Here are some more articles and replies. In order to simplify, our comments are written in Times New Roman and in block while the letters and articles are in Arial.



Black Mamba

Rhino Protection Team

Over the coming months we're hoping to follow their work. Please click onto the link below to find out more.

http://www.blackmambas.org/

From: us@sumofus.org To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Sent: Thu, 25 Jun 2015 19:40:36 +0000 Subject: Clinton & Monsanto

Hillary Clinton is hiring Monsanto lawyers to help her become President.

Jerry Crawford is a lobbyist for big agriculture in the American State of Iowa, and Monsanto is one of his largest clients. He's also a consultant for politicians, fixing political campaigns to elect candidates most likely to preserve Monsanto's hold on the state's farmers, so it can continue to rake in billions in profits a year.

Now, Crawford has been hired by Hillary Clinton to help her win the critical early state of lowa, in her campaign to become President of the United States. Tell Hillary Clinton to fire Monsanto lobbyist Jack Crawford from her lowa state campaign.

Since stepping down as Secretary of State, Clinton has spoken out in favor of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and established herself as a friend of the biotech industry. But by hiring one of Monsanto's political hitmen, she's taken it a step further. Iowa is an ultra-rural state in the midwest US, and it is the very first state to weigh in on the US Presidential election. In order to get elected, Clinton is going to be spending an awfully large amount of time traversing the state, meeting with farmers and hearing from them about how the US President can improve their lives.

With a GMO lobbyist who has earned over \$1.6 million from Monsanto embedded in her campaign, the most toxic corporation on Earth will have direct access to a potential President of the United States, helping to shape her policies on everything from corporate farm subsidies to seed patents. And those farmers she stops to meet along the way -- want to bet they'll be champions of Monsanto's policies, rather than family farmers fighting tooth and nail to hold onto their farm in the face of growing corporate control of farming?

Time and time again, hundreds of thousands SumOfUs members have come together to speak out against Monsanto's deplorable behaviour all around the world. Monsanto even won our award for "Most Evil Corporation" which we delivered right in the middle of this year's annual shareholder meeting.

We can't let one of the most powerful people in the world get to office with help from Monsanto. Clinton needs to show she's a strong, independent leader who can stand up to big industry, and not just another Monsanto puppet. But she can't do that as long as Crawford is part of her campaign. Reclaim democracy from corporate power -- ask Hillary Clinton to fire Monsanto mole Jack Crawford.

http://action.sumofus.org/a/hillary-monsanto-lobbyist/?sub=taf

Nothing new here. Hillary Clinton was once a lawyer employed by Monsanto at the time when her husband Bill was President. He was the one who rushed all the American GMO. laws in that they have today incidentally. They're a great team.

From: ferguson@maspin-house.co.uk To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Sent: Fri, 19 Jun 2015 21:01

Subject: Conservative Government bringing the wind farm folly to an end.

Yesterday the Government made two announcements that signal the end to on-shore wind farms in locations where they are not supported by people who live there. The announcements were:

- 1. The Government will close the Renewables Obligation across Great Britain to new onshore wind generating stations from 1 April 2016.
- 2. Changes to planning so that residents have "the final say" over onshore wind farm applications meaning that turbines cannot continue to be "imposed on communities" who do not want them.

An early tweet from @DSA99UK said - Put simply Hillam, Birkin, Gateforth can all pour a celebratory glass ON THE ROCS http://ln.is/co.uk/c4vdo; #wind #Prowind

I would concur, so cheers everybody.

The response from Nigel Adams who submitted a bill in the last parliament calling for subsidies to be abolished can be found here:

http://selbyandainsty.com/latest-news/1569-nigel-delighted-at-new-government-powers-to-veto-wind-farms

The announcements are complex but are such that Bishopwood, Darrington Quarry and Woodlane windfarms would no longer qualify for the ROC subsidy and this would make them not viable.

The main web page which provides links to the announcements and the changes to planning guidance can be found here, along with initial comments

http://stopwoodlanewindfarm.co.uk/news106planningchanges.html

There has been extensive press coverage and links to a few articles can be found here, which also includes a number of tweets from MP's and a Planning QC about the changes.

http://stopwoodlanewindfarm.co.uk/news%20106%20links%20subsidy%20cut.html

The announcements show that the Conservative Government is determined to deliver on its election pledges and to do that as soon as possible. It still has some way to go to ensure the wind industry don't find ways around the changes, but for now the news is as good as it could be. If you have a moment please drop an e-mail to Nigel Adams thanking him for his long term commitment to dealing with the problem.

Nigel.adams.mp@parliament.uk

Single turbines

We still have the appeals about turbines at Lumby and Riccall ongoing and other applications in the planning pipeline. We have recently learnt that the Lumby decision will be made on or before 19 October – see the news page on the web site for more details.

Last week we learnt of a planning application for a large single turbine near Great Heck.

Single turbines are still a lucrative proposition because of the fit subsidy system. This will be reviewed later in the year so it is quite possible that there could be a rush of applications for large turbines. This is going to become the focus of a lot of attention over the coming months.

Best wishes

Howard Ferguson

We value our countryside.

www.stopwoodlanewindfarm.co.uk

From: defenders@mail.defenders.org To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Sent: Fri, 26 Jun 2015 14:36:43 -0500

Subject: BREAKING: New bill is death sentence for Mexican gray wolves



We just learned that two members of Congress introduced a bill that would delist Mexican gray wolves! If the bill, HR 2910, passes, it will be a death sentence for the last 109 animals living in the wild.

Despicable proposals like this are popping up almost every day. That's why we need your help.

Remember – your donation will be matched dollar-for-dollar until June 30th.

Thank you for standing up for our beloved wolves.

-Jamie

H.R. 2910 - To ensure the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's Mexican wolf nonessential experimental population 10(j) rule has no force or effect, and for other purposes.

https://www.opencongress.org/bill/hr2910-114/show
Sponsor:
Paul Gosar
Co-Sponsors:
Mark E. Amodei, Trent Franks, Glenn Grothman, Martha McSally, Stevan Pearce, Collin C. Peterson, Matt Salmon, David Schweikert and Ryan K. Zinke
Please write to the following concerning their involvement with this bill.
info@gosar4congress.com; scheduling@gosar4congress.com;
••••••

Looking at this link I found that it provided me with the email contacts of US. Senator email contacts. US. Senators are normally notoriously difficult to track down and so coming across these I thought I'd found the Holy Grail.

What alerted me to thinking otherwise however was that there seemed to be no response. Normally you get an acknowledgment reply but received nothing and when experimenting further by adding or removing characters from the name part of the addresses and sending, ie. example Rep.Gosar@opencongress.org, this would make it an invalid email and you would normally expect an unsent message returned but in these cases there was also nothing. Just try it out for yourselves. I think it might be some kind of dustbin site where so-called spammails are sent but never read. Weird.

https://www.opencongress.org/bill/hr2910-114/show

Another news report from Mr. Maggi; destroyer of Amazonia.



http://blairomaggi.com.br/noticia/aprovado-por-unanimidade-projeto-de-maggi-que-facilita-rastreamento-do-dinheiro-publico



http://blairomaggi.com.br/noticia/cuiaba-sedia-vi-seminario-de-energia

Please as ever write to Mr. Maggi.

imprensa@blairomaggi.com.br

From: defenders@mail.defenders.org To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Sent: Tue, 23 Jun 2015 07:30:23 -0500

Subject: ALERT: Anti-wildlife provisions quickly advancing!



Leaving behind any shred of decency or moderation, Congress has taken their war on wildlife to a new and frightening level – and it's moving forward at an alarming pace!

In particular, the spending bill for the Interior Department is loaded with a toxic array of riders – with even more amendments attacking wildlife expected this week. Together they amount to a wholesale retreat from this nation's commitment to protect and restore wildlife and wild habitats. Tell your Representatives to oppose the doomsday amendments to the Interior Appropriations Bill!

Just how bad is it? Judge for yourself. Here's just a sampling:

A cascade of anti-wildlife fervor. The bill already contains language that undermines the Endangered Species Act (ESA), weakens efforts to protect elephants from ivory poachers and weakens safeguards for wildlife. And we expect another round of attacks during what could well be an amendment free-for-all later this week.

More dead wolves. One rider forces gray wolves in Wyoming and the Great Lakes off the Endangered Species List. That's a veritable death sentence for hundreds, if not thousands of wolves. In the last year alone, more than 700 wolves were killed in these states.

Just say yes to elephant poaching. An African elephant dies every 15 minutes at the hands of ivory poachers. But that hasn't stopped the National Rifle Association (NRA) and its allies from inserting a rider to block tougher restrictions on the importation and domestic sale of ivory. This proposal benefits elephant poachers and ivory smugglers at the cost of elephant lives.

A savage attack on the ESA. Yet another provision would prohibit a potential listing of the greater sage-grouse. Additional amendments may be offered on the House floor that would prevent overdue listings of imperiled species or remove protections for species such as the lesser prairie chicken, the American burying beetle or others that still need ESA protection.

Make no mistake – this is not what Americans want. These provisions are the handiwork of special interests who have effectively taken control of one and maybe both Houses of Congress. They can be stopped. And it's up to all of us to stop them. If you love wildlife, please act immediately and tell your Representatives to oppose the doomsday provisions in the Interior Appropriations Bill and to oppose any new attacks on wildlife, public lands and environmental laws!

Thanks for being a critical ally in this very important fight!

Sincerely, Jamie Rappaport Clark, President, Defenders of Wildlife

From: Marcus.johnstone@lancashire.gov.uk To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Sent: Mon, 22 Jun 2015 15:08:45 +0000

Subject: Fracking

Dear Mr Piller

Thank you for getting in touch to express your views on the planning applications relating to shale gas exploration that are currently being assessed by the County Council.

I appreciate you taking the time to contact me and any other county councillors you may have contacted. I have passed your email to the department responsible for collating all of the feedback the Council has received about these applications. Your comments will be considered and help to inform a report which will summarise the many responses we have received.

This report will be given to the Development Control Committee which is responsible for deciding whether to approve the planning applications. Members of the Committee will be asked to take account of its contents in making their decisions. The applications will be presented to the Committee for determination at the next meeting scheduled to commence on the 23rd June 2015.

Yours sincerely

County Councillor Marcus Johnstone

Cabinet Member for Environment, Planning and Cultural Services

A happy result incidentally.

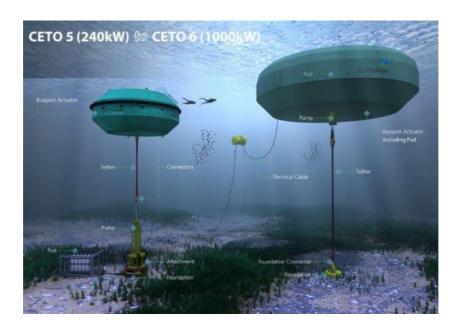
Another update from Carnegie.

http://carnegiewave.com/investors/asx-announcements.html

FREE ADVERTISEMENT

Carnegie Wave Energy





http://www.carnegiewave.com/carnegie-press/press-release-2015.html

Contact: enquiries@carnegiewave.com

China's Communist-Capitalist Ecological Apocalypse

Sunday, 21 June 2015 00:00

By Richard Smith, Truthout | News Analysis



A pedestrian wearing a protective mask in Beijing, January 17, 2012. Decades of coal-powered industrialization combined with the government-promoted car craze have brought China the worst air pollution in the world. (Photo: Gilles Sabrie/The New York Times)

This article seeks to explain why China's environmental crisis is so horrific, so much worse than "normal" capitalism most everywhere else, and why the government is incapable of suppressing pollution even from its own industries. I begin with an overview of the current state of China's environment: its polluted air, waters, farmland and the proximate causes, including overproduction, overdevelopment, profligate resource consumption, uncontrolled dumping and venting of pollutants. I then discuss the political-economic drivers and enablers of this destruction, the dynamics and contradictions of China's hybrid economy, noting how market reforms have compounded the irrationalities of the old bureaucratic collectivist system with the irrationalities of capitalism resulting in a diabolically ruinous "miracle" economy. I conclude with a précis of the emergency steps the country will have to take to brake the drive to socio-ecological collapse, with dire implications for us all.

The first time Li Gengxuan saw the dump trucks from the nearby factory pull into his village, he could not believe his eyes. Stopping between the cornfields and the primary school playground, the workers dumped buckets of bubbling white liquid onto the ground. Then they turned around and drove right back through the gates of their factory compound without a word.

In March 2008, Li and other farmers in Gaolong, a village in the central plains of Henan Province near the Yellow River, told a Washington Post reporter that workers from the nearby Luoyang Zhonggui High-Technology Company had been dumping this industrial waste in fields around their village every day for nine months. The liquid, silicon tetrachloride, was the byproduct of polysilicon production and it is a highly toxic substance. When exposed to humid air, silicon tetrachloride turns into acids and poisonous hydrogen chloride gas, which can make people dizzy and cause breathing difficulties.

Ren Bingyan, a professor of material sciences at Hebei Industrial University, contacted by the Post, told the paper that "the land where you dump or bury it will be infertile. No grass or trees will grow in its place ... It is ... poisonous, it is polluting. Human beings can never touch it."

When the dumping began, crops wilted from the white dust, which sometimes rose in clouds several feet off the ground and spread over the fields as the liquid dried. Village farmers began to faint and became ill. And at night, villagers said "the factory's chimneys released a loud whoosh of acrid air that stung their eyes and made it hard to breath."

"It's poison air. Sometimes it gets so bad you can't sit outside. You have to close all the doors and windows," said Qiao Shi Peng, 28, a truck driver who worried about the health of his 1-year-old.

China's rise has come at a horrific social and environmental cost.

Reckless dumping of industrial waste is everywhere in China. But what caught the attention of The Washington Post was that the Luoyang Zhonggui High-Technology Company was a "green energy" company producing polysilicon destined for solar energy panels sold around the world. Indeed, it was a major supplier to Suntech Power Holdings, then the world's leading producer of solar panels, and Suntech's founder, Shi Zhengrong, topped the Hunrun list of the richest people in China in 2008. (1)

Silicon tetrachloride is an unavoidable byproduct of polysilicon production. But reckless pollution of farm villages is not unavoidable. Today, China is the only country in the world where such criminal behavior and cynical disregard for the health and lives of farmers and workers has become standard practice on a national scale by governments at every level, even as the government's own environmental agencies decry such behavior and struggle, mostly in vain, to stop it. As one Chinese researcher told the Post, "If this happened in the United States, you'd be arrested." But in China environmental regulations are regularly flouted by state-owned and private industries with the connivance of government officials at all levels while protesting farmers, workers and environmental activists are arrested, jailed, beaten or worse, and their lawyers with them.

Polysilicon production produces about four tons of silicon tetrachloride liquid waste for every ton of polysilicon produced. In Germany, where Siemens produces solar panels, pollution recovery technology is installed to process the silicon tetrachloride waste and render it harmless. But such environmental protection technology is expensive. In

2008, the cost to produce polysilicon safely was about \$84,500 a ton in Germany and would not have cost much less in China. Chinese companies have been producing it for \$21,000 to \$56,000 a ton, saving millions of dollars a month, by just dumping the toxic waste in rural areas on helpless village communities.

Gaolong village is a mirror to China. It illustrates how the marriage of capitalism and Stalinist bureaucratic collectivism has created a diabolically destructive hybrid economic system, a rogue economy that is ravaging China's environment, ruining the health of Chinese people, rendering more and more of the country unlivable, driving the country to ecological collapse and threatening to bring the whole planet down with it. (2)

I. China Self-Destructs

For more than three decades, China's "miracle" economy has been the envy of the world or at least the envy of capitalist economists for whom wealth creation is the highest purpose of human life. Since 1979, China's GDP has grown by an average of just under 10 percent per year. Never, the World Bank tells us, has a nation industrialized and modernized so quickly or lifted so many millions out of poverty in such a short time. From a backward, stagnant, largely agrarian socialism-in-poverty, Deng Xiaoping brought in foreign investors, introduced market incentives, set up export bases, turned China into the light-industrial workshop of the world and renovated China's huge state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

"Fast fashion" is speeding the disposal of the planet.

Three and a half decades of surging economic growth lifted China from the world's 10th largest economy in 1979 to No. 1 by 2014. What's more, after decades of export-based growth, China's 12th Five-Year Plan 2011-2015 sought to refocus the economy on internal market demand to realize Xi Jinping's "Chinese Dream" of national rejuvenation and turning China into a mass consumer society on the model of the United States. As China sailed right through the global near-collapse of 2008 to 2009, hardly missing a beat, while Western capitalist economies have struggled to keep from falling back into recession, even the Thatcherite Economist magazine had to concede that China's state capitalism may be in certain respects superior to capitalist democracies and is perhaps even the wave of the future.

But China's rise has come at a horrific social and environmental cost. It's difficult to grasp the demonic violence and wanton recklessness of China's profit-driven assault on nature and on the Chinese themselves. Ten years ago, in an interview with Der Spiegel magazine in March 2005, Pan Yue, China's eloquent, young vice-minister of China's State Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) told the magazine, "the Chinese miracle will end soon because the environment can no longer keep pace." Pan Yue added:

We are using too many raw materials to sustain [our] growth ... Our raw materials are scarce, we don't have enough land, and our population is constantly growing. Currently there [are] 1.3 billion people living in China, that's twice as many as 50 years ago. In 2020 there will be 1.5 billion ... but desert areas are expanding at the same time; habitable and usable land has been halved over the past 50 years ... Acid rain is falling

on one third of Chinese territory, half of the water in our seven largest rivers is completely useless, while one fourth of our citizens do not have access to clean drinking water. One third of the urban population is breathing polluted air, and less than 20 percent of the trash in cities is treated and processed in an environmentally sustainable manner ... Because air and water are polluted, we are losing between 8 and 15 percent of our gross domestic product. And that doesn't include the costs for health ... In Beijing alone, 70 to 80 percent of all deadly cancer cases are related to the environment.

And criticizing Western economists who reassure us that more growth is the key to repairing the environmental damage done from growth, Pan said:

And there is yet another mistake ... It's the assumption that economic growth will give us the financial resources to cope with the crises surrounding the environment, raw materials, and population growth. [But] there won't be enough money, and we are simply running out of time. Developed countries with a per capita gross national product of \$8,000 to \$10,000 can afford that, but we cannot. Before we reach \$4,000 per person, different crises in all shapes and forms will hit us. Economically we won't be strong enough to overcome them. (3)

Pan Yue's searing honesty got him sidelined but if anything, he understated the speed, ferocity and scale of China's ecological destruction, a destruction that extends far beyond China itself.

A. Consuming the Planet to Support Unsustainable Growth

As China's growth took off in the 1980s and 1990s, the industrial boom rapidly depleted the country's resources, especially lumber, oil and minerals, forcing Beijing to turn outward to feed its voracious engines of growth. The manic and thirsty industrialization boom in China's northern industrial cities drained China's northern fresh aquifers leaving some 600 cities, including Beijing, facing dire water shortages while severely polluting most remaining reserves. Profit-hungry loggers cut down most of what was left of China's forests, recklessly denuding mountains and precipitating such extensive flooding and loss of life in 2009 that the government banned domestic logging. Chinese loggers then turned to plundering Siberia, Malaysia, Indonesia, and even New Guinea and parts of Africa. China had little oil to begin with so industrialization and automobilization quickly turned China from a modest oil exporter into a net importer in 1993 and the world's leading oil importer by 2013. China's iron ore, copper and other critical industrial mineral reserves have also been rapidly drawn down, forcing the country to import growing quantities of minerals.

The government has squandered astounding quantities of resources building entire industries China does not need.

In result, today, with 20 percent of the world's population, China is now by far the world's largest consumer of marketed primary industrial raw materials (cement, metal ores, industrial minerals, fossil fuels and biomass). China consumes more than 32 percent of the world's total of these resources, nearly four times as much as the United States, the second largest consumer. China consumes just over half the world's coal

and a third of the world's oil. China is the leading producer and consumer of steel with 46 percent of world output and now relies on imports for 77 percent of its iron ore. (4) China has become the world's largest consumer of lumber and forest products, leveling forests from Siberia to Southeast Asia, New Guinea, Congo and Madagascar. Greenpeace concluded that on current trends "future generations will be living on a planet without ancient forests." (5)

This is a truly massive article. Anyone wishing to read the whole story should go to the link below:

http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/31478-china-s-communist-capitalist-ecological-apocalypse

'We cannot destroy ISIS we have to learn to live with it.' These and those below are the extraordinary words of Richard Barrett, former head of counter-terrorism MI6.

Iraq and Syria will not return to how they were, and whatever it ends up calling itself, a new entity has emerged that will remain in some form. Currently that entity is aggressive, intolerant, despotic and uncompromising, but it is a terrible truth that for all its dystopian features, Isis offers those living under its rule better governance in some respects than they received from the state before it took over. Corruption is far less prevalent, and justice, albeit brutal, is swift and more evenly applied. The policy challenge is therefore not to seek the destruction of the caliphate so much as to promote its transformation into something that the Syrian and Iraqi people, along with the rest of us, could live with.

Isis projects a strong identity and sense of purpose and it appeals in particular to people who lack both; it offers them the opportunity to be part of something new, regardless of their gender or abilities. It is a sad comment on our own society that a limited but significant number of young people – and most recruits to Isis are in their late teens to late twenties – cannot readily identify a better outlet for their energies and aspirations at home.

http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/we-cannot-destroy-isis-we-will-have-to-learn-to-live-with-it-10334244.html?origin=internalSearch

It's no wonder the world's in such a mess with people like this in charge of the nation's security.

http://www.theglobalexperts.org/experts/expertise-region/north-america-expertise-region/richard-barrett

Please write to:

richard.barrett@theglobalexperts.org; R.Barrett@independent.co.uk; Richard.Barrett@independent.co.uk;

From: Senator_Brown@Brown.Senate.Gov To: george.ashleycooper@aol.co.uk Sent: Fri, 19 Jun 2015 18:01 Subject: Protecting our Pollinators

As National Pollinator Week comes to a close on Sunday, U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) is working to protect Ohio pollinators — from honey bees to monarch butterflies. Pollinators play an essential role in productive farming — without pollinators much of our food supply would be at risk. They help produce higher yields for all crops, from corn to cauliflower, but are increasingly at risk. Colony collapse disorder has killed more than one billion honey bees in Ohio and has cost our state's specialty crop farmers more than \$80 million in lost revenue a year.

While it is unclear what is causing colony collapse, we know that protecting honeybee populations is critically important. This year, Sen. Brown served on the conference committee for the 2014 Farm Bill, which included important provisions to protect pollinator habitats as well as emergency assistance for honeybee producers. Sen. Brown also supported U.S. Department of Agriculture's proposal for \$25 million towards a pollinator health institute which would bring together the resources of the public and private sectors to examine the issue.

Sen. Brown has also applauded the Administration's new National Strategy to address pollinators. The strategy is aimed at increasing research on pollinator health and enhancing habitats for pollinators, such as the migratory monarch butterfly.

Buzzing around from field to field, pollinators play a crucial, but overlooked, part in Ohio agriculture. Sen. Brown is working to ensure we research ways to address colony collapse while continuing to support existing research and resources.

Sherrod Brown, U.S. Senator

'Unclear what's causing colony collapse.' I'd say look no further than Monsanto and Syngenta. Government backed pollinator heath teams are hardly likely to tread on too many corns and say what needs to be said. More likely to come up with the usual 100 page or so document full of barely-fathomable data, collaborating often with those who causing the problems in the first place, and that will be the end of that.

Governments really do like to do things the most complicated ways they can. A simple ban of a group of pesticides is all that's ever needed.

http://wn.com/ers_pollinator_health_team_overview_and_research_highlights_-_iennifer_bond

Pollinator Research Action Plan 'PRAP;' I could think of a more appropriate title. Just ban GMO's. and Pesticides.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/Pollinator%20Research %20Action%20Plan%202015.pdf

http://www.takepart.com/article/2015/05/19/bee-plan-white-house

••••••

This is a letter from the Black Mamba anti-poaching organisation. Anyone living around the surrey area of the UK. may like to get in touch. Thank you.

From: camp@transfrontierafrica.co.uk To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk Subject: RE: hi again.

Date: Tue. 30 Jun 2015 08:52:38 +0200

I do hope you can join us on Sunday, 13th September 2015 at Russets in Chiddingfold, Surrey, UK to raise funds to support the work of Transfrontier Africa, including the Black Mamba Anti Poaching Unit, in their fight against Rhino poaching.

The event runs from 5 to 11pm and includes:

- canapé reception with a complimentary drink on arrival
- traditional harmony singing and Zulu dancing
- talk about the Black Mambas by the charismatic Craig Spencer, Head Warden of Balule, founder of Transfrontier Africa and the inspiration behind the Black Mambas
- South African inspired meal with a complimentary glass of wine
- · silent auction with many exciting items
- dancing to music compiled by South African DJ David John.

Tickets cost £75 per head. To book your ticket, please complete the attached ticket application form.

If you can't come but would like to make a donation please refer to the attached donation form.

Best wishes, Kim Budge, Fundraising Organiser

EPA Forced to Decide This Month on Pesticide's Fate

Thursday, 18 June 2015 00:00

By Brian Bienkowski, Environmental Health News | Report

A California appeals court ruled this week that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has until the end of this month to decide whether or not to ban a widely used pesticide linked to a number of health problems.

The order, filed by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, forces the EPA's hand on the pesticide chlorpyrifos (pronounced KLOR – pie -ra – phos), one the most commonly applied organophosphate pesticides with an estimated 10 million pounds applied annually.

While banned for more than a decade for household use, it's still used commercially on corn, soybeans, fruit and nut trees and some golf courses. In 2012 the EPA required homes and schools to have buffers to reduce exposure. The order is in response to a lawsuit filed in 2007 by the Pesticide Action Network and the Natural Resources Defense Council calling for the EPA to cancel registration for the pesticide.

While manufacturers such as Dow Agrosciences have maintained the safety and efficiency of chlorpyrifos, scientists have expressed concern over what it does to exposed people. Various studies have linked it to birth defects, low birth weights and impaired brain development, and endocrine disruption.

Fetuses exposed to the pesticide while in the womb are most at risk. The EPA has until June 30 to respond to the lawsuit. [See the court order here.]

"It is time for EPA to protect children in the face of overwhelming scientific evidence that this pesticide causes brain damage in children," said Earthjustice attorney Patti Goldman, who represented the groups in the lawsuit, in a statement. "EPA has dragged its feet for far too long in the face of harm to children and workers."

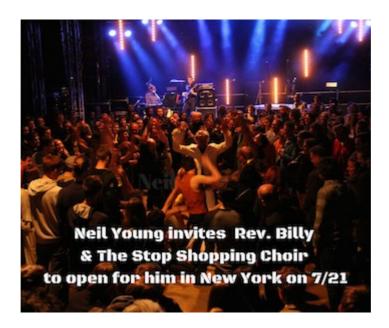
An EPA report earlier this year found that chlorpyrifos poses health risks to workers who mix and apply it and also can contaminate drinking water. "We are concerned about some workers who mix, load and apply chlorpyrifos to agricultural and other non-residential sites," the EPA wrote about the report. "We are also concerned about workers who work around areas that are treated with chlorpyrifos, even if they are not using chlorpyrifos products as part of their jobs."

If EPA intends to deny the administrative petition, "the final denial shall be issued no later than September 15, 2015," according to the court order.

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From: revbilly@revbilly.com To: h.pagan.pla@aol.co.uk Sent: Wed, 24 Jun 2015 0:29 Subject: Neil Young & Rev. Billy

The Stop Shopping Choir



Neil_Young__Reverend_Billy__.pngGreetings from New York City.

Here's what's happening to us now.

http://www.revbilly.com/the_rev_billy_show? utm_campaign=indiegogo1&utm_medium=email&utm_source=revbilly

The Reverend Billy Show is on WBAI 99.5 FM every week, Wednesdays 2-3p, check it out.

After 18 months of actions and performances and hundreds of hours of rehearsal, we decided it was time to go in the studio and get our songs recorded, so we booked a two day session at Avatar Studios, which is almost the only recording Studio in NYC that can accommodate the whole lot of us.

We are also undertaking a ban of Glyphosates in New York City's public spaces including parks, sidewalks, hydrants- really anywhere a so-called "weed" can grow. (By the way Plantain is great for itch and inflammation, just chew it up a bit and put it right on your mosquito bite for immediate relief.)

And on top of all this a few days ago we were invited to open for Neil Young at Jones Beach in NY on July 21st. We're honored, because we love so many of his songs, and because he really has continued to say what he means after all this time.

Have a look at some videos of the work we've done over the past couple of months. Millions against Monsanto and an amazing trip to Marktown and the largest tar sands refinery in the US and across the pond at The British Museum.

https://mail.aol.com/webmail-std/en-gb/suite

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rUbc50SEB2M

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWpqZ4L2x_A&feature=youtu.be

We've been pushing hard and amplifying activism wherever we can and, I don't know how else to say it, we need your help. Can you give to The Church of Stop Shopping today?

We launched an Indiegogo campaign to raise \$30,000 by August 21 to fund our summer work.

The Church of Stop Shopping is simple. We're singing-activists. We engage in Non-violent Dramatic Action. We invite people to their own activism with our humor and music and dedication. We sing and shout in the streets and risk arrest.

We're standing on our streets, on our porches, in our fields... We're looking up at the sky, just like you. Only now, listen...Can you hear us? Action is irresistible.

We've been pushing hard and amplifying activism wherever we can and, I don't know how else to say it, we need your help. Can you give to The Church of Stop Shopping today?

Savitri D, Director of Reverend Billy and The Stop Shopping Choir

Reverend Billy & the Stop Shopping Choir · PO Box 1556, New York, NY 10013, United States

Concluding: We print any letters here from all sides of both arguments. So long as it's relevant to the subject matters and provided it's not obscene we will print it. If you disagree with anything that's been said, please write in. This is a public arena so please feel free to have your say. Contact details will always be withheld on request.