

# Who is Blocking the Gelman Sciences Cleanup That Everyone Fought For ?

A campaign to block the Gelman Sciences cleanup has been initiated by a small group of residents on Honey Creek. This program could cost Scio Township \$1 million from your pockets and lower your property value by 25%.

We believe this campaign has been orchestrated by the Ecology Center in promotion of its philosophy of zero discharge into the environment. Pat Ryan and Tracy Easthope, of Recycle Ann Arbor, serve as informal volunteer advisors to the Scio Township citizens group that has been promoting non-detect cleanup. Pat Ryan is a member of the Ecology Center Board of Directors, and Tracy Easthope is a paid employee serving in the capacity of Toxic Waste Specialist. The Ecology Center has been active, and has had representatives at every DNR hearing and at neighborhood hearings held on the subject of Gelman Sciences cleanup for the past six years. They are well funded with a budget in excess of \$2 million per year for the Ecology Center/Recycle Ann Arbor. The Ecology Center portion of that operation has an income of over \$300,000 annually. Several board members at this operation are paid \$13,000 annually for part-time services. The President of the Ecology Center, Charles Barbieri, is a full time employee of Greenpeace, which has an annual budget in excess of \$150 million. This group is hardly a volunteer group. It has used its massive resources to focus on one single issue in the environment. None of the zealot advisors are residents, or even property owners in Scio Township.

## New Millage Would Further Delay Cleanup

Supporters of a new millage in Pittsfield Township understate the per-person cost of this new tax, and attempt to cover up the real long-term danger. As a result of this intense publicity for the township, and warnings of dangers that do not exist, property values in the township are likely to drop by 25%. Who would want to move into the township when residents parade banners that say, "Our township is polluted." These ecology fanatics talk of lawsuits against the State of Michigan, Gelman Sciences and other Scio Township businesses and residents. These lawsuits, paid for with your millage dollars, would delay cleanup even more, while the value of your home and the image of your township sinks lower and lower.

The Ecology Center issued a blistering political report against Governor Engler for his efforts to reform environmental legislation and alleged lack of progress in cleaning up the Great Lakes. This report also attacked the automobile companies for alleged violation of their promise to participate in the Great Lakes cleanup. This exactly mirrored the position of the UAW. The Ecology Center brought a lawsuit against Governor Engler, opposing reform within the Department of Natural Resources. The Michigan Supreme Court ruled against the Ecology Center.

The Ecology Center has used much of its funding in other legal-political activities against local industry. A lawsuit for a technical violation of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) against Johnson Controls has been dragged out for four years. The Ecology Center offered to settle for a substantial financial payment, rumored to be in the \$1 million area. Under other circumstances, such a demand could be labeled extortion. At various times the Ecology Center has attacked Dow Chemical, Gelman Sciences, Chrysler, Ford, General Motors and the City of Ann Arbor. Its position does not recognize science, nor does it recognize the laws of the State of Michigan. The Ecology Center launched campaigns against the City of Ann Arbor and Gelman Sciences for the destruction of all traces of 1,4-dioxane. It demanded that water into Honey Creek be purer than the water we have all been drinking. This is in the face of scientific evidence that 1,4-dioxane is contained in human fecal material and in commonly used household products.

Like its parent organization, Greenpeace, the Ecology Center has long become fat and sloppy, and its supporters are not supporters of its original mission. The founder of Greenpeace, Mr. Paul Watson, recently lectured in Ypsilanti and said that he abandoned Greenpeace because of corruption, and that the group is straying from its original mission. He could not stomach the acts of Greenpeace, disclosed to the press in 1993, which involved questionable ethical practices, including bribery of public officials. We believe that this is an irresponsible group intent on damaging our township and picking our pockets.

**I urge you not to sign petitions  
circulated by the Ecology Center,  
township residents, and others who  
oppose the cleanup.**

They are seeking a twenty year blank check from all of us. They will focus national attention on this issue, and make Scio Township sound like Love Canal.



Charles Gelman  
Chairman and  
Chief Executive Officer  
Gelman Sciences, Inc.