



January 23, 2012

The Honorable Lisa P. Jackson  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Ariel Rios Building  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson,

We represent the state leadership and chemical policy experts on Clean Water Action's nationwide staff. Clean Water Action has followed the Dioxin Reassessment for several decades, and we applaud your efforts to bring this long delayed process to closure. We are writing to urge you to finalize the non-cancer dioxin IRIS assessment by the end of January, and to expeditiously release the cancer dioxin IRIS assessment as you have pledged to do.

Clean Water Action is a national organization with 1 million members. Clean Water Action has been concerned with dioxin contamination at every stage - from the community to the federal regulatory process. For example, Clean Water Action has been involved with controversies over siting municipal and medical waste incinerators all over the country. We also have a strong interest in chemical policies that prevent pollution at the source and which drive reduction of exposure to chemicals linked to cancer, reproductive problems, neurological and immunological effects and other health epidemics plaguing our population.

As you are well aware, the reassessment of the toxicity of dioxin has been underway for almost 3 decades. The prolonged process goes far beyond what reasonable debate and robust science require. Clean Water Action supports moving forward with this important piece of work

We are concerned that the American Chemistry Council (ACC) and other industry trade associations are once again pressuring the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to further delay the release of this important document. We believe the American public has a right to know about the health consequences of exposure to dioxin. As these delaying tactics persist, people in communities across the country continue to be exposed to this highly toxic chemical.

Finalization of the Dioxin Reassessment will result in protection of public health, in improved quality of life across the country and in innovation. It is good public policy and it is long

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overdue. We urge you to meet your schedule of finalizing the non-cancer portion of the dioxin re-analysis by the end of this January and to finalize the cancer portion as quickly as possible thereafter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for your commitment to protecting America's health and environment.

Sincerely,

Lynn Thorp, National Campaigns Director  
Clean Water Action  
Washington DC

Deanna White, State Director  
Minnesota Clean Water Action  
Minneapolis MN

Myron Arnowitt, State Director  
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Amy Goldsmith, Director  
New Jersey Environmental Federation  
Belmar NJ

cc: Cass Sunstein, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Nancy Sutley, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)  
Paul Anastas, Assistant Administrator, Office of Research and Development, EPA  
Rebecca Clark, Acting Director, National Center for Environmental Assessment