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March 21, 1996

VIA FAX: (604) 573-5155

BC Cattlemen's Association  
Site 11A, C-1, RR#2  
Kamloops, BC  
V2C 2J3

Attention: John Morrison, President

Dear Mr. Morrison,

I represent the seventy-five hundred workers of the Pulp, Paper and Woodworkers of Canada (P.P.W.C.) as Environmental Officer.

For the past ten years, the P.P.W.C. has lobbied government to regulate the removal of dioxins and furans from the pulp and paper process.

These toxins are scientifically recognized in the most toxic known to mankind and are extremely bioaccumulative at all levels of the food chain.

It is with distress that I must advise you at this time that Weyerhaeuser, a Kamloops pulp mill, is passing contaminate "sludge" to local businesses for use as cattle feed.

There has been no positive scientific testing of sludge, world-wide that would give it a clean bill of health to be approved for such use. On the contrary, in addition to unknown contaminants, unknown substances are heavy metals, residual chlorates (a powerful herbicide) and other pulp mill waste that may become part of the sludging process.

The Minister of Agriculture has given his stamp of approval of this deal. We, the Pulp, Paper and Woodworkers of Canada find it shocking and appalling that such a decision has been made without the interest of the Canadian public taken into account.

I would urge you and our colleagues to examine this decision by Agriculture Canada carefully. We would suggest that this move could have a long term damaging effect on the beef industry as a whole. Should you require further information on this issue, please contact me through our National Office (604) 731-1909 or directly by fax at (604) 468-7269.

Enclosed is a press release from our Kamloops office dated today, originated by Greg Melnechuk, our Occupational Health and Safety Officer.

In Solidarity,  
Fred Henton  
Environmental Officer  
P.P.W.C. National

FH:ag  
Enclosures