

January 21, 1990
Calhoun County Resource Watch
Rt. 1 Box 453
Seadrift, Texas 77983

Ms. Pat Suter
1002 Chamberland
Coastal Band Sierrac Club
Corpus Christi, Texas
78404

Hello Pat,

I spoke to you on the telephone Monday about our local environmental group that has been keeping up on the Formosa Plastics expansion in Point Comfort, Texas in Calhoun County.

I was alarmed to read in the Port Lavaca Wave, a local paper, of Chairman Wang's offer of free land adjoining its plant site in Point Comfort to attract other Taiwanese manufacturers to locate in the area.

Apparently, Texas Department of Commerce is involved in luring other foreign plants not only into Calhoun County, but also into others parts of Texas. If Formosa is any example of the foreign plants making bids at choice coastal areas at the cost of our tax dollars in the form of tax abatements and outright monies to the tune of 225 million dollars, then Texas is about to be the caretakers of a deadly legacy.

Between Formosa's Louisiana Plant and Texas Plant, they have accumulated over 70 federal and state violations, been sued by the ~~states~~ ~~of~~ ~~generals~~ of the states of ~~Texas~~ and Louisiana and are now presently involved in a court battle with the federal government.

According to a study done by the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission, the expansion could increase pollution enough in Calhoun County that it may inhibit further industrial expansion. For example, it says, nitrous oxide would be at 72 percent of the standard, suspended particulates at 88 percent and particulates ~~at~~ ~~88~~ can be inhaled at 94 percent.

To justify the ~~plan~~ ~~struction~~ of a plant that had been met with an uproar in Taiwan when Chairman Wang had initially proposed to build the plant there, Mr. Doug Lynch, executive director of Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation, stated "Once we get our economy stabilized, then we can afford to be a little more choosy with who and what we let in."

At this point, I am alarmed at what level of pollution and at ~~what~~ ~~precipitous~~ ~~cost~~ of tax dollars the people of Texas will be subjected to this obsession with progress and economic development. Texas seems to be a left-over from an archaic way of thinking,

that equates success with economic development and little less.

I would greatly appreciate your group writing the following to alert them to a fatal pattern that is developing on the coast. I am inclosing several clippings about Formosa. Thank you very much for your support. If you require ~~additional~~ information please contact me. I can be reached at 512-785-2334. It is the phone of Donna Sue Williams, the vice-president of our group, and she will contact me if need be.

Please write:

Senator Kenneth Arbrister
329 Capitol Building
Austin, Texas 78711

Senator Phil Gramm
Room 370, The Russell Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Lloyd Bentsen
Room 703, The Hart Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

also the candidates for governor, Ms. Ann Richards, and Jim Maddox. I am sorry I can't find their address in all this confusion I have on my desk.

Thank you ~~again~~.

Sincerely,

Diane Wilson
Calhoun County Resource Watch