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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 16, 1983

THRU:

MICHAEL K. DEEVER *MA*  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

TO:

FRED F. FIELDING  
Counsel to the President

FROM:

PATRICIA A. BYE *PB*  
Administrative Assistant to DCofS

Per your instructions, and to the best of my ability, I have made a careful review of correspondence in the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff and have attached copies of material associated with the Environmental Protection Agency.

Cut-off date 1 Feb 83.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 16, 1982

Dear Rita:

This is to thank you for your memorandum of September 13 to me about the Federal monies EPA has ready for award for various types of remedial and cleanup work at six hazardous waste sites in New Jersey.

Although the President's schedule for his trip to New Jersey already had been set by the time your memorandum reached me, I do want to assure you that your suggestion he announce these awards in Trenton was indeed appreciated.

With my best wishes to you,

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Ms. Rita M. Lavelle  
Assistant Administrator for  
Solid Waste and Emergency Response  
United States Environmental Protection  
Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20460





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

September 13, 1982

OFFICE OF  
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Positive Environmental Action for President

FROM : Rita M. Lavelle *Rita M. Lavelle*  
Assistant Administrator for  
Solid Waste and Emergency Response

TO : Michael Deaver  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
The White House

EPA has Federal monies totaling about \$ 5.2 million ready for award for various types of remedial and cleanup work at six hazardous waste sites in New Jersey. This brings to \$9 million the EPA awards to New Jersey in the year and a half Superfund has been in existence.

This is an opportunity for the President to announce the awards and stress the accomplishments of his Administration under Superfund nationwide.

The sites are Spence Farm, Friedman, Goose Farm, Pijak Farm, LiPari, D'Imperio, Price's Landfill, and Kin-Buc. Two of these lie in the district of Republican Congressman Edwin B. Forsythe, of the Sixth District of New Jersey. Two others lie in the district of Democratic Congressman James J. Florio, of the First District of New Jersey, leading critic of EPA in the House of Representatives.

Many of the sites are in or near the Trenton-Philadelphia area, so that Trenton would be a suitable place for the President to make the announcement, with Governor Kean of New Jersey, Congressman Forsythe, EPA Administrator Anne M. Gorsuch, Senate Republican Candidate Fenwick and others at his side.

Next Friday, September 17, would be an appropriate day. A time in the morning, around 10 a.m., would be best for maximum media coverage.

From this platform the President can summarize the successes of all of EPA as well as support the candidacies of New Jersey candidates, including Millicent Fenwick.

We are also proposing that the President may wish to go to Seymour, Indiana, in October to participate in announcement of private-sector cooperation in remedial action at another large hazardous-waste site.

Mrs. Gorsuch will be able to rearrange her schedule to accompany the President. Two other staff members should accompany her to provide technical backup.

I await your decision.

Mike -

Background is attached. We also can have our speechwriters available to offer words of wisdom. This is a very definite environmental success story - one this administration can and should start claiming.

Again thanks for the opportunity. A know Anne and the Governors would love to share the 'limelight'.

Rth



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

*Mike*

JUL 9 1982

*file*

OFFICE OF  
ADMINISTRATION

Shirley Moore  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Shirley:

The other day we put together a list of the things that we have managed to accomplish in the Office of Administration in the first year. I am kind of proud of it. I thought you might be interested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature, likely of John P. Horton, is written over the word "Sincerely,". The signature is stylized and appears to be "JL".

John P. Horton  
Assistant Administrator

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

July 1, 1981 - July 1, 1982

- o Cash Management - By reducing the size of imprest funds by one-fourth, the level of cash advances to grantees by \$4 million, and the extent of travel advances to agency employees by \$300,000, EPA will save the U.S. Treasury close to \$750,000 in interest in FY 82.
- o Overtime - We have cut EPA's overtime costs from \$2.9 million in FY 80 to a projected FY 82 cost of less than \$1 million.
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- o Publication Distribution - By consolidating the publication distribution operations in Cincinnati, EPA will save about \$202,000 in the first year.
- o Grants Closeouts and Deobligations - By the end of May, we had closed out almost 1000 assistance agreements which had been completed but not formally closed, resulting in deobligations of more than \$5.8 million. More than 60% of these deobligated funds will revert to the U.S. Treasury and the remainder will return to EPA for discretionary reobligation.
- o Consolidation of Regional Data Handling - We have consolidated management of data entry and handling contracts in the regions, which will save EPA \$100,000 in FY 82 and upgrade data verification and quality control.
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revising the regulations governing grantee procurements to allow grantees to use their own procurement systems and to self-certify. Another proposed revision would allow applicants to use their own fiscal year instead of the federal fiscal year in developing their assistance applications. This would enable the state agency to develop a single work program for both its own purposes and for the EPA assistance application. These changes should save the state both resources and paper work.

- o Contracts Administration - We have also revised our contracting procedures to strengthen management and simplify administrative requirements. To date we have strengthened our procurement planning process to: require contracts over \$100,000 to be approved at the Assistant Administrator level; improve level of effort contracting through restrictions on the use of options and improved financial reporting; and require Office Directors to be involved in major source selections and award fee determinations. In addition, we have reduced the operating costs of our Contract Information System by 15 percent.
- o General Administrative Procedures - We have eliminated or simplified many agency forms and records, are automating new aspects of our personnel and financial management systems, have reorganized several of our operations to increase efficiency, and have refined and fully automated our Merit Pay System.
- o Printing/Duplicating - We will save about \$100,000 in FY 82 by condensing our Federal Register notices, taking advantage of discounts available for prompt payment of invoices, buying supplies in greater quantities, and \$173,000 in FY 82 by purchasing instead of leasing some of our copy machines.
- o Facility Operating Costs - Through our comprehensive attempt at controlling our service contracts and heating and ventilating systems we will reduce our utility costs by approximately \$37,200 in FY 82.
- o Library Savings - We reviewed all the subscriptions received by the headquarters library to reduce the number which unnecessarily duplicate subscriptions held by other parts of the agency. We expect to reduce EPA's costs by \$50,000 in FY 82.
- o Data Processing Operations - We have reduced operating costs of the National Computer Center (NCC) by \$2.4 million over FY 81 with no appreciable degradation in services by eliminating excess equipment, realigning telecommunications facilities, and introducing more efficient operating software.
- o Capital Equipment Control Program - We have instituted a centralized screening process with standardized procedures to control the purchase of capital equipment. We expect that this will lead to redeployment of excess laboratory equipment and eliminate duplicative purchases of new equipment.

- o Waterside Mall Clean-Up - We have completed the cleaning of the East and West Towers, have inspected and eliminated safety hazards, and have identified and recycled unused or broken furniture and equipment through our property management system. We are continuing this program in the mall area. The immediate results we have noted are fewer complaints to our Trouble Desk and an improved sense of pride in our employees. Through this program we have broken an overwhelming problem into solvable problems. The benefits from this program have transcended the physical improvements.
- o Audit Resolutions - In the past year we have resolved over 1000 audits (including the elimination of an initial backlog of 558 unresolved audit reports), required that interest be paid on all overdue audit recoveries including appealed audit decisions (to discourage frivolous appeals and delaying tactics), instituted a quarterly reconciliation of automated Accounts Receivable and IG records to ensure that all amounts due EPA are billed and collected, and strengthened our management to prevent future accumulation of another backlog of unresolved audits.
- o Pilot Streamlined Procurement Process - This pilot program reduces the optimum lead time for new competitive contracts under \$500,000 by 33%, speeding up our operation while reducing our resource needs.
- o Consolidated Financial Assistance - We are consolidating financial assistance programs to make it easier for states to do business with us. Our consolidation allows a single application for all program funds, a single comprehensive public review, a coordinated EPA review process, consolidated reporting by the grantee, a single evaluation, and an integrated audit. Our approach recognizes that needs vary from state to state. Consolidation is voluntary, and an agency which prefers to receive separate categorical awards may do so. The mechanism is flexible so that an agency may consolidate some of its assistance while continuing to be eligible for categorical awards under other programs. Consolidation is also adaptable, and the decision whether or how much to use the mechanism to coordinate program activities will be made by each state agency.
- o Revised Directives System - Piloting a new analytical methodology, the Management and Organization Division conducted a cost/effectiveness review of the agency's Directives System. The result of the study was a plan to redesign the System to improve its effectiveness while lowering the agency's costs by about \$700,000.
- o Forms and Publications Contract - By renegotiating our Forms and Publications Center contract, we will reduce our annual expenditure by \$49,177.
- o Delivery and Receiving Contracts - We have combined these two functions into a single solicitation at a savings of \$68,388 annually--without any change in service..



- o RTP Facility Services - During FY 82 we expect to save approximately \$114,000 in RTP facility operating costs by eliminating two guard stations and substituting card readers, and by reducing the frequency of some custodial tasks.
- o Protection of Workers Doing Superfund Clean Up - We are working on three levels to protect workers involved in Superfund activities.
  - EPA employees are required to have 24 hours of approved training in field safety and use of protective equipment prior to performing this work, and we are evaluating safety activities at field location vis-a-vis the safety programs we have developed for protecting EPA employees. We are using special experts from NIOSH for these evaluations.
  - Our primary contractors are well aware of our insistence that their programs to protect their employees be models of good practice, so that their programs can be adopted by other employers.
  - We are working under a Memorandum of Understanding with DOL/OSHA, DHHS/NIOSH and DOT/Coast Guard to develop the occupational health and safety programs required by the National Contingency Plan.
- o Regional Reorganization - The Agency's Regional Offices have been reorganized to improve accountability and communication links between Headquarters and the Regions. The Assistant Administrator for Administration, as the final approval authority for the reorganizations, assured the compliance of the Regional Administrators' reorganization plans with the Administrator's organization structure objectives.
- o Reorganization of the Office of Air, Noise and Radiation (OANR) - OANR has been reorganized recently to integrate further the enforcement/compliance functions with the mobile and stationary source programs. The reorganization also eliminates the Office of Noise Abatement and Control, reflecting Congress' intention to abolish that program by fiscal year 1982.
- o Committee Management - We have evaluated the participation of EPA personnel in over 860 different international, interagency, EPA and other committees and discontinued participation in over 130 resulting in savings of \$2.1 million in reduced investment of staff resources in these functions. These savings translate into greater productivity of personnel in their non-committee work assignments.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
September 20, 1982

*CF*  
*any thought to*

MEMORANDUM TO MICHAEL DEEVER

FROM: ANTHONY R. DOLAN *ma*  
SUBJECT: Lead Poisoning

Here is a social problem that touches a strong emotional note among most Americans, especially the poor and their advocates. It is a problem that with intelligent action by the private sector could probably be largely eliminated. Isn't it a perfect matter for the Private Sector Task Force? Shouldn't the President at some point announce the initiative? Thought you'd like to see this column by Will on this point.

9/26  
Mike —  
EPA got well  
deserved credit a  
few weeks ago for  
its action restricting  
lead additives. The  
inspection programs  
will refer to are local  
programs.  
We'll check out  
what might be possible  
on the PSI front.  
*Copy*



Gemayel, it may be that the only way out is a Lebanese state with an Israeli zone of influence in the south and a Syrian zone up north.

Still, the evolution is clear enough. Insofar as Damascus keeps moving toward the United States, it becomes possible to achieve some kind of settlement for Lebanon; security for the Persian Gulf; and peace between Israel and the Arabs. Thus the trick is to promote further movement in Syria. But how?

The incentive of peace is, no doubt, one element. In that respect, President Reagan's recent proposals meet a requirement and this country needs to continue with efforts to bring Jordan and the Palestinians into negotiations with Egypt and Israel. But the spur of force is another important element. After all, it has been the military threat by the Israelis that set in motion the basic change in the politics of Araby.

So once again, in the Middle East as elsewhere, the United States must bal-

ance the promise of peace against the risk of war. The continued threat of Israeli action is essential to the achievement of this country's objectives in Lebanon and in the Persian Gulf. Eventually, of course, the United States will have to wring from Israel concessions that make possible peace with the Arabs. But it would be foolish, in the interim, for Washington to throw away present opportunities in order to pursue a quarrel with Israel about the future conditions of the Palestinians that is, at this stage, necessarily academic.

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Thursday, September 16, 1982

THE WASHINGTON POST

George F. Will

## The Poison Poor Children Breathe

A synonym for "leaden" is "dull," but the problem of lead in the environment is fascinating. It is a childhood health problem that illustrates how society's hazards are often distributed regressively—persons lowest on the social ladder have special handicaps for climbing.

Recently the Reagan administration moved to strengthen restrictions on lead additives in gasoline. Although different refiners have different interests, this was basically a victory for environmentalists over industry. One refinery blamed the decision on "politics." Well, yes; politics is the assignment of social values and costs in accordance with a concept of equity. The Republican role in God's plan may generally be to lighten regulations, but this case illustrates how strong government can serve conservative values.

America uses 1.3 million tons of lead annually; 600,000 tons of this useful, ubiquitous and toxic metal are released into the environment. Because of high metabolism rates, children are especially susceptible to lead poisoning, which can cause retardation, brain damage, anemia, seizures, hyperactivity and death. Analysis of polar ice layers suggests that lead in the environment has increased 200-fold since industrialism began.

People are exposed to lead from food, household dust and the air. Burning a tankful of gasoline emits, according to one study, up to two ounces of lead. Upwards of 28 million buildings have lead-based paint, which tastes sweet to children. A flake the size of a fingernail can be damaging. Some pre-1950 houses have paint with 100 times more lead than is now permitted. Lead in paint is the most dan-

gerous source, but reduce lead in gasoline and you will reduce lead in children. The mean blood-level of lead in children has declined 25 percent since the beginning of restrictions on lead in gasoline.

According to one study, 4 percent of preschool children have excessive levels of lead in their blood. That would be dismaying enough even if the distribution were geographically, and hence socially, even. But high lead concentrations are among the things that, say, Shaker Heights and downtown Cleveland do not share equally. The percentage of black preschoolers with excessive lead levels is six times that of white preschoolers. Other studies indicate excessive levels in one-fifth of black children from low-income families.

Children often are deficient in iron, calcium and zinc. Poor children are especially apt to be deficient. The more deficient children are, the more apt they are to absorb lead. Federal budget cutting and recession-related reductions of local revenues have reduced programs for screening for lead poisoning in children, and for removing lead-based paint from old buildings. Philadelphia's health commissioner says that if the city loses 10 percent of its lead-poisoning detection funds, that means 200 fewer homes visited, and five more cases of retardation. Studies have found correlations between even relatively low elevations of lead blood-levels and measurable reductions of IQ.

Any childhood disease that threatens affluent children as lead poisoning threatens poor children would produce public action faster than you can say "swine flu." As things are, government spends upwards of \$1 billion annually on children with lead poisoning,

80 percent on special education for the learning-disabled.

Conservatives dissolve in admiration for this insight: "There is no free lunch." It means: someone must pay for anything that has costs. That, although hardly a sunburst, is true enough. So is this: society shall pay (for example, with slightly higher energy costs) for reducing lead use; and society shall continue to pay a lot (for injuries to its human capital) if it does not reduce lead use.

In Saul Bellow's most recent novel, "The Dean's December," a scientist offers "the real explanation of what goes on" in slums: "Millions of tons of intractable lead residues poisoning the children of the poor. . . . Crime and social disorganization in inner-city populations can all be traced to the effects of lead. It comes down to the nerves, to brain damage."

The dean thinks: "Direct material causes? Of course. Who could deny them? But what was odd was that no other causes were conceived of." The dean is properly dubious about thoroughgoing materialism, that neglects society's cultural, spiritual ingredients. But the body is not just a temple in which the mind rattles about; the mind is not a ghost in a machine.

Mind is grounded in matter, woven into our physical constitutions. Conservatives, who rightly prefer equality of opportunity to equality of outcome as a social goal, have yet to come to terms with how complex and elusive their goal is, in light of all that we are learning about social influences on human capacity.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 28, 1981

Dear Mrs. Miller:

Thank you for your letter recommending Joan Pellette for a position with the Environmental Protection Agency.

She has received many letters of endorsement from her friends and associates and I can assure you that she is under active consideration.

I have also forwarded your letter to Mr. E. Pendleton James, Director of Presidential Personnel.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mrs. Lee Miller  
49 Hackensack Avenue  
Ridgefield Park, New Jersey 07660

0.1.5776

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 28, 1981

Dear Mr. Schubert:

Thank you for your letter recommending Joan Pellette for a position with the Environmental Protection Agency.

She has received many letters of endorsement from her friends and associates and I can assure you that she is under active consideration.

I have also forwarded your letter to Mr. E. Pendleton James, Director of Presidential Personnel.

Many thanks.

Sincerely, =

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. William P. Schubert, Mayor  
Borough of Bogota  
Borough Hall  
Bogota, N.J. 07603

PELLETTE



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 20, 1982

Dear Christine:

Thank you for your letter describing your concerns over the revocation of Executive Order 11643.

First, I wish to assure you that the President had the benefit of advice from several Cabinet-level officers, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Council on Environmental Quality prior to making his decision to revoke the order. The Interior Department consulted fully with the other agencies in arriving at its recommendation and informed them of its views.

As you note in your letter, the repeal has no practical consequence because EPA has not licensed any chemical agents for predator control.

We believe that the circumstances that gave rise to the need for an absolute prohibition of the type contained in Executive Order 11643 no longer exist. Since promulgation of the order, Congress has enacted the Endangered Species Act and various statutes directing EPA to impose stringent controls on the use of chemical toxicants.

If a chemical predator control agent can meet the EPA's standards, we believe that the environment will not be threatened. Thus, rather than have the President in effect directly regulating the use of substances that are supposedly regulated by EPA, we believed it appropriate to rescind the Executive Order as obsolete and duplicative of the statutes passed subsequent to its promulgation.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Ms. Christine Stevens  
Society for Animal  
Protective Legislation  
P.O. Box 3719 Georgetown Station  
Washington, D.C. 20007

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 19, 1982

NOTE FOR MIKE DEEVER

FROM: CRAIG FULLER

CF

I was directly involved in this matter. The decision was made to withdraw the Executive Order so that in the event EPA lifts the ban on the chemical in question -- all attention wouldn't shift to the White House. Such determinations should be made by EPA not the White House. It was a foolish Executive Order.

g/l

Mike  
Draft is for  
your approval.  
[Signature]

# OFFICE OF CABINET AFFAIRS IN TRACKING WORKSHEET

Document Date: 82 / 03 / 11

From: Christine Stevens  
Society for Animal Protective  
Legislation

Ex. Order which kept the Federal Govt.  
in poisons on the public lands.

Response  
Finish Fact Sheet  
Copy Only/No Action Necessary

R — Direct Reply w/Copy  
S — For Signature  
X — Interim Reply

Action Codes	Date Due	Action Taken
<u>D</u>	<u>82 04 09</u>	
<u>A</u>	<u>82/04/09</u>	<u>draft attached</u>
<u>1 1</u>		
<u>1 1</u>		
<u>1 1</u>		
<u>1 1</u>		

Khedouri's people draft a reply for Deaver's signature.  
background if there are questions.

*Handwritten:* Draft on send to [signature]

☐ Faoro ☒ Fuller ☐ Gonzalez ☐ Hart ☐ Hodapp

SHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING MATERIAL AND  
NED ACTION IS COMPLETE,

Office of Cabinet Affairs  
Attention: Karen Hart (x-2823)  
West Wing/Ground Floor

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Don Crabill

FROM: Chris Andrews *CA*

SUBJECT: Draft Response for Mike Deaver  
Signature; re: EO 11643

Attached is the letter to Mike Deaver about which we spoke over the telephone. Our deadline has caught up on us, and I would appreciate it if you could help in expediting the process. If you would draft a response for Deaver's signature and send it back to me it would be a great help.

You can see that Craig Fuller has the background on this subject, and you should direct your questions to him.



SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION

P. O. Box 3719  
Georgetown Station  
Washington, D.C. 20007

069326

(202) 337-2334

March 11, 1982

Honorable Michael Deaver  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

*CF*  
*what is this?*

Dear Mike:

Thanks for suggesting that I might send you a note on our great concern over the withdrawal of the Presidential Executive Order initiated by President Nixon and reconfirmed with some modifications by President Ford and President Carter. The original Executive Order was No. 11643, should you wish to refer to it. The Order was popularly referred to as "taking the Federal Government out of the poison business." Up until that time the Federal Government was spending millions of dollars each year spreading predator poisons on the public lands. The Executive Order ended use by Federal officials of thallium, 1080, strychnine and cyanide. Wool growers have regularly protested against this Executive Order, however, extensive hearings have repeatedly shown that the Order was a wise one.

It is our understanding that the recommendation came from the Department of the Interior to the President which led him to strike down the Executive Order of three former presidents. Interior officials made a specific effort to keep their plan to make this recommendation secret, as we know from a frank discussion with one of them.

Naturally, the many groups and individuals who have long been interested in this matter and who applauded the Republican initiative which brought about the poison ban, are tremendously concerned.

Loss of the Executive Order itself has no immediate effect, because at present these predacides are not registered, however, an extremely costly and complicated proceeding is now underway at EPA with the apparent intent by the agency of releasing these poisons for use on the public lands.

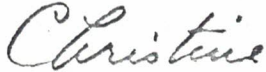
The EPA hearings are expected to be lengthy. Both sides will lay out arguments. It is regrettable that the Executive Order was stricken even before the formal hearing. Because the poison question unites conservation groups and anti-cruelty groups, very large numbers of people are extremely upset.



We have been given to understand that Interior first planned to recommend to the President only a modification of the Executive Order. Then they decided it would be "simpler" just to wipe out the Order altogether. It appears, therefore, that the President was not given the full information which would have enabled him to make his own decision. I hope it may be possible for him to reinstate the Executive Order with modifications no more wide-ranging than those made by other Administrations.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christine".

Christine Stevens  
Secretary



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

*Mike*

JUL 8 1982

*File*

OFFICE OF  
ADMINISTRATION

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The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

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John P. Horton  
Assistant Administrator

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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- o Contracts Administration - We have also revised our contracting procedures to strengthen management and simplify administrative requirements. To date we have strengthened our procurement planning process to: require contracts over \$100,000 to be approved at the Assistant Administrator level; improve level of effort contracting through restrictions on the use of options and improved financial reporting; and require Office Directors to be involved in major source selections and award fee determinations. In addition, we have reduced the operating costs of our Contract Information System by 15 percent.
- o General Administrative Procedures - We have eliminated or simplified many agency forms and records, are automating new aspects of our personnel and financial management systems, have reorganized several of our operations to increase efficiency, and have refined and fully automated our Merit Pay System.
- o Printing/Duplicating - We will save about \$100,000 in FY 82 by condensing our Federal Register notices, taking advantage of discounts available for prompt payment of invoices, buying supplies in greater quantities, and \$173,000 in FY 82 by purchasing instead of leasing some of our copy machines.
- o Facility Operating Costs - Through our comprehensive attempt at controlling our service contracts and heating and ventilating systems we will reduce our utility costs by approximately \$37,200 in FY 82.
- o Library Savings - We reviewed all the subscriptions received by the headquarters library to reduce the number which unnecessarily duplicate subscriptions held by other parts of the agency. We expect to reduce EPA's costs by \$50,000 in FY 82.
- o Data Processing Operations - We have reduced operating costs of the National Computer Center (NCC) by \$2.4 million over FY 81 with no appreciable degradation in services by eliminating excess equipment, realigning telecommunications facilities, and introducing more efficient operating software.
- o Capital Equipment Control Program - We have instituted a centralized screening process with standardized procedures to control the purchase of capital equipment. We expect that this will lead to redeployment of excess laboratory equipment and eliminate duplicative purchases of new equipment.

- o Waterside Mall Clean-Up - We have completed the cleaning of the East and West Towers, have inspected and eliminated safety hazards, and have identified and recycled unused or broken furniture and equipment through our property management system. We are continuing this program in the mall area. The immediate results we have noted are fewer complaints to our Trouble Desk and an improved sense of pride in our employees. Through this program we have broken an overwhelming problem into solvable problems. The benefits from this program have transcended the physical improvements.
- o Audit Resolutions - In the past year we have resolved over 1000 audits (including the elimination of an initial backlog of 558 unresolved audit reports), required that interest be paid on all overdue audit recoveries including appealed audit decisions (to discourage frivolous appeals and delaying tactics), instituted a quarterly reconciliation of automated Accounts Receivable and IG records to ensure that all amounts due EPA are billed and collected, and strengthened our management to prevent future accumulation of another backlog of unresolved audits.
- o Pilot Streamlined Procurement Process - This pilot program reduces the optimum lead time for new competitive contracts under \$500,000 by 33%, speeding up our operation while reducing our resource needs.
- o Consolidated Financial Assistance - We are consolidating financial assistance programs to make it easier for states to do business with us. Our consolidation allows a single application for all program funds, a single comprehensive public review, a coordinated EPA review process, consolidated reporting by the grantee, a single evaluation, and an integrated audit. Our approach recognizes that needs vary from state to state. Consolidation is voluntary, and an agency which prefers to receive separate categorical awards may do so. The mechanism is flexible so that an agency may consolidate some of its assistance while continuing to be eligible for categorical awards under other programs. Consolidation is also adaptable, and the decision whether or how much to use the mechanism to coordinate program activities will be made by each state agency.
- o Revised Directives System - Piloting a new analytical methodology, the Management and Organization Division conducted a cost/effectiveness review of the agency's Directives System. The result of the study was a plan to redesign the System to improve its effectiveness while lowering the agency's costs by about \$700,000.
- o Forms and Publications Contract - By renegotiating our Forms and Publications Center contract, we will reduce our annual expenditure by \$49,177.
- o Delivery and Receiving Contracts - We have combined these two functions into a single solicitation at a savings of \$68,388 annually--without any change in service.



- o RTP Facility Services - During FY 82 we expect to save approximately \$114,000 in RTP facility operating costs by eliminating two guard stations and substituting card readers, and by reducing the frequency of some custodial tasks.
- o Protection of Workers Doing Superfund Clean Up - We are working on three levels to protect workers involved in Superfund activities.
  - EPA employees are required to have 24 hours of approved training in field safety and use of protective equipment prior to performing this work, and we are evaluating safety activities at field location vis-a-vis the safety programs we have developed for protecting EPA employees. We are using special experts from NIOSH for these evaluations.
  - Our primary contractors are well aware of our insistence that their programs to protect their employees be models of good practice, so that their programs can be adopted by other employers.
  - We are working under a Memorandum of Understanding with DOL/OSHA, DHHS/NIOSH and DOT/Coast Guard to develop the occupational health and safety programs required by the National Contingency Plan.
- o Regional Reorganization - The Agency's Regional Offices have been reorganized to improve accountability and communication links between Headquarters and the Regions. The Assistant Administrator for Administration, as the final approval authority for the reorganizations, assured the compliance of the Regional Administrators' reorganization plans with the Administrator's organization structure objectives.
- o Reorganization of the Office of Air, Noise and Radiation (OANR) - OANR has been reorganized recently to integrate further the enforcement/compliance functions with the mobile and stationary source programs. The reorganization also eliminates the Office of Noise Abatement and Control, reflecting Congress' intention to abolish that program by fiscal year 1982.
- o Committee Management - We have evaluated the participation of EPA personnel in over 860 different international, interagency, EPA and other committees and discontinued participation in over 130 resulting in savings of \$2.1 million in reduced investment of staff resources in these functions. These savings translate into greater productivity of personnel in their non-committee work assignments.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
September 20, 1982

C7  
any thoughts

MEMORANDUM TO MICHAEL DEEVER

FROM: ANTHONY R. DOLAN *ma*

SUBJECT: Lead Poisoning

Here is a social problem that touches a strong emotional note among most Americans, especially the poor and their advocates. It is a problem that with intelligent action by the private sector could probably be largely eliminated. Isn't it a perfect matter for the Private Sector Task Force? Shouldn't the President at some point announce the initiative? Thought you'd like to see this column by Will on this point.

9/26  
Mike —  
EPA got well  
deserved credit a  
few weeks ago for  
its action restricting  
lead additives. The  
inspection programs  
will refer to are local  
programs.  
We'll check out  
what might be possible  
on the PSI front.  
Caly



## The new... (cont.)

Gemayel, it may be that the only way out is a Lebanese state with an Israeli zone of influence in the south and a Syrian zone up north.

Still, the evolution is clear enough. Insofar as Damascus keeps moving toward the United States, it becomes possible to achieve some kind of settlement for Lebanon; security for the Persian Gulf; and peace between Israel and the Arabs. Thus the trick is to promote further movement in Syria. But how?

The incentive of peace is, no doubt, one element. In that respect, President Reagan's recent proposals meet a requirement and this country needs to continue with efforts to bring Jordan and the Palestinians into negotiations with Egypt and Israel. But the spur of force is another important element. After all, it has been the military threat by the Israelis that set in motion the basic change in the politics of Arab.

So once again, in the Middle East as elsewhere, the United States must bal-

ance the promise of peace against the risk of war. The continued threat of Israeli action is essential to the achievement of this country's objectives in Lebanon and in the Persian Gulf. Eventually, of course, the United States will have to wring from Israel concessions that make possible peace with the Arabs. But it would be foolish, in the interim, for Washington to throw away present opportunities in order to pursue a quarrel with Israel about the future conditions of the Palestinians that is, at this stage, necessarily academic.

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.. Thursday, September 16, 1982

THE WASHINGTON POST

George F. Will

# The Poison Poor Children Breathe

A synonym for "leaden" is "dull," but the problem of lead in the environment is fascinating. It is a childhood health problem that illustrates how society's hazards are often distributed regressively—persons lowest on the social ladder have special handicaps for climbing.

Recently the Reagan administration moved to strengthen restrictions on lead additives in gasoline. Although different refiners have different interests, this was basically a victory for environmentalists over industry. One refinery blamed the decision on "politics." Well, yes; politics is the assignment of social values and costs in accordance with a concept of equity. The Republican role in God's plan may generally be to lighten regulations, but this case illustrates how strong government can serve conservative values.

America uses 1.3 million tons of lead annually; 600,000 tons of this useful, ubiquitous and toxic metal are released into the environment. Because of high metabolism rates, children are especially susceptible to lead poisoning, which can cause retardation, brain damage, anemia, seizures, hyperactivity and death. Analysis of polar ice layers suggests that lead in the environment has increased 200-fold since industrialism began.

People are exposed to lead from food, household dust and the air. Burning a tankful of gasoline emits, according to one study, up to two ounces of lead. Upwards of 28 million buildings have lead-based paint, which tastes sweet to children. A flake the size of a fingernail can be damaging. Some pre-1950 houses have paint with 100 times more lead than is now permitted. Lead in paint is the most dan-

gerous source, but reduce lead in gasoline and you will reduce lead in children. The mean blood-level of lead in children has declined 25 percent since the beginning of restrictions on lead in gasoline.

According to one study, 4 percent of preschool children have excessive levels of lead in their blood. That would be dismaying enough even if the distribution were geographically, and hence socially, even. But high lead concentrations are among the things that, say, Shaker Heights and downtown Cleveland do not share equally. The percentage of black preschoolers with excessive lead levels is six times that of white preschoolers. Other studies indicate excessive levels in one-fifth of black children from low-income families.

Children often are deficient in iron, calcium and zinc. Poor children are especially apt to be deficient. The more deficient children are, the more apt they are to absorb lead. Federal budget cutting and recession-related reductions of local revenues have reduced programs for screening for lead poisoning in children, and for removing lead-based paint from old buildings. Philadelphia's health commissioner says that if the city loses 10 percent of its lead-poisoning detection funds, that means 200 fewer homes visited, and five more cases of retardation. Studies have found correlations between even relatively low elevations of lead blood-levels and measurable reductions of IQ.

Any childhood disease that threatens affluent children as lead poisoning threatens poor children would produce public action faster than you can say "swine flu." As things are, government spends upwards of \$1 billion annually on children with lead poisoning,

80 percent on special education for the learning-disabled.

Conservatives dissolve in admiration for this insight: "There is no free lunch." It means: someone must pay for anything that has costs. That, although hardly a sunburst, is true enough. So is this: society shall pay (for example, with slightly higher energy costs) for reducing lead use; and society shall continue to pay a lot (for injuries to its human capital) if it does not reduce lead use.

In Saul Bellow's most recent novel, "The Dean's December," a scientist offers "the real explanation of what goes on" in slums: "Millions of tons of intractable lead residues poisoning the children of the poor. . . . Crime and social disorganization in inner-city populations can all be traced to the effects of lead. It comes down to the nerves, to brain damage."

The dean thinks: "Direct material causes? Of course. Who could deny them? But what was odd was that no other causes were conceived of." The dean is properly dubious about thoroughgoing materialism, that neglects society's cultural, spiritual ingredients. But the body is not just a temple in which the mind rattles about; the mind is not a ghost in a machine.

Mind is grounded in matter, woven into our physical constitutions. Conservatives, who rightly prefer equality of opportunity to equality of outcome as a social goal, have yet to come to terms with how complex and elusive their goal is, in light of all that we are learning about social influences on human capacity.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 20, 1982

Dear Christine:

Thank you for your letter describing your concerns over the revocation of Executive Order 11643.

First, I wish to assure you that the President had the benefit of advice from several Cabinet-level officers, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Council on Environmental Quality prior to making his decision to revoke the order. The Interior Department consulted fully with the other agencies in arriving at its recommendation and informed them of its views.

As you note in your letter, the repeal has no practical consequence because EPA has not licensed any chemical agents for predator control.

We believe that the circumstances that gave rise to the need for an absolute prohibition of the type contained in Executive Order 11643 no longer exist. Since promulgation of the order, Congress has enacted the Endangered Species Act and various statutes directing EPA to impose stringent controls on the use of chemical toxicants.

If a chemical predator control agent can meet the EPA's standards, we believe that the environment will not be threatened. Thus, rather than have the President in effect directly regulating the use of substances that are supposedly regulated by EPA, we believed it appropriate to rescind the Executive Order as obsolete and duplicative of the statutes passed subsequent to its promulgation.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Ms. Christine Stevens  
Society for Animal  
Protective Legislation  
P.O. Box 3719 Georgetown Station  
Washington, D.C. 20007

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 19, 1982

NOTE FOR MIKE DEEVER

FROM: CRAIG FULLER

CF

I was directly involved in this matter. The decision was made to withdraw the Executive Order so that in the event EPA lifts the ban on the chemical in question -- all attention wouldn't shift to the White House. Such determinations should be made by EPA not the White House. It was a foolish Executive Order.

g/l

Mike  
Draft is for  
your approval.  
Bar

OFFICE OF CABINET AFFAIRS  
ACTION TRACKING WORKSHEET

## Action resulting from:

- ☒ document (attached)  
☐ telephone call  
☐ meeting (attach conference report if available)

Document Date: 82 / 03 / 11

From: Christine Stevens

Society for Animal Protective  
Legislation

Date Received: 82 / 03 / 19

Subject: Withdrawal of Ex. Order which kept the Federal Govt.  
from using certain poisons on the public lands.

## ACTION CODES:

A — Appropriate Action

D — Draft Response

R — Direct Reply w/Copy

B — Briefing Paper

F — Furnish Fact Sheet

S — For Signature

C — Comment/Recommendation I — Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary

X — Interim Reply

## ROUTE TO:

Date Sent	Name	Action Codes	Date Due	Action Taken
82 / 04 / 01	(1) Becky Norton Dunlop	D	82 / 04 / 09	
82 / 04 / 02	Andrews	A	82 / 04 / 09	
82 / 04 / 15	Fuller		1 / 1	draft attached
1 / 1			1 / 1	
1 / 1			1 / 1	
1 / 1			1 / 1	

COMMENTS: (1) Have Khedouri's people draft a reply for Deaver's signature.

CLF knows all the background if there are questions.

Originator: ☐ Dunlop ☐ Faoro ☒ Fuller ☐ Gonzalez ☐ Hart ☐ Hodapp

KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING MATERIAL AND  
WHEN THE ASSIGNED ACTION IS COMPLETE,  
RETURN TO:

Office of Cabinet Affairs  
Attention: Karen Hart (x-2823)  
West Wing/Ground Floor

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Don Crabill  
FROM: Chris Andrews *CA*  
SUBJECT: Draft Response for Mike Deaver  
Signature; re: EO 11643

Attached is the letter to Mike Deaver about which we spoke over the telephone. Our deadline has caught up on us, and I would appreciate it if you could help in expediting the process. If you would draft a response for Deaver's signature and send it back to me it would be a great help.

You can see that Craig Fuller has the background on this subject, and you should direct your questions to him.



SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION

P. O. Box 3719  
Georgetown Station  
Washington, D.C. 20007

069326

(202) 337-2334

March 11, 1982

Honorable Michael Deaver  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mike:

*CF what is this?*

Thanks for suggesting that I might send you a note on our great concern over the withdrawal of the Presidential Executive Order initiated by President Nixon and reconfirmed with some modifications by President Ford and President Carter. The original Executive Order was No. 11643, should you wish to refer to it. The Order was popularly referred to as "taking the Federal Government out of the poison business." Up until that time the Federal Government was spending millions of dollars each year spreading predator poisons on the public lands. The Executive Order ended use by Federal officials of thallium, 1080, strychnine and cyanide. Wool growers have regularly protested against this Executive Order, however, extensive hearings have repeatedly shown that the Order was a wise one.

It is our understanding that the recommendation came from the Department of the Interior to the President which led him to strike down the Executive Order of three former presidents. Interior officials made a specific effort to keep their plan to make this recommendation secret, as we know from a frank discussion with one of them.

Naturally, the many groups and individuals who have long been interested in this matter and who applauded the Republican initiative which brought about the poison ban, are tremendously concerned.

Loss of the Executive Order itself has no immediate effect, because at present these predacides are not registered, however, an extremely costly and complicated proceeding is now underway at EPA with the apparent intent by the agency of releasing these poisons for use on the public lands.

The EPA hearings are expected to be lengthy. Both sides will lay out arguments. It is regrettable that the Executive Order was stricken even before the formal hearing. Because the poison question unites conservation groups and anti-cruelty groups, very large numbers of people are extremely upset.

We have been given to understand that Interior first planned to recommend to the President only a modification of the Executive Order. Then they decided it would be "simpler" just to wipe out the Order altogether. It appears, therefore, that the President was not given the full information which would have enabled him to make his own decision. I hope it may be possible for him to reinstate the Executive Order with modifications no more wide-ranging than those made by other Administrations.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

*Christine*

Christine Stevens  
Secretary



# Memo called proof of 'Superfund'

By Helen Winternitz  
Washington Bureau of The Sun

5-20-83

Washington — Michael Deaver, White House deputy chief of staff, and Rita M. Lavelle, the fired Environmental Protection Agency official, discussed how to time the announcement of "Superfund" grants to help Republicans in last year's elections, a House committee chairman charged yesterday.

Representative John D. Dingell (D, Mich.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, released a memorandum from Ms. Lavelle to Mr. Deaver that he said documented White House involvement in using the cleanup of hazardous-waste sites for political purposes.

The White House denied the charge and the ranking Republican member of the committee accused Mr. Dingell of trying to "rekindle" the controversy that resulted in the ouster of more than a dozen top EPA officials.

The memo proposed that President Reagan make a pre-election trip to New Jersey to announce grants to clean up hazardous-waste dump sites and to "support the candidacies of [Republican] New Jersey candidates."

The document, dated last September 13, also suggested that the president take an October trip to Indiana to announce a settlement for cleaning up a dump site there, a settlement that EPA and congressional sources have said was speeded up for political purposes.

The document, Mr. Dingell said, "makes clear that Ms. Lavelle and Mr. Deaver had been discussing the use of Superfund for the intended benefit" of Republican candidates in the November election.

The Superfund, a special fund for cleaning up the country's worst hazardous-waste dumps, was administered by Miss Lavelle until she was fired earlier this year and became the center of a controversy about mismanagement and unethical conduct at the EPA.

Mr. Deaver, however, did not take Miss Lavelle up on her proposals, and yesterday shrugged off the charges made at a press conference by Mr. Dingell and Representative James J. Florio (D, N.J.), who chairs a House Energy subcommittee that has been investigating the Superfund.

"They're making a mountain out of a molehill," Mr. Deaver said through a White House spokesman.

Mr. Deaver said he asked the White House scheduling office to send Miss Lavelle a routine response thanking her for the suggestions, but he denied having any oral discussions with the former EPA official.

Mr. Dingell and other congressional investigators have previously charged that the \$1.6 billion Superfund was politically manipulated. But, he said yesterday that the memo from Miss Lavelle shows "there was closer political involvement by White House officials in the Superfund program than has heretofore been acknowledged."

Mr. Dingell also said that his subcommittee, one of six congressional panels investigating the agency, has heard sworn testimony in closed sessions that another high-ranking White House official was in contact with Miss Lavelle "just about every day." He refused to name the official, but sources said he was referring to Craig L. Fuller, presidential assistant for cabinet affairs.

Mr. Fuller denied having any special or frequent meetings with Miss Lavelle, who he said had been present at perhaps half a dozen routine business sessions with other agency officials.

Terming Mr. Dingell's charges "ridiculous," Mr. Fuller also said he had not participated in discussions about putting the Superfund to political use. He and other White House officials were aware of Miss Lavelle's proposal, he said, but "decided it was not a particularly good opportunity, and we never gave it serious thought."

Representative James T. Broyhill (R, N.C.), the ranking Republican on the House committee, said that yesterday's press conference was an attempt by the committee chairman "to rekindle partisan political flames" that had subsided since the appointment of William Ruckelshaus as EPA administrator.

Representative Florio, who was described in Miss Lavelle's memo as "the leading critic of EPA in the House of Representatives," said that using the Superfund for publicity went beyond the traditional political uses of announcements "of things like buildings being built, because you're dealing here with something that affects the public's health and safety."

Mr. Florio said the agency has not yet acted on any of its promises.

Miss Lavelle recommended in her memo that President Reagan appear in Trenton, N.J., to announce the EPA grants. Although the president did not make the trip, former EPA administrator Anne Gorsuch Burford did, and on September 23 made a joint announcement with Republican Governor Thomas Kean, according to Mr. Dingell.

politics





Chicago Trib. 5-20-83

# Lavelle plan to misuse fund charged

WASHINGTON [AP] — Top White House aide Michael Deaver and fired Environmental Protection Agency official Rita M. Lavelle discussed timing announcements of "superfund" grants to help Republican candidates in the 1982 elections, a House committee chairman charged Thursday.

Rep. John Dingell (D., Mich.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, released a memorandum dated Sept. 13, 1982, from Lavelle to Deaver, discussing the political effect of announcing grants from the \$1.6 billion fund in New Jersey and Indiana and suggesting that President Reagan participate.

There was no indication of Deaver's response nor proof that decisions on awarding grants — as opposed to announcing them — were influenced by politics.

HOWEVER, DINGELL charged, the memo "makes clear that Ms. Lavelle and Mr. Deaver had been discussing the use of

'superfund' for the intended benefit of certain congressional candidates, a governor and the president of the United States. . . . 'Clearly, there was closer political involvement by White House officials in the 'superfund' program than has heretofore been acknowledged," Dingell said.

Lavelle was the assistant EPA administrator in charge of the \$1.6 billion "superfund" program to clean up abandoned chemical waste dumps until Reagan fired her on Feb. 7. Half a dozen congressional committees are investigating EPA's handling of the fund, with charges of political manipulation one focus of the probes.

ON WEDNESDAY, the House voted 413-0 to cite Lavelle for contempt of Congress for refusing to testify before Dingell's Investigations Subcommittee. Dingell said the memo and other information released Thursday showed why her testimony remains essential.

Deaver denied that the Lavelle memo showed any effort by the White House to manipulate the "superfund" program. "They're making a mountain out of a molehill," he said.

He said he asked the White House scheduling office to send Lavelle a routine reply, thanking her for the suggestions. He also denied having any oral discussions with Lavelle about the "superfund."

"I never was discussed with me," he said. "I never discussed anything with her. I might have passed her in the halls a few times."

THE MEMO FROM Lavelle describes several clean-up sites in terms of whose congressional districts they are in and says Reagan's participation in an announcement would give him a chance to "summarize the successes of all of EPA as well as support the candidates of New Jersey candidates."

Rep. James Florio (D., N.J.), chairman of another subcommittee investigating EPA, said the political concerns over timing indicated political manipulation of the fund.

"The offensive part of this was that for a year and a half, the law was not used for appropriate purposes," Florio said. "Nobody did anything for a year and a half on the merits, and then everyone gets all charged up for the six months before an election."

DINGELL SAID the Lavelle memo was not the only link between EPA and the White House.

He said the calendars of both Lavelle and then-EPA Administrator Anne Burford showed a meeting Sept. 21 with presidential counselor Edwin Meese to discuss the "superfund." Two days later, he said, Burford traveled to New Jersey to announce "superfund" actions.

"In all during a three-week period in September, 1982, EPA allocated or obligated funds for 'superfund' activities at 17 New Jersey sites," Dingell said. The Lavelle memo had suggested that announcements on New Jersey sites would help the campaign of Republican Senate candidate Millicent Fenwick.

HE SAID LAVELLE also proposed that Reagan participate in a clean-up announcement in September in Seymour, Ind.

"It has become clear . . . that the Seymour site was put on an election track in early September, 1982, with a political deadline of October so that the announcement could be made in advance of the November election," Dingell said.

Reagan did not participate in the announcement, however, and Dingell said there was no evidence linking the President to political timing.

Dingell also said that sworn testimony before his investigations subcommittee indicated that a high

White House official was in contact with Lavelle "just about every day."

HE REFUSED to name the official but said, "This same White House official has denied in the press ever calling Ms. Lavelle or returning her calls." The only senior White House official to issue such formal denials has been Meese, who held the Bible at Lavelle's swearing-in but insisted after Reagan fired her that he knew her only remotely.

Asked about those denials, Dingell responded, "If I were in Mr. Meese's shoes, I would probably not remember Ms. Lavelle very well either." However, he refused to confirm that the "high-ranking White House official" was Meese.

Dingell called on Reagan to release the report by presidential counsel Fred Fielding on his internal investigation of White House ties with EPA.

He noted that at the swearing-in of new EPA Administrator William D. Ruckelshaus on Wednesday, Reagan had called for "a new beginning" at the agency.

"In light of the new information now available, we call on the President to mark the 'new beginning' by coming clean about his staff's past involvement with EPA's 'superfund' and Ms. Lavelle," Dingell said.

# Memo discloses 'Superfund' strategy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top White House aide Michael Deaver and fired Environmental Protection Agency official Rita Lavelle discussed timing announcements of "Superfund" grants to help Republican candidates in the 1982 elections, a House committee chairman charged Thursday.

Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, released a Sept. 13, 1982, memorandum from Ms. Lavelle to Deaver in which she discussed the po-

litical impact of announcing grants from the \$1.6 billion fund in New Jersey and Indiana and suggested that President Reagan participate.

There was no indication of Deaver's response nor proof that decisions on the awarding of grants — as opposed to the announcement of them — was influenced by politics.

But, Dingell charged, the memo "makes clear that Ms. Lavelle and Mr. Deaver had been discussing the use of Superfund for the intended benefit of certain congressional candidates, a

governor and the president of the United States."

Ms. Lavelle was the assistant EPA administrator in charge of the \$1.6 billion Superfund program to clean up abandoned chemical waste dumps until she was fired by Reagan on Feb. 7. A half dozen congressional committees are investigating EPA's handling of the fund, with charges of political manipulation one focus of the probes.

Deaver denied that the Lavelle memo showed any effort at White House manipulation of the superfund



## **Lavelle Proposed That Reagan Reveal EPA Aid to Help GOP, Memo Says**

By RONALD J. OSTROW, *Times Staff Writer*

WASHINGTON—Rita M. Lavelle, the ousted hazardous-waste chief for the Environmental Protection Agency, proposed to the White House that President Reagan announce the award of \$5.2 million in federal cleanup contracts to help the candidacies of New Jersey Republicans, according to a memorandum disclosed Thursday.

Rep. John D. Dingell, House Energy Committee chairman, said in releasing the memo that it "confirms clear politicization of (the \$1.6-billion) 'superfund,'" but he conceded that he had no evidence of any reply or action by Michael K. Deaver, deputy White House chief of staff, the official to whom the proposal was sent.

At the same time, Dingell said that his investigations subcommittee had received sworn testimony in closed session that "another high-ranking White House official was in contact with Ms. Lavelle 'just about every day.'" Dingell said it would not be "appropriate" to disclose the official's name at this time but said that it was not Edwin Meese III, counselor to the President.

### **Six Sites Involved**

The Sept. 13, 1982, memo from Lavelle to Deaver is titled "Positive Environmental Action for President." She proposed that Reagan announce from Trenton, N.J.—accompanied by Gov. Thomas H. Kean and Reps. Edwin B. Forsythe and Millicent Fenwick, all Republicans—the federal awards for cleaning up six hazardous-waste sites in the state.

"From this platform the President can summarize the successes of all of EPA as well as support the candidacies of New Jersey candidates, including Millicent Fenwick," the memo said. Fenwick was an unsuccessful Senate candidate last year.

"For some unknown reason, the President did not make these announcements," Dingell said at a press conference Thursday.

"However, the calendars of both Ms. Lavelle and Administrator Gorsuch reflect that they met with Mr. Ed Meese . . . at the White House on Sept. 21st to discuss superfund," Dingell said.

Gorsuch—now Anne McGill Burford—and Kean announced the awarding of the federal contracts two days later in Trenton, Dingell said.

He contended that the memorandum "makes clear that Ms. Lavelle and Mr. Deaver had been discussing the use of superfund for the intended benefit of certain congressional candidates, a governor and the President."

Deaver denied Thursday that he ever had any oral discussions with Lavelle about the superfund. As for her memo, Deaver said he had asked the White House scheduling office to send Lavelle a routine reply thanking her for the suggestions.

### **Share in 'Limelight'**

At the bottom of the two-page memorandum, Lavelle penned an added comment, which said in part: "Again thanks for the opportunity. I know Anne and the governor would love to share the 'limelight.' Rita." Dingell, noting that the House voted 413 to 0 Wednesday to cite Lavelle for contempt of Congress for refusing to testify before Dingell's investigations subcommittee, said the new disclosures show why her testimony is "essential."

In the memo, Lavelle also proposed that Reagan "may wish to go to Seymour, Ind., in October to participate in announcement of private-sector cooperation in remedial action at another large hazardous-waste site."

Reagan did not make that trip, either. But Dingell noted that after Lavelle's firing in February, the new team of EPA officials asked the Justice Department to investigate the facts surrounding the Seymour award for "the possibility of a criminal violation involving political manipulation of the superfund."

Disclosure of the Lavelle memo to Deaver marks the second instance in which Lavelle's activities have involved White House officials in possible political actions affecting the superfund.

In March, the same House subcommittee made public documents showing that James M. Medas, presidential assistant for intergovernmental affairs, had suggested to Lavelle that the EPA should "bend over backwards" to help White-House-approved gubernatorial candidates get quick action on cleaning up toxic chemical dumps in their states.

After that disclosure, presidential counsel Fred F. Fielding said he was conducting a further internal investigation to determine whether any other White House contacts with Lavelle, whom Reagan fired, had gone unreported.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Thursday that the Fielding investigation is still under way.

Dingell, asked by reporters why he had not shown the Lavelle memo to Deaver and questioned him about it before making it public, said, "I figure you'd do that for me."



# Political Use of Toxic Cleanups Charged by Dingell

5-20-83

By PHILIP SHABECOFF

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 19 — A House subcommittee today released material indicating that an official of the Environmental Protection Agency had discussed with White House aides ways the Reagan Administration could take political credit for cleaning up toxic waste.

The subcommittee's chairman, Representative John D. Dingell, Democrat of Michigan, said the material raised questions about "political manipulation" of a \$1.6 billion fund to clean up toxic waste. But White House officials said that they had never urged or participated in political use of the cleanup program.

A review by Fred F. Fielding, counsel to President Reagan, of White House aides' contacts with the environmental agency has turned up no evidence of involvement in timing announcements on the use of the toxic waste fund for political purposes, according to a Presidential aide.

However, the White House does not intend to make Mr. Fielding's findings public or to inform Congress about them, the aide said.

## Denial of Use of This Fund

Past administrations have frequently announced programs at times to yield political advantage. The Reagan Administration has consistently denied that it has ever done so with respect to the toxic waste program.

The evidence presented by the House Energy and Commerce Committee's investigations subcommittee included a memorandum from Rita M. Lavelle,

then head of the agency's waste programs, to Michael K. Deaver, the deputy White House chief of staff. The memorandum, dated Sept. 13, 1982, proposed that President Reagan travel to New Jersey and to Seymour, Ind., to announce grants under the \$1.6 million fund to clean up toxic waste sites.

Miss Lavelle suggested in the memorandum that Republican candidates for Governor and Senator in New Jersey appear with the President and also noted that two of the sites lay in the district of Representative James J. Florio, whom she described as a "leading critic of the E.P.A. in the House of Representatives." The President did not make the trip.

In a handwritten note at the bottom of the memorandum, Miss Lavelle urged that the Administration start claiming credit for the "success story" of the toxic waste program, known as the "superfund," and expressed thanks to Mr. Deaver "for the opportunity" to do so.

## 'He Just Refuses to Believe It'

Reached at her home tonight, Miss Lavelle said, "It is the height of frustration for Mr. Dingell to try to prove something that isn't there. There was no political manipulation of the fund, and he just refuses to believe it."

Mr. Dingell said at a news conference today that the memorandum "makes clear that Miss Lavelle and Mr. Deaver had been discussing the use of superfund for the intended benefit of certain Congressional candidates, a Governor and the President of the United States."

In a telephone interview, Mr. Deaver called Mr. Dingell's charges "a bunch of baloney."

Mr. Dingell also said that the subcommittee, in closed session, had received sworn testimony by two witnesses who reported that "another high-ranking White House official was in contact with Ms. Lavelle 'just about about every day.'"

Many of these contacts occurred in November 1982, around the time of the national elections, he said.

Mr. Dingell did not identify the White House official. But it was learned later that the witnesses had been talking about Craig L. Fuller, assistant to the President for Cabinet affairs. The witnesses, an official of the environmental agency and a private citizen, reportedly told the subcommittee they had heard Mr. Fuller himself talk about these contacts.

## Need for Miss Lavelle Cited

Mr. Dingell said that Miss Lavelle's memorandum to Mr. Deaver and her "almost daily contact with another high ranking official raise serious questions about the political manipulation of the superfund." "This is one important reason why the subcommittee's investigation required and continues to require the testimony of Ms. Lavelle," he said.

The House voted Wednesday to cite Miss Lavelle for contempt of Congress for refusing to comply with a subpoena to testify before Mr. Dingell's subcommittee. The same day William D. Ruckelshaus was sworn in as the new Administrator of the environmental agency, succeeding Mrs. Burford, who, along with Miss Lavelle and a dozen other Presidential appointees, left the agency amid Congressional investigations.

Mr. Dingell said today, "Clearly, there was closer political involvement by the White House officials in the superfund program than has heretofore been acknowledged."

Mr. Deaver said that three days after receiving Miss Lavelle's memorandum "I wrote her back saying thanks but no thanks." He said the President's schedule had been filled and he had no time

for trips to New Jersey or Indiana.

Mr. Deaver said, "I can't recall ever having any contact with Rita Lavelle in her whole tenure." He called the memorandum from her "a minor thing" and one of the "very few communications" between his office and the agency.

He said he did not know of any White House discussion about using the toxic waste fund for political purposes. "I doubt if it ever occurred," he said and added: "To take a routine memo and imply that I'm in collusion is simply stretching the truth a good deal."

## Fuller Denies Charges

Mr. Fuller said that he had heard "speculation" that he was the unnamed person at the White House who communicated with Miss Lavelle but said it was not true that he had daily contact with her.

He said that generally dealt with Mrs. Burford and he recalled that he met with Miss Lavelle only five or six times while she was at the agency.

"I know at times she would call the office but I don't recall having telephone conversations with her," he said.

Mr. Fuller said that he neither participated in nor knew of any political discussions involving the toxic waste fund.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ruckelshaus, in his first full day as head of the agency, issued a set of "operating principles" to assure that the agency operates "as openly as possible." The principles reverse, in a number of cases, operating procedures of the agency under Mrs. Burford, particularly in calling for "the fullest possible public participation in decision-making."

Mr. Ruckelshaus said that the agency must communicate "with everyone from environmentalists to those we regulate" and not "accord special status to any special interest groups."



# Dingell assails Lavelle EPA memo

By Joyce Gempertlein 5-20-83  
*Inquirer Washington Bureau*

WASHINGTON — Rep. John D. Dingell said yesterday that a memorandum from former Environmental Protection Agency official Rita M. Lavelle confirmed that the Superfund toxic-waste-cleanup program had been manipulated to help candidates preferred by the White House.

The Sept. 13, 1982, memo, made public by Dingell (D., Mich.), was addressed to Michael K. Deaver, deputy White House chief of staff.

It suggested that President Reagan make pre-election announcements of remedial and cleanup work at six hazardous-waste sites in New Jersey, and it noted that two sites were in the district of Rep. James J. Florio (D., N.J.), a "leading critic of EPA."

Reagan "can summarize the successes of all of EPA as well as support the candidacies of New Jersey (Republican congressional) candidates ... " by visiting Trenton to tout the program and announce the cleanup work, the memo said.

Dingell, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on oversights and investigations, said he did not know whether Deaver had responded to the memo. But he added that "I read this to indicate there were discussions" about using the \$1.6 billion cleanup fund for political purposes.

"That's rubbish," Deaver said in a telephone interview. "He [Dingell] is right in saying that I did receive the



Michael Deaver  
Calls charge 'rubbish'

memo. Two days later I responded and said thank you but no thanks. It seems to me that that's a rather large leap of faith ... to say that this shows political collusion."

Deaver suggested that Dingell's motivations were "political ... but you'd have to ask him." He said he had never spoken to Lavelle while she was in Washington.

"It never was discussed with me," he said. "I never discussed anything with her. I might have passed her in the hall a few times."

At one point in the memo, Lavelle suggested that Reagan hold his news conference at 10 a.m. for maximum press coverage.

"From this platform the President can summarize the successes of all of EPA as well as support the candidacies of New Jersey candidates, including Millicent Fenwick," she wrote.

Fenwick, defeated last year in a race for the U.S. Senate, could not be reached at her home yesterday.

Reagan did not make the Trenton trip and the subsequent announcements were made by EPA officials and New Jersey's Republican Gov. Thomas Kean.

Florio said the efforts to make announcements of Superfund disbursements in his state — which has 65 of the 418 nationwide sites identified by EPA as of high priority for Superfund — were doubly devious because "they had never done anything with this law for 1½ years."

"Then they roll it into action for purposes of political puffery," said Florio. "Nothing had happened in New Jersey until then and nothing has happened since then. Not a dollar has been spent in New Jersey for toxic-waste cleanup."

Dingell also disclosed that his subcommittee had received private testimony that another high-ranking White House official contacted Lavelle "just about daily" before the 1982 elections. He declined to name the official but said that in published

reports he had denied knowing Lavelle well.

Dingell noted that the White House has never released a report by presidential counsel Fred Fielding on the extent and nature of White House contacts with Lavelle and the Superfund program.

Congressional sources said Dingell's news conference was meant to pressure the White House into releasing that report, and to show that the subcommittee had not forgotten the EPA controversy even though a new administrator had been sworn in Wednesday.

"The President said yesterday during the swearing-in of the new EPA administrator [William D. Ruckelshaus] that too much time has been spent in 'fault-finding, recrimination and innuendo,' Dingell said. "We call on the President to mark the new beginning by coming clean about his staff's past involvement" with Superfund and Lavelle.

The news conference with Dingell and Florio came one day after the House voted 413-0 to hold Lavelle in contempt of Congress for refusing to testify about politicking and mismanagement in the Superfund program.

Florio said he and Dingell released the memo because of intimations that Lavelle was "a loose cannon on deck." This reveals that she was getting guidance from people in positions of authority in the White House, they said.

USA Today 5-20-83

### Memo points to politics in Superfund

Former Environmental Protection Agency official Rita Lavelle discussed with White House staff the political uses of the \$1.6 billion Superfund toxic waste cleanup program she directed, Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., charged Thursday. Dingell released a 1982 memo from Lavelle to presidential senior adviser Michael Deaver that referred to how Superfund projects in Indiana and New Jersey could be announced to benefit candidates favored by the White House. Lavelle was fired Feb. 7 by President Reagan. The waste cleanup program is under congressional investigation. In another development, Lavelle said in an interview published Thursday the government's decision to buy out dioxin-tainted Times Beach, Mo., was a "terrible precedent. The decision was wrong — I'm really convinced that it was never an emergency," she told *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.



<sup>AP</sup>  
**LAVELLE:** Buying Times Beach "terrible precedent."



# Lavelle Wrote to Deaver On Grants, '82 Politics

5-20-83

By Cass Peterson  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Rita M. Lavelle, former head of the Environmental Protection Agency's hazardous waste cleanup division, outlined a strategy for turning the "Superfund" toxic dump cleanup fund to President Reagan's political advantage in a pre-election memo last year to White House deputy chief of staff Michael K. Deaver.

The White House repeatedly has denied any contact between presidential aides and EPA officials on use of the fund, which is designed to clean up dumps that present an immediate health hazard.

House Energy and Commerce Chairman John D. Dingell (D-Mich.) released the memo yesterday in a news conference, saying that it "confirms clear politicization" of the \$1.6 billion Superfund.

"This memorandum makes clear that Ms. Lavelle and Mr. Deaver had been discussing the use of Su-

perfund for the intended benefit of certain congressional candidates, a governor and the president of the United States," Dingell said.

The memo urged Reagan to travel to New Jersey Sept. 17, 1982, to announce the award of six cleanup grants and "support the candidacies of New Jersey candidates, including Millicent Fenwick." Fenwick, then a New Jersey representative, was the unsuccessful Republican nominee for the Senate.

Lavelle suggested that the announcement might take place in Trenton, with then-EPA Administrator Anne M. Burford and New Jersey Gov. Thomas Kean in attendance, along with Fenwick and Rep. Edwin B. Forsythe (R-N.J.), whose district contained two of the dumps. "I know Anne and the governor would love to share the limelight," Lavelle added in a handwritten note.

Deaver characterized the memo

yesterday as an "innocuous letter," and said he responded with a routine letter declining the invitation.

Deaver said it was "not uncommon" for a government official to request the president's attendance at events.

But Rep. James J. Florio (D-N.J.), who joined Dingell at yesterday's news conference, accused the EPA of "duplicitous" in announcing 17 grants in a three-week period in September, 1982, just ahead of the November election.

"Nobody did anything for a year and a half on the merits, and then everyone gets all charged up for the six months before an election," Florio said. Despite the EPA announcements, "No money has actually been spent cleaning up at all," he said.

Dingell's release of the memo brought a sharp response from Rep. James T. Broyhill (R-N.C.), ranking Republican on the Energy and Commerce Committee, who accused Dingell of trying "to rekindle partisan political flames" in the face of President Reagan's efforts to restructure the scandal-rocked EPA.

Broyhill said Dingell had not presented "a scintilla of evidence indicating political manipulation of the Superfund."

White House counsel Fred F. Fielding launched a review in February of all contacts between the White House and the EPA, and expanded it in March when it was disclosed that his review had failed to unearth a July, 1982, meeting between Lavelle and White House intergovernmental affairs assistant James M. Medas, in which upcoming political races were discussed.

The results of Fielding's inquiries have never been released, but he said yesterday he was aware of the Sept. 13 memo to Deaver. Asked if the White House had suggested to Lavelle that political announcements of grants under the health-oriented Superfund might be unwise, he responded, "Not to my knowledge."

In her memo, Lavelle also suggested that in October, 1982, Reagan might want to go to Seymour, Ind., where the agency was preparing to announce a negotiated settlement for the partial cleanup of a large dump site.

The Seymour site has become a major target of congressional investigations into alleged political manipulation and mismanagement of the Superfund. EPA internal documents indicate that the negotiated agreement was approved over the strenuous objections of the agency's legal office, which argued that the EPA

should go to court to make sure it was getting a fair settlement. The agreement was announced Oct. 26, less than two weeks before the November elections.

Lavelle was cited for contempt of Congress on Wednesday for failing to obey a House subpoena to testify on Superfund management and allegations that the agency put grants on an "election track" for the 1982 campaigns.

Under oath to another congressional subcommittee last February, Lavelle testified that White House counselor Edwin Meese III or someone acting in his behalf asked her for status reports on some sites. Meese and Cabinet secretary Craig L. Fuller, whom Lavelle described as "most likely" to have called for Meese, have denied her statements.

Dingell, who conceded that the Energy subcommittee on oversight that he heads had no evidence that Deaver invited the letter or responded to it, also released a page from a notebook kept by a staff aide in the office of the EPA's general counsel. In it, the aide noted that "President Reagan wants to visit" the Seymour site.

The notation was dated Sept. 20, a week after Lavelle's memo to Deaver.

Reagan never made a trip to Seymour, and Deaver and Fielding said they did not believe that it was contemplated.

Wash Times

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# National

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## BRIEFLY / Capital

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### Politics charged on EPA grants

Top White House aide Michael Deaver and fired Environmental Protection Agency official Rita M. Lavelle discussed timing announcements of "super-fund" grants to help Republican candidates in the 1982 elections, a House committee chairman charged yesterday.

Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, released a Sept. 13, 1982, memorandum from Lavelle to Deaver discussing the political impact of announcing grants from the \$1.6 billion fund in New Jersey and Indiana and suggesting that President Reagan participate.

There was no indication of Deaver's response, nor proof that decisions on the awarding of grants — as opposed to the announcement of them — was influenced by politics.