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August 15, 1986

Carol Van Strum
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Dear Carol,

Greetings. I had a few things I wanted to relay to you before I take off for Boston next week. First Jim Puckett forwards this check and a thank you for services rendered.

Second some things regarding dioxins in Oregon a la EPA's National Dioxin Survey. I've already sent you copies of my FOIA series of the National Dioxin Survey. The meat of what I'd asked for was denied, but I did send a volunteer (Jonathon Knapp) down to Region 10 to take a look at the sanitized stuff they allowed Greenpeace access to. Jonathon noted in the files some positive samples in Oregon under Tier 7 of the Survey, namely that 3 of 6 fish (carp) tested out of the Willamette showed dioxin (2,3,7,8) at 1.8, 1.5, and 4.5 ppt. Also an undisclosed site in Linn County with a soil sample at 0.5 ppt. Jonathon earmarked all this stuff for the EPA to copy and send to us, what I just conveyed was from some notes he took.

Had you heard anything of this? Has any of it ever reached the press? The Tier 7 stuff that hit press here did so only because of an insider in the Health Dept leaking it to the press. I wasn't sure whether you'd run across any of it in your wanderings or not. The EPA has done so much to ameliorate the impact of their dioxin findings by trickling it out here and there. I'd love to beat em to the punch on this one. What do you think? They've shown so much savvy so far on this kind of thing that I wonder if they're not writing the press release already, now they know that Greenpeace has the info.

I've asked Jonathon to send you copies of the Oregon stuff as soon as he gets them, since I'll likely be in the Boston office when it arrives.

The third item I wished to discuss with you was the possibility of your participating in a panel discussion or debate of sorts on dioxins in Tacoma sometime this fall. The FOIA I sent you references the fact that EPA found 2,3,7,8 in Tacoma yet is refusing to disclose the sites. Another element of interest in Tacoma that could be raised at such a forum is the city's plan to retrofit a steam plant to burn garbage.

There is a bozo at the Health Department there, and some equally unapprized folks at the Dept of Ecology, that I'd frankly love to pit you against either in a formal debate or as a surprise

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