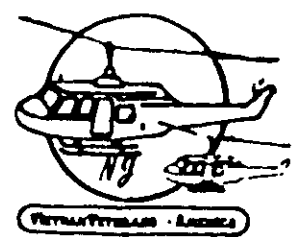




NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Post Office Box #1236
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February 7, 1993

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President

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Secretary

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Treasurer

Representative Frank Pallone
Cannon HOB, Room 213
Washington, DC 20515

By FAX To

Dear Representative Pallone,

Your support is vitally necessary in trying to convince the EPA and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey not to dump Dioxin tainted sludge into the ocean.

We do not oppose the dredging of the Harbor. The harbor must be dredged in order for our economy to grow. We do oppose the dumping of this tainted sludge into the ocean!!

The dumping of Dioxin tainted sludge into the ocean is not the answer to the problem of what to do with this sludge. All of the monitoring, however well intentioned, will not stop this carcinogen from contaminating the waters.

There are alternatives to ocean dumping. This tainted sludge could be dewatered and treated as solid waste, or it could be loaded onto barges and stored until proper disposal methods can be found.

Recent newspaper articles always mention trace amounts of Dioxin. Trace amounts of Dioxin are what can kill you or cause birth defects in our children. Recent studies by the EPA's Reassessment of Dioxin relate to severe toxic effects due to small doses of Dioxin exposure.

This issue is an emotional one for Vietnam Veterans who have been exposed to Dioxin from the spraying of the defoliant Agent Orange. Dioxin can kill. The Veterans Administration knows this. The Veterans Administration has, so far, awarded compensation to veterans exposed to Agent Orange for Non-Hodgkins Lymphomas and Soft-tissue Sarcomas (cancers directly caused by exposure to Agent Orange/Dioxin, for Chloracne (a severe skin disorder) and for Peripheral Neuropathy (a nerve disorder). Further studies are now being conducted by the National Academy of Sciences.

We hope you will contact the EPA and urge them not to allow this dumping to occur.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Eckstein
Chairman, Agent Orange Committee
New Jersey State Council
Vietnam Veterans of America

Home Address: