

12/19/2005 09:06
AM

To
vegeis@nv.blm.gov, bamme@nv.blm.gov
cc

Subject
Programmatic EIS for Herbicide
Vegetation Treatments

Brian Amme, Project Manager
BLM, P.O. Box 12000
Reno, NV 89520-0006

Mr. Amme:

Several years back I researched the production of dioxins and other toxins produced by solid waste incinerators. The interesting side aspect I uncovered was that, while these substances may be banned in urban areas because of the health risks and economic consequences, the EPA allows them to be used/produced in rural areas. This isn't because they affect/devastate a smaller percentage of the local population or create less economic havoc there. It is that the health care system won't be overwhelmed by the lower numbers overall. In effect, the collateral damage is acceptable in terms of the larger economic/infrastructural picture. Or you can be killed, given a debilitating disease, your children can be deformed, they can be stillborn, their expression of gender altered, their reproductive capability compromised, your livestock can be similarly affected, your livelihood devastated, and your property values effected in states where disclosure is required because you live in population densities that will not overwhelm the system. Is this life threatening discrimination if my far flung rural community is just as at risk as a more affluent and tightly clustered urban/suburban area? Now I understand that there is a distinct possibility that similar substances may be used in my upper watershed, in the wind stream above me and in places where our local food is produced and where we recreate. Because of a cold objective balance sheet we are not given the same protection that most citizens believe they are entitled to. I refuse to be so objectified. As a Vietnam combat veteran exposed to agent orange, I am appalled by this cavalier

disregard the stewards of our lands seem to have for the safety of my loved ones--especially with known carcinogens, teratogens and mutagens. Would you knowingly allow 2, 4, D or Tebuthiron to be used in your back yard or the watershed directly above you? Eve Roundup has been implicated globally in a delayed epidemic of NonHodgkins Lymphoma. Please chose option C for our Public Lands.

Respectfully,

Timothy Murphy

Rock Creek, Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona.