

TO: Debra Schwartz
Staff Counsel
Office of Legal Affairs
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
818-717-6649

FROM: Victoria Travis
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Telephone - 1-661-264-2782

August 8, 2008

Dear Ms. Schwartz:

Thank you for responding to my Freedom of Information Request. It is sad to think from it's timing that it was precipitated by a letter to the Governor of the State of California.

My request was made because of statements from Department of Toxic Substances employees to the effect that your agency did not follow through with the California Global Warming Solutions Act:

Please review at:

<http://2007-08.archives.ebudget.ca.gov/pdf/Enacted/BudgetSummary/EnvironmentalProtection.pdf>

The financial breakdown that is important to the Victims of Downey taken verbatim from the California Global Warming Solutions Act is:

Biomonitoring

Biomonitoring is a method of assessing human exposure to chemicals based on sampling and analysis of an individual's tissues and fluids. The results of these measurements provide information about the amounts of chemicals that enter and remain in the body. By monitoring the levels of chemicals in a given population, scientists can gauge the level of chemical exposure in a community. Actions to protect public health may then be designed to mitigate unacceptable exposure risk.

SB 1379 (Chapter 599, Statutes of 2006) established the California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program in order to initiate a biomonitoring effort in California. The Budget contains \$5.2 million General Fund for the first year of biomonitoring activities. **The funding will be divided among the Department of Toxic Substances Control (\$1.6 million), the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (\$0.4 million), and the Department of Public Health (\$3.2 million).** The first year is expected to be spent on planning the biomonitoring effort, and additional funding will be provided for implementation in subsequent budgets.

Here is the bill in pdf form:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Legislation/2006/SB1379.pdf>

Also, according to my copious note taking, your spin on my conversation with Dr. Hooper is incorrect. At no time did Dr. Hooper expound on any specifics of population testing but he did state that he was not aware of any program.

Dr. Hooper also specifically stated that to get these people tested under the Biomonitoring clause that a legislator would have to make the request to set it up, as the California Department of Toxic Substances had never done so to his knowledge.

I specifically asked Dr. Hooper which legislator would be appropriate and did mention specific names. He specifically said a California one would be best and as I went through a short list of California legislators with him. He finally said, at my insistence, that Arnold should call Dr. Bruce Labelle. He also gave me the specific spelling of Dr. Labelle's last name.

Furthermore, my letter was addressed to the Chatsworth Divison of the California Department of Toxic Substances. I have no idea how it ended up on Dr. Hooper's desk, at the ECL.

Can you please explain to me why these people that have become very ill while working on the Former NASA Industrial Plant, currently named Downey Studios, Downey Landing and Kaiser Permanente Downey, primary address, 12214 Lakewood Blvd., Downey, California, do not deserve decent, law abiding treatment under the California Global Warming Solutions Act? Surely their lives are as valuable as yours and the rest of your staff are.

Where is the allocated money for the biomonitoring of this population of people?

Sincerely,

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