



NETWORK NEWS

Results of New First Time Citizen Monitoring Project Indicate Variation in Smog Levels

The Cleveland-based Clean Air Conservancy and Environmental Defense released new first time data on air quality from citizen monitoring in specific Cleveland neighborhoods on October 5, 2000. In August and part of September, volunteers in six different Cleveland neighborhoods took daily, ground-level ozone readings using a hand-held monitoring device called "Zikua" ("visualizing the invisible" in KiSwahili). Cleveland is the first city ever to develop a community-based monitoring network using this new technology. The results indicate differences in smog levels between neighborhoods, however, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) only has one ozone monitor for the entire city of Cleveland and only three for Cuyahoga County.

Members of the public were trained to collect data using Zikua, and they collected data five days per week for four weeks. Volunteers followed specific procedural guidelines similar to those developed by the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) program and the National Air and Space Administration (NASA). After an hour of exposure, chemically treated badges were inserted into Zikua giving the user a reading of ozone levels in parts per billion. At the same time, volunteers also recorded local conditions that can affect local smog levels such as temperature, wind direction and speed, and estimated cloud cover.

Cleveland residents are concerned that localized differences in ozone levels are not captured by the one EPA monitor in Cleveland that provides an area-wide average. The monitoring network in Cleveland will be expanded to 50 hand-held monitors next summer. Citizens aim to gather enough data to identify how different populations are being exposed to ozone, to ensure that local pollution reduction strategies are sufficient.

Environmental Defense is expanding the network throughout the Great Lakes region. If you are interested in developing a citizen-based monitoring network in your community, or for more information about the monitoring network and how to purchase Zikua, contact Halley Rosen at Environmental Defense at 202-387-3500, hrosen@environmentaldefense.org. To view the Cleveland data, visit <http://www.environmentaldefense.org/programs/ppa>.

Citizens Holding Zikua at Training Workshop (below)



Zikua Hand-Held Monitor (below)



Inside: International Joint Commission Advises US and Canada to Take Action (p4), Report Shows Revlon and Nabisco Ranked Among Worst for Environmental Performance (p4), Communities for A Better Environment Exposes Oil Refineries as Major Dioxin Polluters (p6), And much more.....

NEW PPA WEB FEATURES!

The Pollution Prevention Alliance website provides a new Guide to Using the Toolbox. The Guide demonstrates how to use PPA tools, including the Sustainability Kit, Livability Index, Environmental Health Action Guide, Industry Sector Community Guides, Guide to Cleaner Vehicle Design, Use and Disposal, and Scorecard.

The website also now features all Livability Index reports for Dayton, Ohio, covering air quality, rivers and streams, drinking water, transportation, industrial pollution, cleanup needs, and lead poisoning.

<http://www.environmentaldefense.org/programs/PPA>

Clean Car Campaign Encourages City and State Officials to Support Cleaner Vehicles

Urged by the Ecology Center, a Campaign partner, the Ann Arbor City Council in Michigan became the first municipality to endorse the Clean Car Campaign and to commit to develop a "Green Fleets Policy" adhering to the Campaigns' Clean Car Standard. The City Council unanimously endorsed the goals of the Campaign in August joining tens of thousands of individuals and 50 organizations that have taken the Clean Car Pledge, which seeks greener vehicle choices in the North American marketplace.

According to Ann Arbor Council member Heidi Herrell, "the City of Ann Arbor realizes that unless consumers express a strong interest in purchasing cleaner vehicles, US automakers will continue to move cautiously in bringing these proven, new technologies to market. We are trying to send the message that we want clean and efficient vehicles sooner, not later."

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.

The *PPA Newsletter* is published quarterly by Environmental Defense's PPA staff. Readers are encouraged to submit materials for publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length and clarity. Please send all submittals to:

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The city also plans to develop a comprehensive "Green Fleets Policy" by next year to guide its own vehicles purchasing and fleet operation to minimize environmental impacts. The policy will include measures to reduce vehicle use and promote alternative transportation modes. The Ecology Center and the Campaign encourages additional communities to take action to reduce the impact of their vehicle fleets. Calling Campaign activists to action, the Ecology Center has prepared materials for those who want to follow suit.

Similarly, following a major advocacy effort by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS, also a Campaign partner), California Air Resources Board (CARB) agreed to uphold its mandate that low or zero emissions vehicles comprise 10% of the state's market

by 2003. Campaign supporters in California helped generate support for the decision by faxing letters to the Governor of California.

The mandate, adopted by the state in 1990, has been modified twice to provide flexibility to automobile manufacturers. Despite recent complaints by automakers saying that the mandate is too steep, the Board announced on September 8, 2000 that the mandate will be upheld. "We hope that the auto companies will do a lot more work on the ZEV (Zero Emission Vehicle) market," stated Jerry Martin, spokesman of CARB.

UCS anticipates that other states will follow California's decision. The CARB's decision could have repercussions across the country for other states seeking to encourage automakers to provide cleaner vehicles. For more information about the Campaign, contact Charles Griffith at the Ecology Center at 734-663-2400, charlesg@ecocenter.org, or Kevin Mills at Environmental Defense at 202-387-3500, kmills@environmentaldefense.org, or visit <http://www.cleancarcampaign.org>.

HYBRID UPDATE

There have been several indicators of recent progress in promoting cleaner hybrid vehicles.

- The Toyota Prius has sold at about two times the production rate over its first quarter on the market, demonstrating pent up demand for cleaner car choices.
- Honda announced that the 2001 model of the hybrid-electric Insight, unlike the current model will meet California's Super Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle tailpipe emissions standard (an element of the Campaign's Clean Car Standard) and will be available with an automatic transmission.
- Daimler Chrysler announced a commitment to produce a hybrid-electric Sport Utility Vehicle (Durango) in 2003. However, given that the hybrid will only get 3 miles per gallon premium over the conventional Durango, we believe the company is focusing too much on using hybrid technology to increase power rather than fuel efficiency. We are encouraged, however, by Daimler Chrysler's parallel move to create an engineering department to accelerate development of advanced technology vehicles of all types.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL NEWS

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Launches Mercury ' Switchout' Pilot Project

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation launched a pilot project in Buffalo to prevent mercury from being released into the environment when cars are recycled. Many of today's automobiles contain mercury in the switches that turn on hood and trunk convenience lighting. The state project will provide free replacement switches at participating vehicle inspection stations in Buffalo. The free switches take less than a minute to install.

Automakers continue to use mercury in the switches despite an existing alternative, a copper ball-bearing that can be easily inserted into the same casing. Recent US Environmental Protection Agency studies conclude that mercury from automotive switches contributes significantly to our national mercury release inventory. Mercury escaping into the environment from one switch has the potential to contaminate a one-acre lake for an entire year. An estimated six to ten tons of mercury are released annually when automobiles are shredded and melted. Mercury switch replacement would reduce mercury pollution caused by vehicle recycling by 90%.

The Auto Alliance, the trade association of US automobile manufacturers, opposes the project and argues that mercury switches should be removed at the end of life of the vehicle. Mercury switches are often not removed at automobile scrap yards, however. For more information about the project, contact Alex McPherson at Great Lakes United at mcperson@glu.org, 716-886-0142.

Ohio Ranks 3rd Worst in Nation for Expired Water Pollution Permits

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting an unprecedented review of Ohio's failure to enforce the Clean Water Act, hazardous and solid waste laws, and the Clean Air Act following petitions coordinated by Rivers Unlimited, Ohio Citizen Action, Ohio Public Interest Research Group and the Sierra Club. Additionally, the Ohio EPA has not issued the required National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) pollution permits for concentrated animal feeding operations, factory farms.

The EPA has threatened Ohio with withholding funds if NPDES permits are not issued to factory farms. These

operations currently are violating water quality standards in Ohio, and Ohio ranks 3rd worst in the nation for expired water pollution permits of all types (with over a third expired as of February, 2000). According to Friends of the Earth and Environmental Working Group, the oldest permit was expired for 62 months and the average age of expired permits is 15 months. For more information, contact Marilyn Wall at Rivers Unlimited at 513-761-4003, mwall@econet.org.

International Joint Commission Advises the US and Canada to Take Action Before Great Lakes Agreements Fail

With the July, 2000 release of the International Joint Commission (IJC) *Tenth Biennial Report on Great Lakes Water Quality*, the IJC says that the Canadian and US governments will fail to achieve the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement unless they take the actions the Commission recommends. Both governments made a historic commitment to restoring the water quality of the Great Lakes in 1978.

Major IJC concerns include the cleanup of contaminated sediments, human health problems from eating contaminated Great Lakes fish, air deposition of persistent toxic substances, urban land use, and monitoring and information needs. Although progress has been made, both governments have not committed adequate funding or taken the necessary actions to ensure that the public can safely swim in, drink water, and eat fish from the Great Lakes. To view the report, visit <http://www.ijc.org>.

Toronto to Dump Trash in Michigan

Starting in January, 2001, as much as 2.1 million tons of Toronto's commercial and industrial waste will be dumped into Western Wayne County, Michigan. Thousands of truckloads traveling

Michigan's roadways after crossing the Ambassador and Blue Water bridges will unload at the Carelton Farms landfill. Environmentalists are enraged, while some residents who stand to gain from royalties paid for each ton of trash are pleased.

No special Department of Environmental Quality permits for waste untainted by chemicals are required, and no transportation permits are needed for Canadian garbage trucks using Michigan roads. The state is limited in its ability to negate the environmental impacts of the transport and dumping of waste. Moreover, the problem exists on both sides of the border as the US sends hazardous waste to Ontario.

National/International News Report Shows Revlon, Nabisco, and Ralston Purina Ranked Among Worst For Environmental Performance

According to a new report released by the Campaign for Cleaner Corporations of the Council on Economic Priorities, Delta, Heinz, Kellogg's, Dole, Bristol-Meyers Squib and AT&T, were among the best in terms of environmental performance within their industry. The worst polluters in their respective industries included Revlon, Ralston Purina, Nabisco, and Maytag among others.

Forty-five percent of the results are determined by a company's Environmental Impact (EI), i.e. the average quantity of toxic pollutants the company generates per dollar sales over three years. Thirty-five percent is based on a company's Environmental Management System (EMS), including corporate environment commitment, environmental policy, environmental audits, employee training/accountability, waste management, pollution prevention, product stewardship, supplier relationship, resource/energy use,

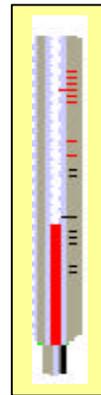
and industry-specific issues. And, ten-percent of the results are based upon Corporate Environmental Reports (CERs). The final ten percent is made up of a company's Compliance Records.

For information on how each company ranked in its industry and a breakdown of corporate performances for the four analysis areas, contact Jessica Nathan at the Council on Economic Priorities, 212-410-1133, cep@cepny.org.

Eleven National Retailers Stop Selling Mercury Thermometers

Eleven leading retailers and manufacturers agreed to terminate the sale of mercury fever

thermometers, including Kmart Corporation, Wal Mart, Toys 'R Us/Babies 'R Us, Target, Meijer's Supermarkets, Albertson's, Brooks Pharmacy, drugstore.com, Kinney Drugs, Safety 1st, and The First Years. These actions will eliminate over one



million thermometers for sale annually. Since one gram of mercury (.07 grams of mercury in a typical home thermometer) is enough to contaminate all the fish in a 20 acre lake, it is estimated that these one million thermometers could contaminate all of the fish in a lake the size of Lake Superior.

Digital thermometers are an appropriate alternative to mercury. The move by retailers to eliminate mercury thermometers supports the goals of the 1997 Great Lakes Toxic Strategies Agreement between the United States and Canada. Under the agreement, one of the goals for the US is to reduce the intentional use of mercury by 50% by 2006.

Report Shows 1.2 Billion Pounds of Chemicals That Harm Children Released in 1998

According to a new report, *Polluting Our Future: Chemical Pollution in the US that Affects Child Development and Learning*, 1.2 billion pounds of chemicals that can harm children were released into the air and water in 1998. The National Environmental Trust, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and the Learning Disabilities Association of America report is the first attempt to quantify emissions that can harm children's brains and bodies.

The study concluded that Louisiana and Texas rank the highest of states emitting developmental and neurological toxins, followed by Tennessee, Ohio, Illinois, Georgia, Virginia, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Florida. States with the lowest volumes were Vermont, Hawaii, New Mexico, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire.

US paper, metal, plastic manufacturers and electric power companies were found to be major emitters of developmental and neurological toxins. The printing industry was determined to be the largest source of toluene air emissions. Because many printing facilities are closer to residential areas than other industrial facilities, this industry is potentially of major concern to children's health. For more information or to obtain a copy of the report, contact Tom Natan of NET at 202-887-8828, tnatan@envirotrust.com, or visit <http://www.safekidsinfo.org>.

Communities for a Better Environment Exposes Oil Refineries as Major Dioxin Polluters

Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), in a report entitled *Dioxins and Refineries*, found that oil refinery dioxin

pollution has been drastically underestimated.

The CBE report shows that:

- Multiple sources create and release dioxins from oil refineries, and refinery releases of dioxin are poorly monitored
- The California Regional Water Quality Control Board underestimates refinery releases by at least 165 times because it excludes many refinery source releases from its estimate
- Calculations show that when oil refinery releases are fully measured, the industry might be among the largest dioxin sources in the US
- Refineries can take immediate steps to get chlorine out of their processes which will block the formation of dioxins and eliminate new releases

For more information, or a copy of the report, contact Greg Karras at CBE at 510-302-0430 extension 206, gkarras@igc.apc.org, or visit <http://www.igc.org/cbe>.

US Mining and Electric Utilities Included in 1998 Toxics Release Inventory

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), some 7.3 billion pounds of toxic materials were released into the environment in 1998, the most recent data. 63% of the total comes from the mining and electric utility industries that are newly required to report to the TRI along with five other new sectors. Because not all industries are required to report and those that are only report for certain chemicals if they are being used at a specific amount, the picture could be much more bleak than the data indicate.

Mining facilities alone reported 3.5 billion pounds of toxic chemicals in 1998, and electric utilities released 1.1 billion pounds.

In Pennsylvania, AK Steel Holding Corporation was the biggest polluter releasing 31.7 million pounds. For more information, contact Patrick Connoles at Citizens For Alternatives to Chemical Contamination at 517-544-3318.

Resources Available

A Citizens' Guide to the National Pollutant Release Inventory: (Community Right to Know: How to Find Out What Toxics are Being Released into Your Neighborhood): Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy. This resource provides information about the development of the Canadian National Pollution Release Inventory (NPRI), how to use NPRI, and how to interpret NPRI data. To obtain a copy, contact the Canadian Institute for Environmental Law and Policy at 416-923-3529, cielap@cielap.org.

Clean Water Report Card: Environmental Working Group. The report card examines 6700 major facilities with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits to determine whether they were operating with expired permits, and ranks states according to their percentage of expired permits. The report includes recommendations for the US Environmental Protection Agency on ways to correct the problem. To obtain the report, contact the Environmental Working Group at 202-667-6982, or visit <http://www.ewg.org>.

Farming Without Chemicals in Ohio: Citizens Policy Center and Innovative Farmers of Ohio released a new report based on in-depth interviews with seven certified organic grain and soybean farmers in Ohio. The report explains how to use a not-chemical intensive system and how to make a living it. For copies of the report, contact Citizens Policy Center at 216-861-1989, or visit <http://www.ohio.citizen.org>.

Web Watch

Why Waste a Cool Planet?, Solutions for Global Climate Change:

Join this online interactive program on December 7, 2000 from 1-3pm Eastern Standard. The program, broadcast by the US Environmental Protection Agency Climate and Waste Program, is designed to help educate businesses and state and local governments about the relationship between solid waste management and climate change. To register, send an e-mail to ccwsf@erg.com, ax 703-841-1440, or visit <http://www.epa.gov/mswclimate>.

Toolkit for Enhanced Opportunities for Pollution Prevention and Sustainable Activities at Remediation Sites:

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and stakeholders published this on-line toolkit to promote pollution prevention and sustainable activities that may enhance environmental outcomes of remediation sites. The website provides case studies and resources for communities. <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/programs/p2-s/remediation/index.html>.

Community Health:

The US Health Resources and Services Administration now provides a on-line service with information at 3,082 US counties. Residents can access information specific to their county, including causes of deaths, infectious diseases, teen mothers, and other data. <http://www.communityhealth.hrsa.gov>.

Pollution Calculator:

This new Environmental Law and Policy Center site calculates how much pollution individuals create depending upon the chosen utility.

<http://www.pollutioncalculator.org>

Calendar

December 7-8, 2000 (Boston, MA), Environmental Justice Workshop , Coalition for Environmentally Responsible Economies (CERES), for information, contact Ivie Higgins at CERES at 617-247-0700, higgins@ceres.org

December 20, 2000 (Columbus, OH), Ohio Lake Erie Commission Meeting, Ohio Lake Erie Commission, for information, contact Linda Zmudzinski at the Ohio Commission Office at 419-245-2514, linda.zmud@www.epa.state.oh.us.

February 28-March 2, 2000 (Chicago, IL), National Pollution Prevention Roundtable Spring Conference, for information, Michelle Russo at the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable at 202-466-7272, michelerusso@compuserv.com.

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