

WARNING!!!

Residents of Western Oregon

On February 20th Peter DeFazio called upon the Federal Government to “order a moratorium on the use in the coast range of all pesticides potentially capable of containing or breaking down into TCDD (dioxin) or structurally related compounds. Documents indicate there may be 20 or more pesticides that fall into this category.”

Representative DeFazio points to documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) that indicate the EPA has been aware since 1980 that over 60% of deer and elk tested had dioxin in them.

He goes on to say, “Worse, dioxin was also identified in human mothers’ milk samples and numerous domestic water samples taken from the same area. The family had been drinking the water for seven years, during which time they suffered chronic respiratory, gastrointestinal ailments, two miscarriages, and a child born with defective lungs, liver, and learning disabilities. The husband subsequently died of heart disease at the age 38.”

DeFazio warns “The best evidence available suggests that western Oregon residents continue to be exposed to increasing levels of dioxin in their water, soil and food, associated with abnormal increases in birth defects, involuntary abortions, cancers, and reproductive disorders.” Documents obtained, “suggest the possibility of a Public Health Emergency in Western Oregon.”

Timber corporations have been spraying thousands of pounds of pesticides on their clear-cuts for decades. Throughout Oregon citizens live near and/or next to these clear-cuts, along with the toxins. What makes the above information most interesting is the fact DeFazio’s Moratorium request was written February 20th, 1985, by then Lane County Commissioner Peter DeFazio. Read his entire letter at: www.stop-oregon.org/documents

If Representative DeFazio’s current O&C Trust, Conservation, and Jobs Act passes, thousands more acres of our protected federal lands will then be managed under the Forest Practices Act. This would mean more clear-cuts, followed by more helicopters spraying more toxic chemicals. Chemicals citizens of this state have been dealing with for decades. This bill represents a clear and present danger to our state. Oregon’s private forests have been decimated by a profit-driven cycle of clear-cutting and pesticide applications. These activities have negatively impacted the communities and environment surrounding these forests, as recently shown by the documented human exposures to forestry pesticides in the Blachly / Triangle Lake area. Even though Representative DeFazio once understood the dangers of these practices - calling for an end to some forestry pesticide applications over two decades ago - the Congressman has still opted to protect special interests like the timber industry over his own constituents.

Contact Congressman Peter DeFazio and voice your concerns regarding the use of forestry pesticides and tell him you oppose the O&C Compromise!

toll-free at 1-800-944-9603

