



Friends of the Earth

Spring 2004 Newsmagazine

Volume 34, Number 1

Mad Cow In the U.S.A.



Bush Keeps Up the Bad Work

Friends of the Earth has been keeping tabs since the beginning of Bush's term on his administration's anti-environment actions. The "Chronology of Environmental Destruction" can be found on our Web site, www.foe.org, or just give us a call and we'll mail some to you to pass out to friends.

Bush continues to tear apart our major environmental laws and regulations. In his new budget, President Bush singled out the Environmental Protection Agency for the second biggest cut of any federal agency. Programs that combat water pollution will be especially hard hit. Additionally, a massive \$320 billion highway bill pending in Congress is set to cripple parts of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, bedrock environmental laws.

Moreover, it seems even national security concerns stop when they bump up against special interests. When it comes to rerouting very hazardous rail cargoes away from high threat target cities, such as Los Angeles, the District of Columbia and Seattle, the Bush administration won't budge. Why? It would inconvenience the railroads and cost them money. And what about the failure to deal with risks at refineries, chemical production facilities and nuclear power plants?

Besides being an election year, 2004 also marks the 60th anniversary of the World Bank, which has distinguished itself this past decade by financing projects that harm the environment while failing to "cultivate a

Member Notice: Avis Ogilvy Moore, board chair for Friends of the Earth, is running uncontested for an open slot on Friends of the Earth's board of directors. All members are invited to the annual board meeting, June 28, in Washington, D.C., to cast their vote or may vote by proxy ballot from the next news-magazine. More to come.

world free of poverty," the Bank's mission. Friends of the Earth believes that the World Bank should be solving problems, not accelerating the destruction of natural resources with ill-conceived, unsustainable development projects. We intend to crash the Bank's birthday party and highlight the need for change.

One of the beneficiaries of World Bank support is ExxonMobil. A new Friends of the Earth International report shows that ExxonMobil has been responsible for a staggering 5 percent of the global warming emissions on our planet and it's time ExxonMobil be held accountable, not given more money to do even more harm.

The safety of our food is also at risk. The first mad cow incident in the United States was reported in December. Friends of the Earth sounded the warning last October that the number of U.S. firms violating the rules intended to protect our food supply from mad cow had almost tripled since April 2002. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration ignored our



Brent Blackwelder

warnings and continued to allow corporate factory farms to feed cows blood, discarded pet food and slaughterhouse waste, which can spread mad cow disease because they contain infectious material such as nerve tissue from rendered cattle.

On a more positive note, I recently watched the Corps of Engineers blow up a 100-year-old, 22-foot-high dam on Virginia's Rappahannock River, opening up 700 miles of this scenic river and all its tributaries for shad, herring and striped bass. This is a big victory in the struggle to restore the once magnificent fisheries of the Chesapeake Bay and a great milestone in freeing rivers from the dams that choke them.

Your support makes victories like this possible. Voting in this year's election is one of the best ways you can help forward Friends of the Earth's mission to defend the environment and champion a healthy and just world.

Brent Blackwelder



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Our Mission:
Friends of the Earth defends the environment and champions a healthy and just world.



Earth Share

Earth Share giving campaigns allow you to designate a donation to Friends of the Earth. Federal employees can donate through the Combined Federal Campaign by marking #0908 on their pledge forms. To set up an Earth Share campaign at your workplace, contact Rosemary Greenaway at 202-222-0722.

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UNION
BUG

Mad Cow In the U.S.A.

By Lisa Archer, Bill Freese
and Lisa Grob

Reader Warning: Many people may find this story unsettling. It discusses factory farming and its dire effects on human health.

Michelle Bowen died slowly. For three weeks the 29-year-old was in a coma after giving birth to her son via emergency caesarean section. Her health painfully deteriorated as her nervous system collapsed. Stephen Churchill, previously a good student, saw his grades slip, started feeling depressed and dizzy, then began to experience terrifying hallucinations; he was dead in 12 months at age 19. Peter Hall, 20, showed the first signs of depression around Christmas in 1994; within a year he was bedridden, almost blind, unable to eat by himself and no longer able to communicate with family members.

All of these people had one thing in common. They were among the first victims of Britain's mad cow epidemic. They died of one of the most terrifying diseases imaginable, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), a relentlessly progressive and invariably fatal dementia which usually attacks people in their 60s. Cases such as these involving people under age 30 were exceedingly rare until the mid-1990s.

Scientists dubbed this new form of the CJD as "new variant" or nvCJD – it is now abbreviated vCJD. It is contracted by eating beef and nerve tissue from cattle infected with mad cow disease (a.k.a. Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)). To date, vCJD has killed 143 people in England, plus 10 people in other countries.

photo credit: Farm Sanctuary



A dead cow lies outside a Southern California dairy and will be picked up and processed into animal feed. About 1 million pounds of uneaten poultry feed combined with poultry-litter are fed to cattle each year – one of many indirect ways for cattle to become infected with mad cow.

The source of this horrible disease? Cattle cannibalism.

Cattle Cannibalism

Mad cow disease is essentially a symptom of the larger problem of industrial agriculture. While we've known for years that polluted air and water along with animal cruelty are the products of factory farms, we're only now realizing its direct effects on our own health. Mad cow is only one of several diseases emerging from factory farms.

Mad cow might have remained a rare disease were it not for cattle cannibalism, an industrial agricultural practice made common over the last two decades. The remains of dead cattle (as well as diseased animals, road kill, dead pets and zoo animals) are processed into animal feeds that are fed to cattle. Since cattle can become infected with mad cow by consuming less than 1 gram of diseased tissue, one diseased carcass can

contaminate a large batch of animal feed, sickening hundreds of animals. These hundreds, rendered into animal feed, can in turn infect thousands. This is how experts explain the mad cow epidemic in Britain.

In 1997, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) established a policy to prohibit the feeding of most ruminant (cattle, sheep, deer, etc.) proteins to other ruminants to prevent mad cow from occurring in the United States. Yet, this rule has loopholes that allow the risky practice of cattle cannibalism to continue.

For instance, farmers were allowed to feed calves cattle blood as a substitute for milk, despite the finding that blood can transmit the disease. Factory farms are still legally feeding horses, pigs and poultry the remains of slaughtered cattle, including high-risk brain and spinal cord tissue, in the form of meat and bone meal. The remains of these cattle-fed animals, which could be silent carriers of the disease, can in turn be

rendered and fed back to cattle, an indirect pathway for infective cattle tissue to be recycled back to cattle.

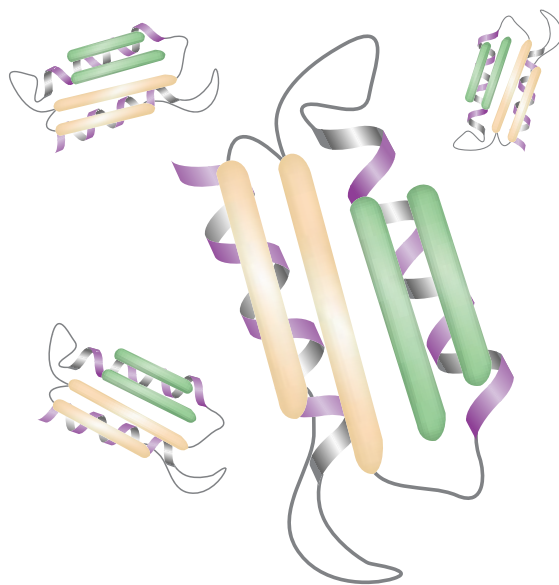
Another unsavory loophole in FDA policy: About 1 million tons of poultry-litter – which contains not only excrement but also uneaten poultry feed that may be of ruminant origin – are fed to cattle each year. This process creates another indirect route for cattle to continue feeding on cattle. Pet food that contains ruminant meat and bone meal may also end up as cattle feed.

To make matters worse, a 2000 FDA survey found that one in four American slaughterhouses and feed processing plants fails to take measures to avert mad cow disease, such as the proper labeling of feed that contains animal parts and implementing systems to prevent commingling of cattle feed with feed for other animals. In addition, a 2001 Government Accounting Office audit showed that the FDA's enforcement of its "feed ban" has been extremely poor. Significant flaws include not identifying 1,200 or more feed-related firms that should be subject to the ban, not issuing warning letters and not penalizing hundreds of firms found out of compliance.

"There is no excuse for cattle feed suppliers to be in violation of government rules to prevent mad cow disease," said Dr. Brent Blackwelder, president of Friends of the Earth. "The FDA needs to enforce the law and close major loopholes. Until it does, the best way for people to avoid the risk of mad cow disease is to eat organic, grass fed beef or vegetarian alternatives."

Mad Cow U.S.A.

On Dec. 23, 2003, as many Americans visited grocery stores in preparation for their holiday meals,



Scientists agree that mad cow is due to deformed proteins call prions. Prions somehow induce normal brain proteins to become deformed in the same way, causing brain degeneration. Cooking does not kill prions and they cannot be inactivated with disinfection measures that kill other disease-causing agents like bacteria and viruses.

the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the first American case of mad cow. The USDA found an adult Holstein cow infected with the disease in Washington state – leaving many to wonder about the safety of the country's food supply.

More than 40 countries, including Japan, Mexico and Australia, immediately banned imports of American beef. Furthermore, many of these countries, such as Japan refuse to allow U.S. beef into their markets until the United States tests all cattle that go to slaughter. Those bans could cost the U.S. economy \$2 billion in 2004, says Chris Hurt, agricultural economist at Purdue University.

In an effort to calm public fears, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman stated that the nation's beef was safe and that she planned to eat beef for her holiday meal. This response is reminiscent of the British government's initial reaction to the 1989 mad cow outbreak in England, when

then-Agriculture Minister John Gummer fed his 4-year-old daughter a hamburger on television to prove how safe the meat was. But now we know what later happened in Britain – 140 people dead and millions of cattle destroyed.

In the United States, officials like Veneman and her predecessors have for years stated that the country is free of mad cow – that it "couldn't happen here." But the reason for their certainty is not the thoroughness of the USDA's testing. In fact, it is something of a miracle that the single American mad cow was detected at all. Had she not suffered birthing injuries and consequently had difficulty standing, it is extremely unlikely she would have been tested.

Last year, the United States only tested 20,000 cattle for mad cow disease – less than 0.001 percent of the 36 million animals slaughtered each year. While that number has been increased to 268,000 for 2004, other countries do much more to protect their citizens. In Japan, all cattle slaughtered for food are tested for BSE. In Europe, all cattle age 30 months and older, regardless of category, are tested. Testing costs are not prohibitive. Testing actually costs just a few cents per pound.

A Hidden Epidemic?

Classic CJD is of unknown cause and strikes mainly the elderly. Recent evidence that BSE can cause sporadic CJD as well as vCJD may explain the rising numbers of CJD cases in Europe, and the disturbing trend to younger CJD cases in the United States. Additionally, several autopsy studies suggest that 3 to 13 percent of patients diagnosed with Alzheimer's actually suffered from CJD.

(continued on page 6)

Mad Cow Disease Prevention Platform

CJD Voice • Center for Food Safety • Center for Media & Democracy • Consumer Federation of America • Consumers Union • The Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease Foundation • Farm Aid • Farm Sanctuary • Friends of the Earth • Global Resource Action Center for the Environment • Government Accountability Project • The Humane Society of the United States • Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy • Organic Consumers Association • Public Citizen

Friends of the Earth is coordinating the above-mentioned groups to call on public officials, food processing companies, the agriculture industry and medical and veterinary professionals to adopt the following measures to ensure that mad cow and mad cow-like diseases pose no threat to our health, to our economy and to the welfare of animals:

- 1 Test all cattle over 20 months of age for mad cow disease
- 2 Stop the feeding of blood, slaughterhouse waste, manure, road kill and other mammalian byproducts to food animals
- 3 Keep all “downer” animals, not just cattle, out of the food and feed supply and require humane euthanasia
- 4 Require identification and tracking of animals
- 5 Implement country of origin labeling of meat
- 6 Give the USDA the authority to recall contaminated meat and disclose the names of companies that handle recalled items
- 7 Require reporting and investigation of all cases of brain-wasting disease in people to see if they are caused by mad cow, mad deer or other similar animal diseases

These findings imply that at least 120,000 CJD cases may be going undetected and excluded from official statistics. If even a small percentage of these misdiagnosed CJD cases are caused by eating BSE-infected meat, the incidence of human mad cow is much worse than anyone has imagined up until now. Yet, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) still refuse to make CJD a reportable disease. This classification would require the CDC to collect data on a national basis, enabling them to track the number of occurrences nationally.

The Solution: Safer Food from Safer Farms

Friends of the Earth, food safety, farm, environmental and other public interest groups have warned for years that steps taken to prevent the spread

of mad cow in the United States were flawed and inadequate.

For example, in October 2003, Friends of the Earth announced that there had been a three-fold increase in the number of firms violating mad cow prevention feed rules. Additionally, for the majority of these cases there was no indication of any FDA enforcement action. In fact, the FDA had previously identified two cattle feed mills in violation of the regulations near the farm where the

Be Mad Cow Safe!

To lower their risk, consumers should buy organic, free range meat or vegetarian alternatives. Organic producers aren't allowed to use any animal by-products in their feed.

first U.S. case of mad cow disease was found.

While regulators have made some progress since the first mad cow was discovered in the United States, including banning spinal cords and brains from entering our food supply, many problems remain.

Clearly, we need to stop feed practices that can lead to mad cow. Our food supply may never be completely safe from mad cow until all beef is tested and more research into whether or not vCJD is already in the United States.

Friends of the Earth is currently working with a coalition of food safety, animal welfare, consumer, agriculture and CJD victims groups to stop the spread of mad cow. A safe food supply and a sustainable means of producing it could not be more essential to the health and wealth of this country.



Take Action

Your letters are needed to prevent the beef industry from stopping new regulations to prevent mad cow disease!

Please write Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson and ask him to implement a total ban on feeding mammals to cattle and other ruminants as soon as possible to prevent mad cow disease. Please thank him for moving in the right direction by initiating regulations to ban the feeding of mammalian blood, poultry litter and restaurant plate waste to ruminants. Ask him to make sure the beef industry does not weaken or delay these feed restrictions.

Tommy G. Thompson
Secretary, Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201
Phone: 877-696-6775



For more information contact
Lisa Archer, 202-222-0712 or
larcher@foe.org

Terrorist Threat: Dangerous Cargo on the Move

By Chris Weiss

Over 300 million shipments of hazardous materials are quietly rumbling through our neighborhoods and following us on our daily commutes with little or no government oversight.

“It is very clear that there are no regulations for the routing of hazardous materials by rail, and there is no law or regulation outlining what the cities or states can do to protect themselves from terrorism,” said Friends of the Earth expert Fred Millar.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security identified the nation’s capital – along with Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and New York – as the seven High Threat Target Cities. The insurance industry considers Washington, D.C., 100 times more likely to be targeted for future terrorist attacks than any other city.

“The citizens don’t know that Washington D.C., brings in 90-ton chlorine tank cars that [by accident or terrorist attack] could release a poisonous cloud over the city. Fifteen percent of the time – because of the prevailing wind direction – that cloud would blow right over the White House and the Capitol,” noted Millar in a 1989 *Washington City Paper* article.

Over a decade later and after the most serious terrorist attack in our nation’s history Sept. 11, the threat remains and is arguably greater. The Chlorine Institute’s own calculations say the worst case release scenario from the 90-ton rail tank car could involve a cloud 41.5 miles long and 4 miles wide. Depending on the wind and weather, the cloud could be lethal



photo credit: Jim Dougherty

A loaded, labeled rail tank car of deadly chlorine gas travels slowly through perhaps the most attractive terrorist target city in the nation, within a couple of blocks of the U.S. Capitol building.

as far as 8 to 10 miles away. According to a former top official at the U.S. Department of Transportation, if one ammonia truck is punctured in a city it could release a toxic gas cloud big enough to cause a Bhopal-scale disaster. An estimated 6,000 people died and 100,000 were injured in a 1984, Bhopal, India gas leak accident.

Despite this clear risk, the public is being systematically kept in the dark about the catastrophic hazards of these shipments, for fear, say local officials, of “scaring them to death.”

New York is one of the only top seven target cities that has had a long-standing Fire Prevention Code ban on the truck transportation of three of the most dangerous classes of hazardous materials – bulk gases, compressed gases and toxic-by-inhalation gases.

Using New York’s ban as a starting point, Friends of the Earth has spearheaded a coalition that has successfully convinced District of Columbia’s elected officials to introduce legislation that will require shippers of hazardous materials, by rail and truck, to obtain a permit and to follow routes and travel times specified by the Department of Transportation when they travel through the District.

Take Action

Send a letter to President Bush calling for more protections for America’s high-threat cities, visit www.foe.org/action. Or call Chris Weiss, director, D.C. Environmental Network at 202-222-0746. ■

World Bank: Reflection at 60

photo credit: International Rivers Network



The World Bank-funded Pak Mun Dam in Thailand drastically reduced fish populations upstream of the dam site, destroying the livelihoods of more than 20,000 people.

By Colleen Freeman and Jon Sohn

Over the coming months, the World Bank will begin celebrating its 60th anniversary. As we reflect on the Bank's record, it is clear that it has not fulfilled its commitment to foster a world free of poverty. Friends of the Earth is determined that this anniversary should mark a turning point in the Bank's track record.

Throughout the Bank's history it has financed development disasters, such as large dams that displace thousands of people, mining projects that cause widespread environmental devastation and road projects that open rainforests to logging. In response to growing public pressure for reform in the 1990s, the Bank became more cautious in designing and approving projects, but now we are seeing growing evidence that the Bank is reversing this positive trend.

Reviews Not Heeded

In response to public concern, the Bank launched two independent reviews of its involvement in environmentally and socially sensitive areas. These are the World Commission on Dams (WCD) and the just-completed Extractive Industries Review (EIR).

The WCD proposed a new approach to financing decisions based on the principles of equity, efficiency, participatory decision-making, sustainability and accountability.

The EIR recommends that the Bank stop financing coal immediately, phase out financing oil extraction, scale up renewable resources and adopt stronger social and environmental standards, including a human rights policy. However, the oil, mining and gas industries remain the majority of the Bank's clients.

Unfortunately, the Bank has failed to implement the WCD approach with binding standards, and now appears poised to reject the EIR recommendations, even though World Bank

President James Wolfensohn commissioned the EIR.

Wolfensohn faces a critical choice. He can ignore the EIR and perpetuate flawed investments that have failed to alleviate poverty or protect the environment, and instead enrich authoritarian rulers and big oil companies. Or, he can embrace the EIR as an opportunity for the Bank to reevaluate its activities and to determine how the Bank's resources can best contribute to sustainable development. The choice will affect the course of the Bank's investments over the next decade and the lives of the millions of people.

Leading the Bank to its Mission

As the Bank marks its 60th anniversary, Wolfensohn's presidential term will come to a close in 2005. His 9-year record does not reflect his noble intentions of overhauling the World Bank. Environmental groups hailed his pledge to address long-standing problems with the Bank's environmental

record and to improve environmental performance. He pledged to empower developing countries and streamline the Bank's operations. Wolfensohn also promised to make poverty alleviation the measure by which the Bank judged its success. Unfortunately, we have not seen Wolfensohn's intentions come to fruition.

The World Bank's record over the past 60 years does not demonstrate a

commitment to improving the lives of the poor, protecting natural resources or championing democracy. Instead, the Bank has allowed the private sector to profit from public resources and institutionalized the domination of the wealthy over the impoverished. Friends of the Earth and our allies in the environmental and social justice movement are determined to hold the World Bank accountable and will keep pressing the

Bank to honor its poverty alleviation mission during and after its 60th anniversary.



For more information call Colleen Freeman, 202-222-0718 or cfreeman@foe.org. Sign up for our Global Action Network e-mail newsletter at www.foe.org to keep up with international issues.

Country Spotlight: The Congo

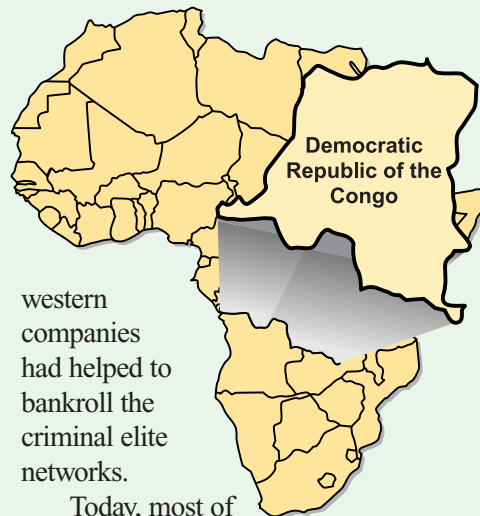
By Colleen Freeman

The Democratic Republic of the Congo's abundance of oil, diamonds, gold, timber and other minerals makes it one of the most natural resource-rich nations on the planet. Yet economic prosperity has eluded this battered, war-torn country for most of its history.

The most recent war in the Congo began when Rwanda and Uganda launched an attack to oust then President Laurent Kabila from power in 1998. When Angola, Namibia and Zimbabwe intervened on behalf of the Kabila government, the region quickly became embroiled in a six-nation war where an estimated 3 million people have since died from fighting, disease or starvation.

A three-year investigation by a United Nations-appointed Expert Panel revealed that a vicious cycle of resource-driven conflict has taken hold of the Congo.

The panel discovered that sophisticated networks of high-level political, military and business persons were intentionally fueling the war in order to retain their control over the country's natural resources. Furthermore, by neglecting to ensure that their raw materials were not originating from the Congo by way of their suppliers, the



western companies had helped to bankroll the criminal elite networks.

Today, most of the foreign armies have withdrawn, a transitional government exists and democratic elections are scheduled for 2005. The World Bank has committed more than \$1 billion to the transitional government, some of which is targeted to restructuring the country's extractive industries sectors. The Bank is also considering investments in two mining projects, even though its own internal evaluations department recommended just last year that it focus on helping poor countries manage the risks associated with oil, mining and gas projects, rather than attracting new investment.

The Congo is absolutely poverty-stricken and the recent war left a humanitarian crisis in its wake. The

use of rape as a weapon of war has left thousands of Congolese women with debilitating health and emotional problems and the country's general lack of medical equipment and basic medicines is, in the words of the World Bank, "appalling." Millions of Congolese people have been displaced, and there is virtually no public sector or basic infrastructure. The ongoing fighting in the northeastern region of the country continues to threaten the fragile peace process, and there is no military or border patrol to stop the illegal exploitation of natural resources and arms trade.

While Friends of the Earth believes that the World Bank has to play an important role in rebuilding the Congo, it is most alarming to see the role that natural resources have played in fueling the recent war and the recommendations of its own internal evaluations department might be ignored.

Friends of the Earth believes it is imperative that the World Bank help the Congolese government rebuild the country's basic infrastructure, public sector and government institutions before new investments are considered in the extractive industries. If the Bank ignores these important lessons, it could potentially undermine the chances for lasting peace in the Congo.

Call to All Shareholders: Vote!

By Michelle Chan-Fishel

We make environmental decisions every day, from the foods we buy to how we get to work and school. This spring, shareholders will have the chance to make key environmental decisions by voting on shareholder resolutions that send powerful messages to Corporate America. Shareholder resolutions, which are proposals that are introduced by and voted upon by a company's shareholders, are an increasingly important tool in challenging corporate threats to the environment.

Over 60 green shareholder resolutions have been filed at some 50 companies in the United States.

Major categories of environmental resolutions include: global warming, energy issues, genetically engineered food, environmentally sensitive areas, toxics and issuing sustainability reports.

Corporations will send shareholders ballots in the mail asking them to vote for or against various resolutions. In many cases, if you do not vote, your

vote is automatically cast in favor of corporate management, which is usually against environmental resolutions.

Even if we do not own stock outright, many of us actually own shares in companies through our mutual funds or pension funds. In these cases, the fund managers make voting decisions on our behalf. But we can contact our fund managers with the list of green resolutions below and encourage them to support them. Also starting this year, mutual funds will be required to disclose how they voted on shareholder resolutions, allowing us to check-up on how our fund managers voted.



For more information contact Michele Chan-Fishel at 510-848-1155 or mchan@foe.org.

Green Shareholder Resolutions

Report on Climate Change Risk

American International Group
Anadarko Petroleum
Apache
ExxonMobil (*release climate research*)
Ford
General Motors

Report/Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

ExxonMobil
Ford
General Motors
Marathon Oil
Reliant Resources
Southern (*report GHG, other emission risks*)
TXU
Unocal
Valero
Xcel Energy

Report on GHG Emissions & Forests

Stewardship Council
Louisiana-Pacific
Weyerhaeuser

Nuclear Energy Issues

Ameren (*report on nuclear waste storage*)
GE (*report on nuclear waste storage*)
PG&G (*take steps against nuclear accident risks*)

Pinnacle West Capital (*report on nuclear waste storage*)

Promoting Renewables

ChevronTexaco
ExxonMobil

Report on Genetically Engineered Food

International Multifoods
Kellogg
Safeway
Wal-Mart
Yum Brands

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

ConocoPhillips (*report on plans to drill in Arctic*)
Pulte Homes (*adopt smart growth policy*)

Toxics

Avon (*report on phasing out parabens*)
Avon (*report on phasing out phthalates*)
ChevronTexaco (*clean up toxic sites*)
Dow (*report on toxics*)
Dow (*report on environmental impact & plans, Bhopal*)
GE (*report on costs of PCB cleanup delay*)
Tyco (*review and reduce toxics*)

Report on Sustainability

Agco
Albertson's
Cooper Cameron

Dean Foods
EOG Resources
Kerr-McGee
Kinder Morgan
Kroger
Lowe's
MDC Holdings
NVR
Pioneer Natural Resources
Ryland Group
Safeway
Target
Terex

Issue Sustainability Report

Cooper Industries
General Electric
Wal-Mart
Yum Brands

Other

Intel (*report on water use*)
Pepsi (*increase recycled content*)
Plum Creek Timber (*adopt CERES environmental principles*)
Weyerhaeuser (*adopt old-growth forest protection policy*)
ExxonMobil (*link executive pay to corporate environmental impact*)
ExxonMobil (*separate the positions of CEO and board chair to promote accountability on climate change*)

Note: Since printing, some resolutions may have been withdrawn.

From Delivering Pizzas to Protecting Parks and Wildlife

By Diane Minor

What happens when a 12-year-old boy from Ohio spends his family vacation on a tour of America's incredible national parks?

For one impressionable young man it's meant that 30 years later he is running a foundation committed to supporting the work of groups that protect those parks and the wildlife in and around them.

But first, Rick Flory parlayed a part-time job delivering pizzas during college into the second largest Domino's Pizza franchise in the country.

That personal fortune secure, Rick, his fiancé Lee Robert, and his son Ryan, crafted his "second life's career:" Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation, based in Jackson, Wyo.

"We're not just check writers," says Rick, "It's important to us to be involved, to see that projects are based on good science, and to be given regular progress reports. We focus on building partnerships as all our grants are challenge grants. We encourage a networking and business-like approach on all our projects and request an educational component to help perpetuate important works and expand public support."

Rick, who solo pilots a Cessna Citation CJ1, regularly jets off to Washington and all over the West to meet with leaders of environmental groups. He has also ferried Wyoming environmentalists from Jackson to



We would like to thank Rick Flory, pictured with his fiancé Lee Robert, for supporting our work to stand up to the Bush administration's anti-environmental actions through his Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation.

Sheridan for a meeting with high-level fish and game officials about protecting grey wolves.

Rick recently attended a public forum Friends of Earth hosted in Wyoming about coal-bed methane development there, an issue on which he has considerable knowledge.

"It's like a wasteland already," he says of Wyoming's Powder River Basin, "and that's way less than the impact they're going to have."

To protect bald eagles and big game animals threatened by expanded development there and to save wild salmon in the Pacific Northwest, this year Rick's foundation significantly increased its giving

in support of Friends of the Earth's work.

He also personally supports our work to stand up to the current administration's assaults on environmental protections.

"I'm unhappy that this administration has declared outright war on our public lands and on wilderness and wildlife. It's just unconscionable to sacrifice our future like this. This is not what the American public wants."



To find out more about Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation visit www.earthfriends.com.

Building Highways Over Communities



Highways continue to infringe on our open space and communities. If President Bush's transportation bill passes in Congress, it will take away our right to know about highway projects and our right to participate in highway-decisions effecting our communities.

By Greg Smith

At the behest of the transportation lobby, Congress and the administration are working to weaken laws that help communities fight environmentally destructive highway projects. In September 2002, President Bush enacted a little-known executive order that invites governors and other officials to nominate their favorite highway projects and bypass normal environmental review. Now, Congress is attempting to pass a transportation bill that will badly undermine the public's right to know and participate in decisions about proposed highway projects.

President Bush's Executive Order 13274 is based on the myth that environmental review slows down the construction of highways. This myth persists despite Federal Highway Administration and Government Accounting Office studies that found environmental review is not a primary cause of project-delay, and that when a review takes more than five years, environmental agencies are rarely the cause for delay.

Similar to other Bush administration environmental rollbacks,

Executive Order 13274 was developed in secret, but with the promise of public participation. Instead of developing and publishing clear guidelines, the administration has hand-picked 11 projects to fall under Bush's executive order, approved four of those in 2003, accepted nominations for another 66 and invited yet another round of nominations.

Cumulatively, the 11 projects now being fast-tracked would cost tens of billions of dollars, lay down hundreds of miles of new asphalt and cause tremendous damage to communities, the environment and public health. Of the 11 nominated roads, Friends of the Earth has been fighting two projects, the Circumferential Highway in Vermont and the Inter County Connector (ICC) in Maryland.

Friends of the Earth targeted the ICC in our jointly released Green Scissors report for Maryland, *Greening the Budget*, which found the full price tag for the ICC approaches \$3 billion. Spending billions of dollars on an 18-mile stretch of highway that would clearcut forests, damage parks and communities and bulldoze stream valleys and wetlands – while having no

real impact on commuting times – makes no fiscal sense.

The executive order has largely escaped the public eye and Congress is hoping the transportation bill will do the same. As this article goes to press, Congress is debating the \$250 billion to \$375 billion surface transportation bill. Generically known as TEA-3 (for the Transportation Equity Act-3), this gargantuan bill appropriates 80 percent of total funding to highway programs. The remaining 20 percent will fund transit and other non-highway programs.

The bill aims to severely weaken the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Air Act and protections for parks and wildlife.

Friends of the Earth is tracking the U.S. Department of Transportation's actions under the executive order and is fighting the environmental attacks in the transportation bill.

Take Action

Tell your representative in Congress to strengthen, not weaken environmental protections in the transportation bill by visiting www.foe.org/action or calling the capitol switchboard, 202-224-3121. ■

Action on Climate Change

By Jon Sohn

Extrême weather events cost Americans nearly \$20 billion in 2002. United Nations data indicates that losses owing to natural disasters linked to climate change have reached \$1 trillion over the past 15 years and annual losses in the next 10 years could reach \$150 billion.

Friends of the Earth anticipates these costs will increase if the U.S. government and corporations do not take responsibility for their actions that cause climate change.

The Pentagon Report: Climate Change A Serious Matter

To date, the Bush administration has basically ignored the threat of climate change. The Bush administration's energy bill is full of subsidies to fund the coal, oil and gas industries – the major contributors to climate change. He also has not signed the Kyoto Protocol, a binding agreement among industrial countries to reduce their emissions of six greenhouse gases.

A recent Pentagon report argues that global warming is a greater threat to world security than terrorism and predicts a warming future where “disruption and conflict will be endemic features of life.” Based on worst-case scenario, the report predicts climate change unleashing a series of interconnected catastrophes including mega-droughts, mass starvation and nuclear war, as countries battle over scarce food and water, while Europe will encounter another ice age and become uninhabitable. It's time for Bush to start paying attention to climate change.



A new Department of Defense report warns the Pentagon that climate change is a national security threat, writing, “With inadequate preparation, the result could be a significant drop in the human carrying capacity of the Earth's environment.”

ExxonMobil's Climate Footprint

For the first time, the historic contribution of one company to global climate change has been calculated. The assessment findings of ExxonMobil's historical emissions has significant implications for the company's legal exposure and for its shareholders.

Friends of the Earth commissioned two studies that showed ExxonMobil, including its predecessors, caused 4.7 to 5.3 percent of the world's manmade carbon dioxide emissions between 1882 and 2002. Carbon dioxide emissions are the principal cause of global warming. Despite U.N. scientists finding, in 1996, that man-made pollution is having a discernible influence on the global climate, seven out of the 10 worst years for ExxonMobil's emissions occurred after 1996.

Roughly 70 percent of the company's emissions have been since 1967, when scientists produced what has been described as “the first reasonably solid evidence of global warming.” ExxonMobil has repeatedly

attempted to undermine the scientific consensus on climate change and actively resisted attempts to limit carbon dioxide emissions through law.

Friends of the Earth vs. The Bush Administration

Our groundbreaking climate change lawsuit against the Bush administration is now set to be heard in a federal court in San Francisco. Our suit alleges that the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and the U.S. Export-Import Bank are charged with funding \$32 billion worth of fossil fuel projects without doing environmental assessments or considering alternatives as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. The lawsuit is an attempt to compel the U.S. government to do what many state and local governments are already doing – taking immediate and effective action to prevent global warming.



Visit www.foe.org to see the report *Exxon's Climate Footprint*.

Be Part of the Solution!

Do you know about our online action center? It is a great place to sign up for e-mail updates on issues that you're interested in and send letters to important decision makers. And it's just a click away at www.foe.org/action.

In response to an environmentally disasterous energy bill pending in the Senate this past November, activists sent thousands of letters through our action center, which helped block the bill from coming to a vote in the Senate. Billions of our taxpayer dollars were almost given to big polluting energy companies.



It is important to stay informed about how corporations and our federal government are deciding the future of our communities, environment and public health. We have several different

e-mail newsletters you can sign up for, such as our Genetically Engineered Food Action Alert list and our Global Action Network, a list specifically designed for people interested in international issues. There's also our e-Newsletter, which will keep you updated on current environmental issues and actions you can take to protect the environment.

So, please take a moment and visit Friends of the Earth's action center www.foe.org/action. We will continue to add features to the action center, so please use the enclosed envelope to give us suggestions. ■

We Don't Inherit the Earth from Our Parents... ...We Borrow It from Our Children.



Estate planning experts suggest reviewing your will about every three years, when you retire or celebrate a new birth. As a service to our members, Friends of the Earth is offering a free and concise booklet on tips to consider in preparing or updating your will.

As you think about your will, please consider remembering Friends of the Earth in your plans. Help to leave this world an even better place for our children and our children's children.

- Please send me a free copy of *How to Make a Will That Works*.
- I'd like to learn more about how to include Friends of the Earth in my estate plans. Please send me the appropriate wording to bring to my attorney.
- I have already included Friends of the Earth in my estate plans.

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Or call Rosemary Greenaway toll-free at 877-843-8687x 722 or e-mail rgreenaway@foe.org.

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Show the world how you feel about high-polluting sport utility vehicles. The slogans came from a contest held at www.suv.org.

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Let people know you're a friend of the earth with each check you write. These products are available only through our earth-friendly vendor, Message! Products. Order at <http://www.foe.org> and click on the store link or call Message! Products toll-free 800-243-2565. Friends of the Earth receives 10 percent of sales from Message! Products.

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How to Make a Difference

Have you ever wondered how you can do small things that make a big difference for Friends of the Earth? Here are some ways you can help:

1. Try a Newman's Own Product

Actor Paul Newman, as sole owner of Newman's Own®, donates all his profits and royalties after taxes to charity. The next time you are in the supermarket looking for a salad dressing for dinner or some popcorn for a movie-night at home, try something from Newman's Own. It's all good!

2. Shop for Change

Workingforchange.com features stores that will donate up to 5 percent of each purchase made through them to one of the charities listed on Working Assets. If you are a member of Working Assets, please don't forget to vote for Friends of the Earth when your ballot arrives at the end of the year. You can also choose to 'round-up' each bill that you receive throughout the year. If you are not a member, please consider joining at www.workingassets.com.

3. Vote for the Environment!

This year is an election year and everyone should vote their environmental values at every level – local, state and national. The enforcement and implementation of environmental laws and

programs throughout our country depends on the caliber of people holding public office.

4. Looking for Ways to Green Your Wedding?

Marriedforgood.com is a source of many great suggestions that will help make your wedding more environmentally friendly, such as what to do with left over food, flowers and bridal dresses. **Marriedforgood.com** also has a list of selected charities that you can consider providing a donation to in your name or those of your guests. Friends of the Earth is proud to be featured as the charity of the month at Marriedforgood.com. ■

In honor of Earth Day on April 22, why not give a membership in Friends of the Earth or have a free issue of our newsmagazine sent to a friend or family member?

I want to help get the word out. Please send a complimentary copy of the Friends of the Earth Newsmagazine to:

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