

What Formosa has provided

Dear Editor, ^{Wave} Oct 7 '92

I also attended the Point Comfort Concerned Citizens meeting thinking this was a good idea, because Point Comfort has some problems that could use community involvement. We were told at this meeting the only concerns of this committee were (1) educate the people of Point Comfort of Formosa's violations, (2) actively protest the permitting process of Formosa, (3) compensation for the people of Point Comfort and no other concerns of the people would be considered.

Yes, I believe we should have an environmentally safe community. We can achieve this by open communications with all parties involved. I have witnessed enormous improvements in the environmental and safety aspects of the FPC Plant in the last year. All improvements cannot be accomplished overnight. With guidance and supervision, we can have an environmentally and economically safe community. The mayor and his wife stated the Chinese were too evasive. This may be true because they have been put on the defensive, now. You cannot communicate with anyone when you have their backs against the wall.

Would you buy a home in Point Comfort, if the mayor said it was unsafe to live in and the mayor's wife said your grandchildren would be deformed? Why are all these people still living in Point Comfort? Home sales in Point Comfort had been on the increase, but, I bet that will cease with all the bad publicity that has been and will be given to us.

Point Comfort has benefited from the plant coming to our county. They are as follows: 1. learning a new culture, 2. one hundred percent occupancy of shopping center, 3. sixty percent matching funds on grant to buy rescue truck, 4. invaluable training

for our volunteer fire department, 5. many new friends, 6. they DID NOT buy the police cars.

The mayor stated that he was uncomfortable with FEMA's recommendations of shelter-in-place when you have a chemical release. He believes evacuation is the best. Think about it before you evacuate. Emergency Management has done extensive studies on these situations. It was also stated the children at the school have not been informed or drilled for chemical incidents. This is not true. Mr. Zwerschke gave four programs on chemical spills at the Point Comfort School last year. Two were presented to the children on Shelter-in-place, one was presented at an in-service for the teachers and aides, and one was presented at a P.T.A. meeting. The children were drilled on shelter-in-place last year because I watched a couple of the drills.

Please do become informed about Formosa. But, ask the real chemical experts. Please do not let 4 percent of the population of Point Comfort put us back to 1985.

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