

Operation Clean Niagara
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Operation Clean (Niagara) joins with Pollution Probe in strongly protesting the proposed settlement between the United States Government. The State of New York and Hooker Chemical Company for the following reasons:

- 1) Since Hooker Chemical produced the problem its liability should be ongoing until the problem is solved. Why should its liability be limited to the expenditure of several million dollars? or for any specific number of years? Its liability should continue until it is demonstrated beyond doubt that no threat to our fresh water exists.
- 2) Hooker Chemical seems to be provided within the agreement with the option of directing the leachate to the Niagara Falls N.Y. Sewage Treatment Plant. This plant broke down shortly after its start up and therefor is presently incapable of treating any toxic wastes. Even if the plant should be made fully operational, and this will take years, I doubt that it will have the capacity to treat dioxin contaminated leachate (dioxin 2,000 lbs C56 45,000 tons chlorobenzine 16,500 tons mirex lindane and P.C.B. etc.)
- 3) The Town of Niagara on the Lake draws its drinking water supply from the mouth of the Niagara River just a few miles downstream from the Hyde Park land fill. Leachate from this site presently enters Bloody Run Creek and thence the Niagara River -- dioxin has been found on the face of the Gorge from the top to the bottom. No satisfactory solution appears

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to have been offered in the agreement for
this immediate threat to our water supply.

Operation Clean feels that the Canadian Government should oppose the agreement immediately and in the strongest possible terms. The degradation of our fresh water supply must be brought to a halt and those responsible for the degradation must be made fully liable for the damage incurred or likely to be incurred. Any agreement that does not fully address these concerns is worthless. An opportunity and a challenge exists here to establish an agreement that could be used as a guideline for all future similar situations.

We should settle for nothing less!