



LiveEarth or GreenWash?

Dow Chemical, the largest chemical company in the US, is spending \$10 million to sponsor of the Blue Planet Run, a long distance relay for the worthy cause of "bringing safe drinking water to all." But Dow's products and factories are a major source of water contamination, in the US and around the world.

Dow's sponsorship of the Blue Planet run is part of their new PR offensive, which includes the Human Element advertising campaign.

When a company spends more to publicize their commitment to clean water than to cleaning up the water and helping the people they've poisoned, that's greenwash!

How might these chemicals affect me?

Dioxin - is linked to the severe chronic pelvic pain and infertility of endometriosis, non-Hodgkins lymphoma and soft tissue cancers, adult onset leukemia, type II diabetes, lowered male to female births, and thyroid problems among many other problems.

Chlorpyrifos - birth defects, permanent neurological damage in children and adults including seizures and death in children in particular.



Deepika is the child of Bhopal disaster survivors. She has been drinking contaminated water her whole life. She cannot hear properly or learn well, and suffers from night blindness. Dow refuses to clean up the drinking water its full subsidiary polluted.

Water Bodies Contaminated by Dow:

Bhopal, India – mercury, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, chlorobenzene, chromium. Some samples killed 100% of the fish placed in them. These chemicals are linked to asthma, allergies, stomach and brain cancer, hearing loss, psychiatric problems and cerebral palsy.

Dow - Where is the Human Element?

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Water Bodies Contaminated by Dow

Gulf of Mexico -

Complex mixture of toxic chemicals

Mississippi River -

Complex mixture of toxic chemicals

Brazos River, Texas -

Complex mixture of toxic chemicals

Myrtle Grove, Louisiana Aquifer - vinyl chloride

Vietnam - Dioxin

3,500 waterways in the United States & 771 out of the 1,430 Superfund sites - Perchloroethylene*

How might these chemicals affect me?

Vinyl chloride - vinyl chloride disease among workers can cause painfully cold hands, clubbing and thickening of fingers, hands and forearms. It is also linked to angiosarcoma, liver cancer and hormonal changes.

Perchloroethylene* - liver cancer, memory and concentration impairment (EPA), difficulty speaking, dizziness, headaches, sleepiness from acute exposure. Dow is one of three perchloroethylene makers; a substantial portion – but not all – of the 'perc' in the Superfund sites and waterways came from Dow.



A proud young fisherman holds his catch in Saginaw Bay. Residents are told not to eat the fish in an area where dioxin levels have been known to be almost 1,000 times the state clean up standard since 1986.

The Tittabawasee and Saginaw river runs along Dow Chemical's headquarters in Midland, MI where residents have blood levels of dioxin 28% higher than a comparison group in another town near an incinerator.

There are clusters of rare cancer, thyroid problems and diabetes in the area.

Lake Huron & Saginaw Bay - dioxin and other chemicals;
Tittabawassee & Saginaw River and floodplain, MI - dioxin, furans and other contaminants;

Take action!

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