

C O P Y

Site	NEW BEDFORD
Break	41
Other	47375

Fairhaven

September 4, 1984

Editor
The Advocate

Your article in the August 29, 1984 issue by Dana G. Reeves, headlining my disavowal of the "upside-down cake" option capably covered most of my remarks in a telephone interview. Nevertheless, some of the article statements, doubtless the fault of my overly rapid conversation, need clarification for accuracy and should read as follows:

1. Aerovox and Cornell employees, whose blood samples tested up to 300 parts per billion of PCBs were not affected by leukemia.
2. PCB tests on some of the leukemia victims and their families living near the park should have been tested by the State Department of Public Health to determine if the PCB values were negative (that is, less PCB or no greater PCB than national averages). In fact, Gidley recommended to D. J. Cutter, Massachusetts State Board of Health, Division of Environmental Assessment, at the Public Meeting at Fairhaven Junior High School on June 30, 1982, that this testing of leukemia victims and families be done. Dr. Cutter responded that such testing would not and could not be done.
3. The proposed EPA grant to hire a scientist to represent a citizens' task force for evaluating harbor cleanup proposals should be one step removed from the EPA as a funding source; that is, the EPA should not hire and pay for the scientist. The funding should best go to a University Panel (such as SMU) and they should engage a scientist (e.g., SMU faculty) to evaluate the options for the citizens' group. Better yet would be third party funding by the Office of Technology Assessment, the General Services Administration, the Congressional Committee on Hazardous Waste, Representative Goyette's New Bedford Community State Funded Office, or a private University Panel, such as the California Advisory Panel of eight top-notch University of California scientists to evaluate the Stringfellow Acid Pits.

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