

CEASE

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Citizen Environmentalists Against Sludge Encapsulation

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The following are the questions that we would like answered by the Scientific and Technical committee.

1. What information will be gained by taking new coring samples and then comparing the new samples with archived cores? What conclusions will result from doing this comparison? What documentation does this committee have concerning how these cores were obtained and how they have been stored over the years?
2. The Thomann model, done in 1989, has been extremely accurate in predicting PCB concentrations in fish. Part of that report predicted a minimal positive effect of bank-to-bank dredging if done before 1992 but no effect if done after that. Given the success of the fish predictions, how much reliance is being placed upon that report by this committee? Was the author of the Thomann report assisted the Scientific and Technical committee?
3. We have heard at recent meetings that the Radionuclide dating technique has not been used in a dynamic river system such as the Hudson. Does this committee question whether or not the use of this technique will produce accurate information?
4. We understand from EPA that the Monte Carlo method of assessing health risks will not be used as a primary data analysis. It seems to us that the health risk assessment that has already been done is based upon totally unrealistic number. Doesn't the committee believe that the Monte Carlo technique would be a more appropriate method of achieving a health-risk assessment? If not, why not.
5. What part will agricultural impacts have upon this process when the committee considers the effects of any remedial action that might be recommended? Where do these issues fit into the process as you understand it?

Carl Deppe
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Environmental Liaison Committee

*A grassroots community group of environmentalists, farmers, citizens
and government officials opposed to land burial of PCBs.*

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