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SUPERFUND RECORDS

HEALTH AGENCIES WILL NOT BE TESTING FOR PCBS

***EXCERPT FROM TAPED CONVERSATION BETWEEN MDOH (GALE CARLSON)
AND TIMES BEACH ACTION GROUP (STEVE TAYLOR) - MAY 1995***

Taylor: So the TEQs in Jacksonville did go up?

Carlson: The T-E-Q-s.....went up. Right . But....but not the.....but the.... the TEQs went up in Jacksonville and they went down in Maplevale, some what. They're thinking that makes sense.....people.....if your not exposed, the half life of this stuff starts to break down, so Maplevale....if you watch people over time and they weren't re-exposed to something...slowly you ought to see some levels come down. Where as the Jacksonville folks seem to have gotten exposed to something.....uhm.....during that second.....during that incineration that kept their levels up there. But the dioxin didn't go up enough to make any difference....they figured that could have been....uh....uh....from anything, but they didn't think it could have been from the burning because they didn't burn any dioxin.

Taylor: I've heard that according to a Federal Judge, that they did burn dioxin.

Carlson: I think they did.....burn.....a certain amount of waste to try to get that incinerator running. Just like the one....just like in Times Beach, you know they're gonna burn....they're gonna do a trial burn and then an emissions burn. The emissions burn will have actual dioxin soil.

Taylor: I don't want to get into a technical debate, but there is one factor here. If you burn chlorine based compounds, you can produce dioxin.

Carlson: I know what you mean. That could be true at Vertac. I mean, you are absolutely right, for all we know, although they didn't "burn any dioxin on the input end" they could have released some 2,3,7,8 on the output end. And that could have been a contributing factor to that [slight] increase.

Taylor: Are we going to run our test in the same fashion as Arkansas? I guess what I'm asking.....

Carlson: You mean.....you mean.....incineration...uhh....uhh....

Taylor: The blood. The blood and tissue sampling?

Carlson: Yes, the blood and tissue will be very similar, because CDC will be doing the analysis again. But we're (MDOH) not asking them to do all those other chemicals. We want them to do 2,3,7,8, because that's the chemical we're concerned about at....you know.....Times Beach. We don't have a bunch of mixed waste and pesticide drums, we got a bunch dirt with dioxin in it.

Taylor: So, the CDC-ATSDR is going to fund most of it?

Carlson: ATSDR is doing the funding, it's actually coming to Missouri, the CDC work will also be funded through ATSDR, but we won't even get the money, it will just go right from ATSDR to CDC.

Taylor: And it will be somewhat similar to the Arkansas study, minus alot the TEQs?

Carlson: Well, I don't want to say the study, because our study is very, very different than theirs. For instance, we got a guarantee that we're going to get the results from the CDC right away. I mean, there's a huge difference. I mean they had to wait months and months and months on all their stuff. We're gonna get the stuff.....they guaranteed us....the instant our second bloods get down there, they're going to crank em all through the machine as fast as they can and we're gonna get individual results on a daily basis.....you know.....they're gonna send em to us as soon as they get em, in case, there's any changes that would effect an individual persons health. So we know instantly.

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