

Toxinformer

Environmental Health Coalition

Volume 23, Issue 1

February, 2004

Globalization at the Crossroads

**Say NO
to the
FTAA!**

See center insert

**Protect San Diego
County's open spaces
Vote YES on Prop A
on March 2**
See Page 10 for details



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Environmental Health Coalition

Working for a Toxic-Free San Diego
1980-2004

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Environmental Health Coalition

Organizing for Justice

Environmental Health Coalition is dedicated to environmental and social justice. We believe that justice is achieved when empowered communities act together to make social change. We organize and advocate to protect public health and the environment threatened by toxic pollution. EHC supports efforts that create a just society which foster a healthy and sustainable quality of life.

The Border Environmental Justice Campaign (BEJC) works in solidarity with social justice groups in the border region to promote worker and community right-to-know about the chemicals used by the maquiladoras, to increase their capacity to influence conditions that directly affect their health, and to demand cleanup of abandoned and contaminated sites.



The Clean Bay Campaign (CBC) unites workers, bayside communities, and conservationists to clean up, restore and protect San Diego Bay as a clean and healthy multi-use water resource capable of supporting a diverse range of activities.

The Research and Community Assistance Program responds to the needs of residents by providing scientific, technical, and policy information and assistance, and empowering residents with appropriate and effective strategies.

The Toxic Free Neighborhoods Campaign (TFN) works with affected residents to promote land use and planning reforms, the relocation of hazardous industries to industrial zones, and the reduction of toxic air contaminants released by industry.



The Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning (CeCLP) works with community residents, housing advocates, health officials, and government agencies to eliminate the sources of lead exposure in San Diego County.

STAY INFORMED! BECOME A MEMBER OF EHC TODAY!

Yes, I want to become a member of EHC. I am enclosing my tax-deductible membership contribution of:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Students and Seniors | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Super Supporter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Toxic Avenger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Booster | <input type="checkbox"/> \$___ Other |

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (W) _____ (H) _____

Email: _____

Check enclosed Please charge my Visa Mastercard

Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Mail to: EHC, 1717 Kettner Blvd., Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92101

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Barrio Logan gets a break from diesel exhaust

Parking and idling trucks banned from the community

Diesel trucks are a serious cause of safety, noise and health problems in the San Diego's Logan Area, and Barrio Logan's flawed land use plan makes the trucks an unfair burden. Environmental Health Coalition celebrated a major victory in the fight against diesel pollution in January as the City of San Diego took action against a major source of truck pollution – diesel trucks that park and idle in the Barrio Logan community.

Concerned about hazardous diesel pollution from the trucks, Community Action Team members from EHC's Toxic-Free Neighborhood Campaign began organizing to end the parking problem. Team members took their concerns to District Eight City Councilmember Ralph Inzunza, and following a series of community meetings, the City addressed their concerns by approving much needed parking changes. The changes include the City installing a combination of signs prohibiting commercial truck parking, painting of diagonal spaces and red curbs



EHC's CAT Team members documented incidences of diesel trucks parking illegally in the community. The City of San Diego has addressed their concerns by approving a series of parking changes.

to prohibit truck parking, as well as the improved enforcement of new and existing parking regulations. Thanks to the hard work of Councilmember Inzunza and City staff, the changes should be completed this month.

Monseratt Hernandez, a Barrio Logan resident and CAT team member, said a major part of the victory is the City's acknowledgement and interest in the community's problems.

"This shows the importance of all the community meetings and work that we have done," Hernandez said. "We have many more residents involved than we did before, and people are starting to see the changes. But we know there's more work to be done. It's up to us."

Since some of the street painting has yet to be completed, EHC will remain



EHC Organizers and CAT Team members toured Barrio Logan with City of San Diego officials to point out problems that EHC and the community are working to fix.

Please see **PARKING**, Page 4



CAT Team member Monseratt Hernandez talks about the diesel truck problems in Barrio Logan with members of the Barrio Logan Environmental Justice Demonstration project.

PARKING, continued from Page 3

vigilant to ensure that it occurs and to ensure that the new restrictions are enforced.

Ending a long-term problem

For years, trucks seeking access to Port of San Diego terminal on the western side of Barrio Logan have used the community as a truck stop. Truckers would park their vehicles, sometimes illegally, and leave the truck to eat, go to sleep, or simply leave their trucks idling while they waited to enter the Port terminal.

In any other residential zone, tractor-trailer and heavy industrial trucks can park only while doing business and making deliveries. But thanks to Barrio Logan's hodge-podge of mixed industrial-residential zoning, no prohibitions were in place to ban trucks from using the community as a parking lot.

To combat this and other truck-related problems, CAT team members began building their own expertise on the issue. With the help of EHC organizers, team members performed counts of trucks traveling through the community, learned to use particle meters to measure pollution coming from trucks, talked to residents about problems they had observed, and documented parking violations with maps and photos. During all these activities, resi-

dents expressed an overwhelming concern with trucks parking and idling in the community, spewing the same deadly diesel fumes that the trucks emit when driving.

"The thing that motivated me most to work on this was the harm that pollution from these trucks has on the health of our children," Hernandez said.

Air assault

Data released from air sampling conducted by the California Air Resources Board (ARB) in 2002 shows

'People are starting to see the changes. But we know there's more work to be done. It's up to us.'
~ Monseratt Hernandez

elevated levels of diesel pollution in Barrio Logan. Diesel engines emit a high concentration of ultrafine particles, known to be particularly harmful to respiratory health. The ARB estimates that diesel particulate matter represents 70 percent of the cancer risk from air toxics in urban areas. Sources of diesel in the Barrio Logan/ Logan Heights area include diesel trucks, buses, ships, trains, and smaller diesel engines like forklifts and generators, which are prevalent throughout industries in the community.

EHC for years has been advocating for policies that will reduce residents' exposure to this deadly air toxic. This year, the San Diego City Council, the Port of San Diego, and CalTrans are taking a hard look at trucks and other land use problems, and EHC is working to give the community a voice in the decisions that will directly affect them.

TAKE ACTION!

Join EHC in demanding an end to toxic land uses in Barrio Logan! Come to a community meeting on February 19 to learn how you can get involved!

For more information, contact Maria Moya at (619) 235-0281 or email

MariaM@environmentalhealth.org

EHC claims a victory for children's health

Board of Education halts inadequate cleanup of contaminated school site

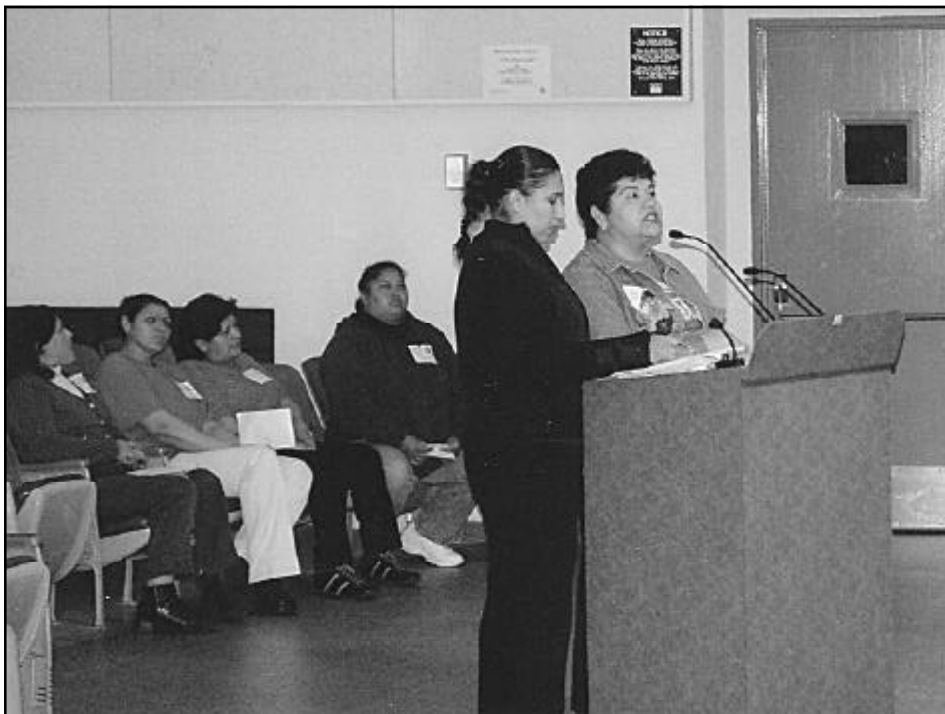
Determined to stop a school site cleanup plan that ignores risks to the health of Logan Heights children, Promotoras from Environmental Health Coalition's Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning took their demands to the San Diego City Schools Board of Education. On December 9, EHC claimed a major victory as the School Board moved to halt cleanup work at the proposed Logan Heights site until officials overseeing the project develop a protective cleanup plan.

The cleanup plan proposed for the Laura G. Rodriguez Elementary School site by the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the agency that oversees cleanup of the site, would have left behind soil with contaminants like lead and dioxins that pose serious health threats to children. Residents demanded that the School Board exercise its authority over the site and order DTSC and the School District to stop all cleanup activities until a precautionary cleanup plan is developed.

Martha Cortez, an EHC Promotora and community resident told the board that every child deserves a toxic-free learning environment. "Think about children's health before taking an action that does not respect the rights of the children nor benefits the health of the children," she said.

SDUSD proposed the construction of the new school on 6.5 acres located on Martin Avenue between 31st Street and 32nd Street in Logan Heights. Environmental investigations conducted at the site revealed elevated levels of lead, arsenic, cadmium, barium, zinc and dioxins.

"Children in this community already are exposed to everything from lead paint to diesel exhaust," said Leticia Ayala, Director of EHC's CeCLP Campaign. "This school should be a safe haven, not another place where our children are exposed to toxics that damage their health



Leticia Ayala, left, and Luz Palomina address the San Diego City Schools Board of Education with Promotoras from EHC's Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning.

and inhibit their ability to learn."

Following comments from EHC leaders, Board President Ron Ottinger said he would order a stop to the cleanup and ask SDUSD officials to meet with EHC and other stakeholders to develop a plan that addresses the community's concerns. Ayala said EHC plans to meet with DTSC and SDUSD officials in late February to develop the plan.

Making progress

The Board of Education's decision represents positive progress on an issue that began with DTSC ignoring the community's concerns about the site cleanup. Residents in September met with DTSC to demand that the agency conduct the most protective cleanup possible of lead and other contaminants found at the site. But officials from DTSC made no changes in the plan, forcing the community to take the issue to the Board of Education.

"The community knows that it's technologically possible to clean up lead and other toxics to a better



EHC Promotora Martha Sanchez shared her concerns about the contaminated school site during a meeting with DTSC in September 2003.

SCHOOL, continued from Page 5

standard than DTSC has proposed,” Ayala said, “and no one has explained why they refuse to consider this option. DTSC had based all of its cleanup plan on models that estimate ‘acceptable’ health risks from toxics, instead of taking the precautionary approach to remove all of the contaminants in order to prevent exposure. In cases that involve children, there is no acceptable level of health risk.”

Ayala said EHC will request that DTSC conduct additional sampling of the site’s contaminated areas,

including an area that served as a landfill and around debris from previous structures on the site, in order to develop the most precautionary and comprehensive cleanup plan possible.

Prevention, not regret

In October, the California Environmental Protection Agency’s Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice approved a set of comprehensive environmental justice guidelines for all Cal/EPA agencies, including DTSC. One of the key guidelines is the use of a precautionary approach as the basis for environmental and public health laws, regulations and decision-making processes. This means that regulations should prevent harm when there is credible evidence that harm is occurring or is likely to occur – even when complete scientific evidence or proof is not available.

“The Rodriguez school site offers the perfect opportunity for DTSC to move forward and implement the precautionary approach in developing this cleanup plan,” she said

Lead poisoning is the number one environmental health threat to children under 6-years-old. It can result in reduced IQ, learning disabilities, behavioral problems, hyperactivity and increased aggression. Many children in the Logan Heights area already are at high risk for childhood lead poisoning from other sources in their neighborhood, including deteriorating lead paint found on many of the older homes in which they live. In San Diego, 82 percent of the children with elevated blood-lead levels are Latino, and most live in the 92102 and 92113 Zip codes.

TAKE ACTION!

Contact the Department of Toxic substances control to demand that they protect children’s health by working with EHC and the community to develop a precautionary cleanup plan for the Laura G. Rodriguez elementary school site. Also, contact the San Diego City Schools Board of Education and urge them to ensure that workers use lead-safe work practices during the cleanup to protect the health of workers and protect the community from contamination.

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Elowry@dtsc.ca.gov

Ron Ottinger, President
San Diego City Schools Board of Education
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EHC fights for future of San Diego Bay

The future health of San Diego Bay is at stake this year, as the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) moves towards a decision on the cleanup of toxic sediments in the Bay. Environmental Health Coalition and the San Diego Bay Council are urging the Regional Board to direct the San Diego shipyards responsible for the contamination to clean up more than 1.2 million tons of toxic sediments to levels that will protect human health and the environment. But the shipyards are fighting the cleanup and recommending a "do-nothing" approach.

Local shipyards, including National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (NASSCO) and Southwest Marine, have polluted San Diego Bay for decades by discharging large amounts of toxic materials into the Bay during operations. A host of toxic chemicals including copper, zinc, mercury, PCBs, petroleum hydrocarbons, oil and grease, and pesticides lurk at the bottom of the Bay. Many of these poisons are concentrated in the sand in the bottom of the Bay, called sediments, where they can contaminate fish and other marine life. Most of the contaminated sediments are offshore the commercial shipyards and Naval facilities.

In 2001, the Regional Board ordered the shipyards to perform sediment sampling to be reviewed by Regional Board staff in order to establish cleanup levels. Now, consultants for the shipyards have developed a plan that proposes leaving all of the contaminated sediments in the Bay and performing no cleanup. If this happens, it would put the people who fish from the Bay and wildlife at risk for years to come.

"The recommendation of 'do-nothing' advocated by the shipyard's consultants is shocking, but not surprising," said Laura Hunter, director of EHC's Clean Bay Campaign. "The shipyards continue to demonstrate poor corporate citizenship. They have profited from operations that have poisoned the Bay without having to pay for the damage done to our public resource. They continue to abuse the community's generosity in allowing them to utilize the Bay by degrading its health."

Please see **SEDIMENTS**, Page 8

TAKE ACTION!

Clip the card below and send it to the EHC to show your support for a sediment cleanup level that protects the health of San Diego Bay and the people and wildlife it supports.

We need a Clean Bay

Safe for wildlife
Safe for people
SAVED for future
generations

Chairman and Members of the San Diego
Regional Water Quality Control Board
c/o Environmental Health Coalition
1717 Kettner Blvd., Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92101

SEDIMENTS, continued from Page 7

Elaine Carlin, a scientific consultant to the Bay Council, reviewed the report prepared by the shipyard's consultants, and found that the study has "profound and fatal flaws, and does not stand up under scientific scrutiny."

"The proposed cleanup numbers fly in the face of everything we know from the rest of California, the west coast, and the rest of the nation about biological impacts at these levels of chemical contamination," Carlin said.

Contaminated sediments poison fish and can threaten the health of people who eat the fish as the chemicals travel up the food chain. Children, pregnant or nursing mothers, the elderly and infirm are more at risk from eating contaminated fish.

Fishing piers and other areas around the Bay have been posted for more than 10 years with warnings about eating Bay fish because of elevated levels of mercury, PCBs and arsenic. Fish from the Bay have been tested and elevated levels of dangerous chemicals have consistently been found, as recently as this year.

Despite the warnings, people of many cultures consume fish from the Bay. One of EHC's environmental justice concerns is the consumption of contaminated fish from the Bay by low-income people of color, who may have no real alternative to catching and eating fish as part of their diet. EHC organizers have visited the docks and piers surrounding the Bay and have talked to people who frequently eat the fish they catch.

"The people I've talked to usually are not aware that the Bay and some fish are contaminated," said CBC Organizer Sonia Rodriguez. "They're happy to talk to us and appreciate the information, and many have signed our postcards."

The establishing of sediment cleanup levels will set the stage for all future cleanup actions, including cleanup at the most toxic hotspots in San Diego Bay. These five areas — 7th Street Channel, Evans Street Channel, Broadway Street Pier and the mouths of Chollas Creek and Switzer Creek — are so severely contaminated that the Regional Board intends to pursue cleanups at these sites next.

EHC and the Bay Council support stringent cleanup levels that will remove toxic sediments from the Bay permanently. The most stringent levels should be set for chemicals that travel up the food chain, like mercury and PCBs.

EHC also supports a cleanup plan that minimizes other public health impacts, including minimizing air emissions during cleanup activities. Some contaminated sediments may be moved to a landfill once they are removed from the Bay. Removal of sediments by rail car must have first consideration. Any truck traffic that is created must be routed around and not through Barrio Logan, and cleaner emission trucks must be mandated. An electric dredge should be used for the dredging.

"Our Regional Board has an excellent record protecting public health. We are asking them not to fail us now. Future generations of people and wildlife will be grateful," Hunter said.

Dear Members of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board,

Toxic sediments threaten the health and safety of people and wildlife using San Diego Bay. Contaminated sediments need to be permanently removed, not "capped" over or left in place to threaten future generations. We want a Bay that is safe for swimming and fishing and safe for the wildlife that depends on it. A stringent sediment cleanup level is needed to protect human health, fish, wildlife and all of the beneficial uses of the Bay.

Please:

- PROTECT** People who fish from the Bay and fish and wildlife that live there.
- SUPPORT** A stringent and protective cleanup level for sediments at NASSCO and Southwest Marine Shipyards.
- OPPOSE** Any proposal that leaves dangerous chemicals in the Bay.
- REQUIRE** Contamination be removed by barge, rail, or trucks passing around, not through Barrio Logan.

Sincerely,

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I give permission to use my name in public to support the above position. For more information contact Environmental Health Coalition (619) 235-0281, 1717 Kettner Blvd., Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92101

New Year, New Opportunities for Environmental Justice

Everyone's been busy making their own list of resolutions for 2004, and EHC wanted to make sure government agencies include a few items that will make the San Diego/Tijuana region a cleaner, healthier and more just place to live.

Local Government

City of San Diego

- Develop a new community plan for Barrio Logan and put an end to the 'mixed-use' zoning that allows polluting businesses to be located in residential areas.
- Keep your promise to make Barrio Logan safe from the impacts of diesel truck traffic from the Port of San Diego. Prohibiting diesel trucks from idling and parking on Barrio Logan residential streets is a good first step; now develop a plan to reroute them around the community
- Fulfill your promise to relocate polluters like chrome plating shops and chemical supply companies out of residential neighborhoods in the Logan Area.
- Pass a childhood lead poisoning prevention ordinance to eliminate lead hazards before children are exposed.

City of National City

- Keep up the good work on getting lead out of children's homes. Now, do more — Protect children's health and pass a childhood lead poisoning prevention ordinance.

City of Chula Vista

- Stay the course towards creation of a high-quality bayfront development that protects the environment, creates quality jobs, contributes to the regional economy, and serves the community.

San Diego Unified Port District

- Adopt a plan to get rid of the polluting South Bay Power Plant and develop a replacement strategy that reduces impacts to human health, promotes clean energy, provides good jobs, and protects the environment while responsibly meeting our local power needs.
- Stick to your 1997 policy banning fumigation of imported fruits and vegetables with highly toxic methyl bromide. The community will not tolerate a return to this polluting and health-threatening practice.

State of California

California Environmental Protection Agency

- Implement the Cal/EPA Environmental Justice Advisory Committee goals and recommendations for all Cal/EPA agencies.

Department of Toxic Substances Control

- Work with EHC and the San Diego Unified School District to protect children's health by developing a precautionary cleanup plan for the Laura G. Rodriguez elementary school site in Logan Heights.

Department of Health Services

- Work with EHC to support legislation that will eliminate a significant source of lead found in imported candies popular in the Latino and Asian community.

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

- Require National Steel and Shipbuilding Company and Southwest Marine to cleanup their decades-old pollution by setting protective cleanup levels for toxic sediments in San Diego Bay.

Federal Government

San Diego Congressional Delegation

- Reject corporate globalization and protect the San Diego/Tijuana region's environment, health, and labor rights by voting against the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Defend democracy and human rights by supporting the "Fair Trade for Our Future" Congressional Resolution to build sustainable development and reduce inequality.

U.S. Navy and Department of Defense

- Accept your responsibility to protect human health and the environment in communities where your bases are located. Quit fighting to exempt the military from environmental laws protecting endangered species and marine mammals. Stop seeking relaxation of pollution standards.

Mexican Government

Federal Government of Mexico

- Pass and implement civil responsibility legislation to hold corporations responsible for environmental damages in Mexico.
- Reject corporate globalization and protect the San Diego/Tijuana region's environment, health, and labor rights by voting against the FTAA. Replace NAFTA with an accord that puts health, safety, and prosperity for all ahead of corporate interests.

Border Environmental Officials

- Clean up Tijuana's toxic embarrassment, the abandoned *Metales y Derivados* site.
- Develop stringent, consistent bi-national environmental standards between the U.S. and Mexico and fund agencies to enforce the standards to protect communities equally on both sides of the border.

State of Baja California

- Implement the federal Law of Transparency and Access to Information (Freedom of Information) at the state level.
- Reinstate the environmental tax approved unani- mously in December 2002 to increase the state budget for environmental protection.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COALITION ENDORSES THE:

RURAL LANDS INITIATIVE

Protect open space resources and create livable cities in San Diego County

Vote Yes on Proposition A on March 2



The signs of politics-as-usual are evident in San Diego County: Increased air and water pollution, traffic, wildfire dangers, and loss of open spaces.

Environmental Health Coalition joins a broad coalition of endorsers urging voters to limit runaway development on March 2 by passing **Proposition A, the Rural Lands Initiative**.

WATER QUALITY

Prop A protects nearly 700,000 acres of the most distant rural areas in San Diego County from continued suburban sprawl.

“Prop A will protect the source waters of critically important local water supplies from increased pollution.”

Marge West, President of the League of Women Voters of San Diego County

TRAFFIC

Urban sprawl increases traffic problems. **Prop A decisively reduces sprawl.**

“Prop A provides an important improvement in county land use planning that will eventually facilitate more successful regional transportation solutions.”

Jim Mills, former President Pro Tem, California State Senate
and Past Chair, Metropolitan Transit Development Board

HOUSING

Prop A will **NOT** hurt our economy and exacerbate our affordable housing problem. Estate homes and ranchettes being built in distant rural areas are not affordable.

“[Prop A] ...will stop sprawl and protect the countryside, which will deflect infrastructure investment back to the center...where it is needed to support redevelopment.”

Richard Lawrence, Chair, Affordable Housing Coalition of San Diego County

“There are more jobs and higher wage jobs in development and infrastructure investments in cities ...we cannot afford to waste our tax dollars in the backcountry serving the few and neglecting the many.”

Jerry Butkiewicz, Secretary/Treasurer, San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO

**Save San Diego County's Clean Water and Forests
Vote YES on PROP A**

The Rural Lands Initiative is sponsored by The Clean Water and Forest Initiative Committee

For more information, contact Eric Bowlby at (619) 299-1743 or email savewetlands@compuserve.com
or visit the CWFI Web site at www.cwfi.net



GLOBALIZATION
at the
CROSSROADS
LA GLOBALIZACIÓN
en la
ENCRUCIJADA

Globalization promised new jobs, lower prices, and improved public health and environmental quality. A look at Tijuana as the TV manufacturing capital of the world shows the reality.

Today, U.S. trade officials are negotiating the Free Trade Area of the Americas and 10 other agreements modeled after NAFTA with countries around the world.

EHC calls for a halt to all unfair trade agreements.

La globalización prometió nuevos empleos, precios más bajos, y mejoras en salud pública y calidad ambiental. Un análisis de Tijuana como la capital mundial de la televisión muestra la realidad.

Los ministros de comercio de Estados Unidos están negociando hoy día el Área de Libre Comercio de las Américas y 10 otros tratados usando el modelo del TLCAN con países alrededor del mundo.

EHC hace un llamado a la suspensión definitiva de todos los tratados de comercio injustos.

Your cheap television is



Economic Instability

A once-thriving TV manufacturing industry in the U.S. collapsed under the pressures of globalization. From the mid-1960s to today, jobs in U.S. TV manufacturing fell by 95%.

Under NAFTA, Mexico's TV manufacturing jobs initially increased more than 500%. But now the same collapse that hit the U.S. industry is happening to Mexico. From 2000 to 2002, Mexico lost over 240,000 factory jobs.

In that time period, TV production in China increased by almost 50% to reach a production level of 40 million televisions annually. Today, China is the world's leading TV manufacturer.

Worker Injustice

Corporations violate basic human rights and put workers' health at risk.

In one study of Mexican electronics workers, 59.5% reported inadequate or no safety training on handling extremely toxic chemicals used in the TV industry. 38.8% reported that no safety equipment was provided.

Worker injury and illness rates are 250% higher in Mexico than in comparable U.S. factories.

Negative pregnancy tests for women maquila workers are routinely required as a condition of employment.

Independent unions do not represent workers in any of Tijuana's TV maquiladoras.

Environmental Injustice

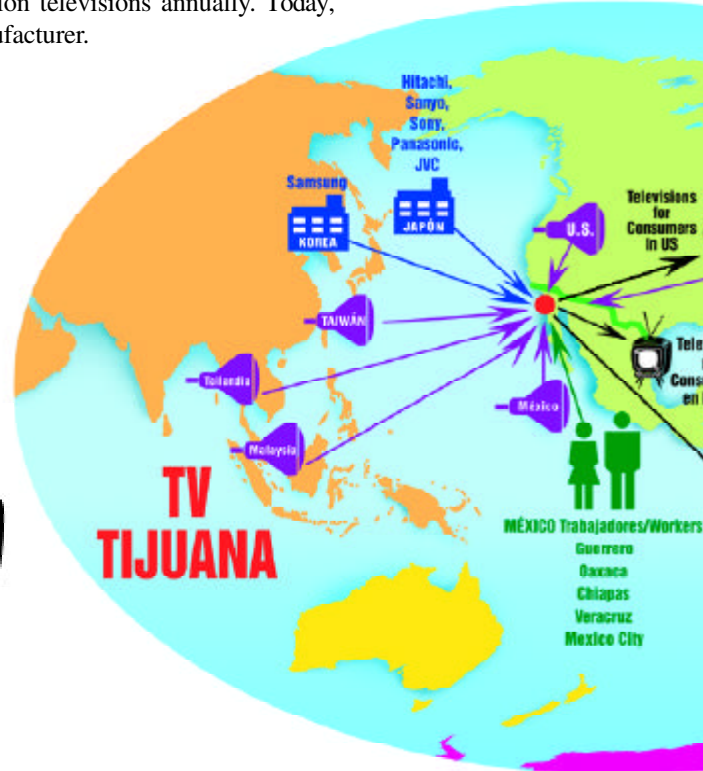
The growth of trade along the U.S.-Mexico border has resulted in severe environmental degradation, without adequate monitoring or remediation capacity.

Only 27% of the toxic chemicals covered by the U.S. Toxics Release Inventory are listed in Mexico's pollutant registry.

In 2003, the U.S. government cancelled the Haztracks system required by the 1983 La Paz agreement to track hazardous waste generated in Mexico along the border.

There are 66 documented toxic waste sites in Mexican states along the U.S. border. Authorities admit that millions of tons of dangerous industrial waste are unaccounted for.

Environmental degradation since 1994 has cost Mexico \$36 billion annually.



Poverty

Under NAFTA, standards of living worsened and income disparity grew on both sides of the border.

Between 1992 and 2002, low paying service jobs increased in San Diego by almost a quarter of a million, as manufacturing jobs disappeared. Pockets of poverty more than doubled.

Typical workers in TV manufacturing in Tijuana earn \$75 a week, not nearly enough to support a family. Fifty-four million of Mexico's 100 million citizens cannot meet their basic needs, and 25 million live in extreme poverty.

Income disparity at the U.S./Mexico border is greater than that of any major commercial border in the world.



Resulta que tu televisión no c

It's such a bargain after all

Inestabilidad Económica

Bajo la globalización, la manufactura de televisores en Estados Unidos se colapsó. Desde mediados de los 60 hasta la fecha, los empleos en la manufactura estadounidense de televisores bajaron 95%.

Con el TLCAN, los empleos en la manufactura de televisores en México en un principio aumentaron más del 500%. Pero ahora el mismo colapso que sufrió la industria estadounidense le está pasando a México. Entre 2000 y 2002, México perdió más de 240,000 trabajos de manufactura.

En ese período, la producción de televisores en China aumentó casi el 50% para alcanzar un nivel de producción de 40 millones de televisiones anualmente. Hoy, China es el principal fabricante de televisores del mundo.

Injusticia Laboral

Las corporaciones violan los derechos humanos y ponen en riesgo la salud de los trabajadores.

Un estudio de trabajadores en el sector electrónico en México indica que el 59.5% reportaron falta de entrenamiento adecuado sobre el manejo de productos químicos tóxicos usados en la industria del televisor. El 38.8% reportó que no se les proporciona ningún equipo de seguridad.

La tasa de accidentes y enfermedades entre los trabajadores en México es 250% más alta que en fábricas semejantes en Estados Unidos.

A las trabajadoras de la maquila se les requiere prueba de embarazo negativa como condición de empleo.

No existen sindicatos independientes en ninguna de las maquiladoras de televisores de Tijuana.



Pobreza

Con el TLCAN, los niveles de calidad de vida empeoraron y la inequidad de ingresos aumentó en ambos lados de la frontera.

Entre 1992 y 2002, los empleos con bajos salarios en el sector de servicios aumentaron en San Diego por casi un cuarto de millón, mientras los trabajos de manufactura fueron desapareciendo. Las zonas de pobreza se duplicaron.

La trabajadora típica en la manufactura de televisores en Tijuana gana 750 pesos por semana, mucho menos de lo necesario para mantener a una familia. 54 millones de los 100 millones de mexicanos no ganan el mínimo para su sustento, y 25 millones viven en pobreza extrema.

El contraste salarial entre Estados Unidos y México supera el de cualquier otra región fronteriza comercial del mundo.

Injusticia Ambiental

El aumento del comercio en la frontera de Estados Unidos-México ha causado severa degradación ambiental, sin capacidad adecuada de monitoreo o remediación.

Sólo 27% de los químicos tóxicos en el Inventario de Emisiones Tóxicas de los Estados Unidos aparecen en el registro de contaminantes de México.

En 2003, el gobierno estadounidense canceló Haztracks, establecido por el acuerdo de La Paz de 1983 para el rastreo de residuos peligrosos de México en la frontera.

Hay 66 sitios de residuos tóxicos documentados en estados mexicanos fronterizos con Estados Unidos. Las autoridades admiten no saber el paradero de millones de toneladas de residuos peligrosos industriales.

Desde 1994, la degradación ambiental le ha costado a México \$36 mil millones de dólares anualmente.

It's so cheap after all



Globalization is at the crossroads NOW!

Join EHC's campaign to stop the FTAA!

The FTAA is the wrong choice for jobs, workers' rights,
public health, environmental quality and democracy

Contact your Congressional Representatives and demand that they vote No on the Free Trade Area of the Americas

Urge them to vote Yes on the Congressional Resolution "Fair Trade for Our Future"
(H.R. 276/S.R. 69) to build sustainable development and reduce inequality

Sign the EHC postcard that calls for a halt to the FTAA. Visit www.environmentalhealth.org or call (619) 235-0281
for more information and a copy of EHC's full report "Globalization at the Crossroads"

Join Environmental Health Coalition

¡HOY la globalización está en la encrucijada!

¡Únete a la campaña de EHC para detener el ALCA!

El ALCA es la opción equivocada para los trabajadores, derechos laborales,
salud pública, calidad ambiental, y para la democracia

Ponte en contacto con tu representante en el Congreso. Exige que vote "No" al Área de Libre Comercio de las Américas.

Dile que vote Sí sobre la Resolución "Comercio Justo para Nuestro Futuro" en el Congreso estadounidense
(H.R. 276/S.R. 69) por un desarrollo sustentable y para reducir la inequidad

Firma la tarjeta postal de EHC que hace un llamado a la suspensión inmediata del ALCA.
Visita www.environmentalhealth.org o llama (619) 235-0281 para más información y el informe completo
"La Globalización en la Encrucijada"

Únete como miembro de la EHC