH Cambell Plant (Consumers Energy), and Dan E Karn, JC Weadock Plant (Consumers Energy) are the worst power plant polluters in the state.

The National Environmental Trust recently released a new study, "Toxic Power: What the Toxics Release Inventory Tells Us About Power Plant Pollution." The report ranks utilities based

on TRI data and analyzes emissions data reported under the TRI program. For more information, or to obtain a copy of the report, contact Mark Wenzler at the National Environmental Trust at 202-887-8800, mwenzler@environet.org, or visit <http://environet.policy.net/cleanair/tri/>.

Testifiers Support Stronger Diesel Regulations at Chicago Hearing

At a United States Environmental Protection Agency hearing in Chicago on June 20, 2000, 34 testifiers supported stronger diesel regulations, while only 8 condemned the new proposed diesel rule. The rule proposes that diesel sulfur levels be reduced to at least 15 ppm from 500 ppm nationwide for both on-road and off-road diesels. Among the supporters at the hearing, Daimler-Chrysler representative, Marie Valentine, stated that a combination of sulfur and emissions standards improves air quality and will advance vehicle technology. Representatives from the refinery industry made up the majority of non-supportive testifiers.

Public hearings also were held in New York City, Atlanta, Los Angeles, and Denver. The EPA accepted comments on the rule through August 14, 2000. The rule will be finalized by the end of the year. For more information, contact Brian Urbaszewski at the American Lung Association in Chicago at 312-243-2000, burbaszewski@alamc.org.

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL NEWS

United States Environmental Protection Agency Issues New Regulations to Address Non-Point Pollution to Water

Despite strong opposition, the United States Environmental Protection Agency issued a regulation to address non-point source pollution in an effort to make 20,000 dirty rivers, lakes, and estuaries safe for fishing and swimming. Business groups argue that complying with the regulation will cost billions of dollars.

To date, the Total Maximum Daily Loadings (TMDL) provisions on the Clean Water Act have been underutilized and have not resulted in sufficient improvements in water quality. Under

the TMDL program, the total amount of a pollutant that a water body can handle is calculated and used as the basis for the amount of discharges allowed. This new regulation requires states to be responsible for calculating how much pollution must be eliminated to make unsafe bodies of water healthy, and for deciding how to cut back on pollution. The new rule is subject to congressional approval and will not be implemented until October 2001. For a copy of the rule, visit

<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/2000/July/Day-13/w17831.htm>

14 Substances Added to List of Suspected Carcinogens, 2 Removed

The National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences issued a report adding 14 substances to the list of substances known to cause cancer. Saccharin and ethyl acrylate, a substance used in making latex paints and textiles, were both removed from the list.

Second-hand smoke is one of the substances added to the list. The report states that "environmental tobacco smoke, generated from side stream and exhaled mainstream smoke of cigarettes, pipes, and cigars, is listed as a known human carcinogen." The study states that second-hand smoke can cause lung cancer and that nonsmoking spouses and co-workers of smokers had higher rates of lung cancer.

Among other substances added to the list are:

- Crystalline silica dust small enough to breathe (a byproduct of mining)
- Inorganic acid mists containing sulfuric acid (produced in the manufacture of alcohol, lead batteries, phosphate fertilizers, soap and detergents, synthetic ethanol, and in pickling and other acid treatments of metals)
- Dyes metabolized to benzidine
- 1,3-Butadiene, used to make synthetic rubber
- Cadmium (used in batteries, coating and plating, plastic and synthetic products and alloy)
- Ethylene oxide (used to make other chemicals and to sterilize medical devices)
- Tamoxifen (a drug shown to prevent breast cancer, the report indicated that its benefits outweigh its risks)

Environmental Working Group Report Finds That Several States Are Not Enforcing Federal Laws According

A report released by the Environmental Working Group on July 25, 2000 entitled "Prime Suspects, The Law Breaking Polluters America Fails to Inspect," many states are not enforcing federal laws regulating clean air and water. The report says that the "United States Environmental Protection Agency has lost control of environmental law enforcement and, in the absence of strong federal oversight, many states have gutted environmental enforcement programs." Environmental agencies in Ohio, Michigan and Texas rated among the worst for failing to inspect facilities with records of air and water violations.

State officials claim that some of the facilities mentioned in the report have been inspected and closed for years, and that the EPA often has outdated information in its records. Without access to the most current information, the public can not be certain that violators are being properly investigated.

Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company Announces Phase-Out Several "Scotchgard" Products

Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company (3M) stated that it would voluntarily stop producing several "Scotchgard" products after tests revealed that the chemical compounds involved linger in the environment and body for years. 3M product lines to be phased out include fabric protector commercially applied to carpets and the Scotchgard spray available in grocery and hardware stores. 3M plans on searching for substitutes for perflouroctanyl sulfonate (PFOS) chemistry.

The company claims that the decision is voluntary, however, the announcement was made after negotiations with the US Environmental Protection Agency. Agency officials indicate that they would have acted to remove the product from the market if 3M had not done so first.

United States Environmental Protection Agency Report Shows Smog Increasing in Several Rural Areas

Although overall air quality nationwide continues to improve, ground-level ozone (smog) is on the rise in certain parts of the country according to a US Environmental Protection Agency air quality trends report released April 26, 2000. Notably, smog concentrations increased at 17 of 24 National Park Service Monitoring Sites between 1989-1998.

The Agency plans to release a summary of 1999 air quality trends later this summer. For more information or to obtain a copy of the report "National Air Quality and Emissions Trends Report," contact David Mintz of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at 919-541-5224, mintz.david@epamail.epa.gov, or visit <http://www.epa.gov/oar/aqtrnd98/>.

Panel of Scientists Endorses Environmental Protection Agency Plans to Regulate Mercury from Power Plants

A panel of scientists concluded that the Environmental Protection Agency is justified in setting stringent levels of protection from mercury exposure. Congress barred the Agency from proceeding for nearly two years until this study was completed by the National Academy of Sciences.

The study concludes that methyl-mercury "is widely spread and persistent in the environment" and that the guidelines used by the EPA to establish maximum exposure levels are "scientifically justifiable... for the protection of public health."

Browner and Carabias Claim US/Mexico Environmental Progress

At a meeting on May 18, 2000, US Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner and Mexico's Environmental Minister Julia Carabias stated that bilateral environmental progress has been made in improving air and water quality, on exchanging information on siting hazardous waste facilities, and on responses to environmental emergencies in border cities.

Browner said that "a solid foundation has been laid and I am confident that the bilateral progress will be sustained because of the commitment of both countries to environmental quality."

Despite these claims of progress, the Mexican government has yet to fulfill its obligations under the North American Free Trade Agreement to develop a national pollutant release and transfer registry (PRTR). Unlike the case in the US and Canada, the public in Mexico has been kept in the dark about pollution from Mexican industry and governmental facilities. National and border-based US environmental groups wrote a letter to EPA Administrator Carol Browner, on June 9, 2000 asking her to urge the Mexican government to follow through with their commitment to the PRTR development. The EPA responded on July 13, 2000 by stating that "it is the goal of the US to continue to work with Mexico to achieve a mandatory PRTR system." For more information or to obtain a copy of these letters, contact Lois Epstein at Environmental Defense at 202-387-3500, lepstein@environmentaldefense.org.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Environmentally Safe Hospitals: Reducing Waste and Saving Money

Citizens Environmental Coalition and the New York City Health Care Without Harm Coalition. The guide covers the topics of recycling, phasing out mercury, alternatives to incineration, and reducing waste and pesticide use. For more information, contact Anne Rabe at the Citizens Environmental Coalition at 518-462-5527, (fax) 518-465-8349, or cechcwh@junolcom.

Taking Stock: North American Pollutant Releases and Transfers, 1997

Commission for Environmental Cooperation. This report analyzes chemicals and facilities used in specific industrial sectors for which both Toxics Release Inventory. Canada's National Pollutant Release Inventory data are available. The report can be obtained by contacting Jorge Ocana at the Commission for Environmental Cooperation at 514-350-4314 (fax), or jocana@ccemtl.org. The report also is available

in Spanish and French on the CEC website (<http://www.cec.org>).

Poisoning Our Water: How the Government Permits Pollution

United States Public Interest Research Group
This report provides a river-by-river ranking of waterways with the most discharges of toxics. To get a copy of the report, contact PIRG at 202-546-9707, 218 D Street, S.E., Washington, DC 20003, or visit <http://www.pirg.org>.

State of the World 2000

Worldwatch Institute.
This annual Worldwatch Institute report on progress toward a sustainable community analyzes topics which reflect the current state of our global environment. The report can be obtained by contacting the Worldwatch Institute at 202-452-1999. For more information, visit the Institute's website at <http://www.worldwatch.org>.

Working in Urban Watersheds, Auto Recycling, Scrap Processing, Tires, and Marine Paint Industry Analysis

Sustainable Conservation
This report details environmental issues associated with these industries and the potential avenues for solving them. The report is available on-line at <http://www.suscon.org>. For copies of the report, contact Sustainable Conservation at 415-977-0380, suscon@igc.org.

The Toll From Coal

National Wildlife Federation.
NWF's new report identifies public health impacts that the nation's coal-fired power plants pose. The study links emissions from these plants to asthma attacks and premature deaths. For copies of the report, contact Tony DeFalco of the National Wildlife Federation at 734-769-3351, defalco@nwf.org, or visit <http://www.nwf.org>.

WEB WATCH

Green Fleets

This International Center for Local Environmental Initiatives website (<http://www.greenfleets.org>) includes guidance on creating a green vehicle fleets policy, a model ordinance, and background information about

green fleets. The site also provides links to publications and green fleet activities.

Toxics Release Inventory Explorer

This new U.S. EPA website (<http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer>) allows the user to analyze reported toxic chemical release data for the county or state, or any other part of the United States and territories. The TRI query system includes the recently released 1998 TRI data.

Shareholder Action Network

As a project of the Social Investment Forum, the Shareholder Action Network (<http://www.shareholderaction.org>) aims to empower investors. Site highlights the issues specific groups target, provides opportunities to take action, and shares the latest news on shareholder actions and socially responsible investing.

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Upcoming Events

August 29-30, 2000 (Indianapolis, IN), Great Lakes Regional Pollution Prevention Roundtable (GLRPPR) Summer 2000 Conference, sponsored by GLRPPR. For information, contact Carla Blue at 217-244-8901, cblue@wmrc.uiuc.edu.

October 18-20, 2000 (Montreal, Canada), International Pollution Prevention Summit, sponsored by the United Nations Environment Program, Canadian Center for Pollution Prevention, and Environment Canada. For information, contact the Canadian Center for Pollution Prevention at 519-337-3423, c2p2@sarnia.com, or visit <http://c2p2.sarnia.com>.

