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Series/Staff Member: Kathleen (Katie) McGinty
Subseries: [correspondence]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 2, 1993

Mr. and Ms. George and Margaret Niemeier
Tallula, IL 62688

Dear Mr. and Ms. Niemeier:

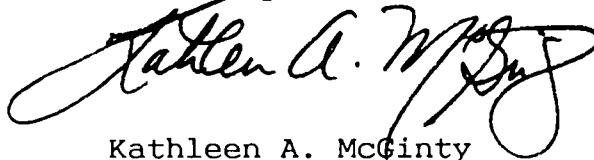
Thank you for contacting me regarding your thoughts about the use of ethanol.

I share President Clinton's and Vice President Gore's commitment to the preservation of our environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. President Clinton and I believe that we must encourage the study and development of technologies for alternatively fueled vehicles. As you know, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is currently looking into a proposed rule on the use of ethanol and its status under the Clean Air Act of 1990. I await the EPA's findings in this regard.

I appreciate learning your concerns about the listing of ethanol under the Clean Air Act. Rest assured that this Administration will continue its efforts to promote clean-burning fuels.

Again, thank you for sharing this information with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen A. McGinty', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

DEAR KATHLEEN MCGINTY,

AS OUR NOW, PRESIDENT CLINTON, PROMISED
IN HIS OCTOBER 1992 SPEECH "A CLINTON/GORE
ADMINISTRATION WILL EXPAND THE USE OF ETHANOL
TO INCREASE AMERICAN JOBS, REDUCE OUR
INDEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN OIL, AND IMPROVE
THE ENVIRONMENT," WE AS FARMERS ARE
ASKING, I SHOULD SAY BEGGING, YOU TO CARRY
THROUGH ON A MOST VITAL PART OF RURAL
LIFE IN AMERICA.

PLEASE, SEE THAT THE CLEAN AIR ACT IS
IMPLEMENTED IN A MANNER THAT ETHANOL
IS TREATED FAIRLY WITH OTHER FUELS!
CORN IS OUR MAIN CROP IN ILLINOIS AND
SURROUNDING STATES! THE MARKET FOR
ETHANOL + CORN IS BEING THREATENED BY
INCORRECT EXPLANATIONS OF THE CLEAN
AIR ACT AS TO HOW CONGRESS PASSED IT.

RECOVERY OF ECONOMY IN THIS AND
MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY DEPEND
ON YOUR HELP!

SINCERELY,

GEORGE + MARGARET NIEMEIER

FARMERS IN RURAL AMERICA

TALLULA, ILLINOIS

62688

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 2, 1993

Mr. E.G. Nassar
5098 Kensington
Detroit, MI 48224

Dear Mr. Nassar:

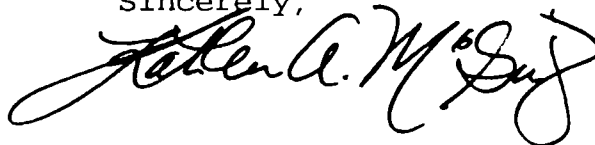
Thank you for contacting me regarding your concerns about the problems facing the Pacific Northwest.

President Clinton and I are committed to the preservation of the environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. The President and I believe that the Forest Conference was a significant step toward the resolution of the problems facing the Pacific Northwest. After the conference, three working groups were established to work on developing a Forest Management Plan. These working groups included a team working on ecosystem management assessment, a team focusing on labor and community assistance, and a team working to improve the relationships among federal and state agencies in the region and to eliminate impediments that block coordinated action.

As you know, President Clinton recently announced his Forest Plan for a Sustainable Economy and a Sustainable Environment, based on the analytical work of the three working groups. I believe that the Forest Plan is scientifically-sound and legally responsible and will provide a sustainable harvest. This plan also includes a new economic assistance program that helps local workers, businesses and communities in strengthening the region's economy by creating family-wage jobs, offering new economic opportunities, and ensuring the region's long-term economic health.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

NURTURE ALL ANCIENT FORESTS.
STOP CLEARCUTS NATIONAL
FORESTS.

PROVIDE REHABILITATION
WORK FOR DESTROYED
FORESTS AND WOODWORKERS.

- E.G. NASSAR
5048 KENSINGTON
DETROIT MI 48224

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 7, 1993

Mr. Bill Neary
Wood Fibers Committee
Independent Union of Paper
Mill Workers
1007 N.W. 4th Street
P.O. Box 306
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Dear Mr. Neary:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your interest in the Executive Order on Recycled Goods.

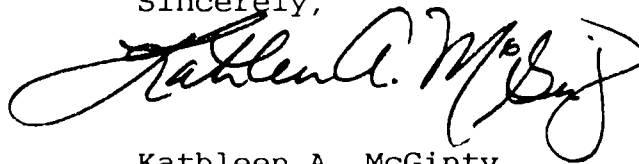
President Clinton and I are committed to the protection our nation's environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. Recycling continues to be one of our highest priorities.

This Executive Order will require federal agencies to begin procuring printing and writing paper containing postconsumer material. The purpose of this policy, among other things, is to provide an incentive for pulp and paper mills to use recovered materials, not just virgin materials, to make paper. This will provide markets for paper recovered from the municipal solid waste stream and ultimately result in substantially lower prices for recycled papers containing recovered materials.

I certainly appreciate learning your concerns about the implementation of this Executive Order. I believe that the Executive Order will adequately address the need for increased use and procurement of recycled and recovered materials.

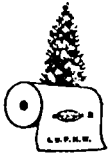
Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

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Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl



Independent Union of Paper Mill Workers

1007 N.W. 4TH STREET
P. O. BOX 306

GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA 55744

OFFICE PHONE 218/326-2880
FAX PHONE 218-326-5720

800+ UNION MEMBERS

DICK CHAMBERS, President
Res. Phone 326-2809

MICHAEL WOJCIK, Vice President
Res. Phone 328-5178

ORGANIZED IN (1935)

EDWARD A. CASPER, Secretary
Res. Phone 326-2681

ROBERT L. OLSON, Jr., Treasurer
Res. Phone 245-2105

August 20, 1993

Ms. Katie McGinty
Deputy Assistant to President
Director of White House Environmental Policy
Room 310 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Ms. McGinty:

I am writing concerning a proposed Executive Order on federal procurement of recycled paper. I understand that the order will require federal agencies to purchase paper that contains at least 15% post-consumer material, rising to 25% by the year 2000, with some papers having an additional requirement of 50% total recycled content. I also understand that the order will require the purchase of chlorine-free paper.

I support efforts to increase the purchase of recycled paper by the federal government. I believe the EPA guidelines established attainable goals which helped stimulate investment in recycling technology and equipment.

However, I am concerned that the standards in the proposed executive order may be unrealistically high for the basic printing and writing papers, some of which are produced by the company for which I work. As a consequence, companies like Blandin Paper may be seriously affected and our jobs jeopardized.

I also question the inclusion of a chlorine-free requirement. Such a requirement has nothing to do with recycled content, and in fact may be at cross-purposes with recycling. It would be extremely difficult for companies to test all post consumer waste for chlorine content when we are getting in many tons of newsprint, cardboard, office paper, etc., for use in recycled papers.

As an official of the Wood Fibers Committee, I ask you to recommend to the President that he not sign this executive order.

Sincerely,

Bill Neary
Wood Fibers Committee

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 7, 1993

Mr. John Newman
Wood Fibers Committee
Independent Union of Paper
Mill Workers
1007 N.W. 4th Street
P.O. Box 306
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Dear Mr. Newman:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your interest in the Executive Order on Recycled Goods.

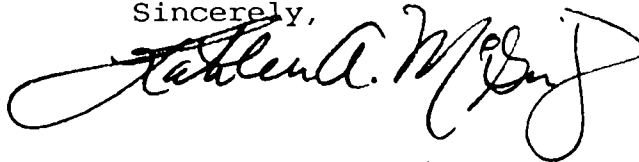
President Clinton and I are committed to the protection our nation's environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. Recycling continues to be one of our highest priorities.

This Executive Order will require federal agencies to begin procuring printing and writing paper containing postconsumer material. The purpose of this policy, among other things, is to provide an incentive for pulp and paper mills to use recovered materials, not just virgin materials, to make paper. This will provide markets for paper recovered from the municipal solid waste stream and ultimately result in substantially lower prices for recycled papers containing recovered materials.

I certainly appreciate learning your concerns about the implementation of this Executive Order. I believe that the Executive Order will adequately address the need for increased use and procurement of recycled and recovered materials.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

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Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl



Independent Union of Paper Mill Workers

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August 20, 1993

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Deputy Assistant to President
Director of White House Environmental Policy
Room 310 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20501

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I support efforts to increase the purchase of recycled paper by the federal government. I believe the EPA guidelines established attainable goals which helped stimulate investment in recycling technology and equipment.

However, I am concerned that the standards in the proposed executive order may be unrealistically high for the basic printing and writing papers, some of which are produced by the company for which I work. As a consequence, companies like Blandin Paper may be seriously affected and our jobs jeopardized.

I also question the inclusion of a chlorine-free requirement. Such a requirement has nothing to do with recycled content, and in fact may be at cross-purposes with recycling. It would be extremely difficult for companies to test all post consumer waste for chlorine content when we are getting in many tons of newsprint, cardboard, office paper, etc., for use in recycled papers.

As an official of the Wood Fibers Committee, I ask you to recommend to the President that he not sign this executive order.

Sincerely,

John Newman
Wood Fibers Committee

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1993

Mr. William J. Nicholson
P.O. Box 1114
Ross, CA 94957

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding your thoughts about the proposed Executive Order on Recycled Goods. I appreciate hearing from you.

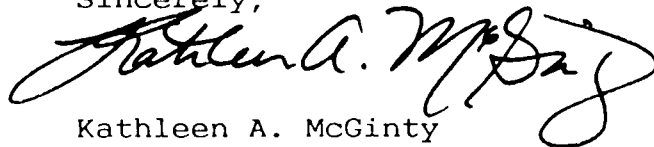
President Clinton and I believe that recycling has to be an important part of our strategy in our efforts to preserve our environment. Through the hard work and initiative of many community and industry leaders, recycling has become almost routine to many people. However, to really make recycling a success, further outreach is needed to encourage both the supply and demand for recycled products.

The President asked that the Office on Environmental Policy work on an initiative to encourage the use of recycled and recovered goods. The draft Executive Order is the outcome of much hard work and consultation with industry and labor representatives, the environmental community, and consumer groups, as well as congressional and agency staff members. This initiative will require the federal agencies to use paper containing recycled materials. This Administration believes that this executive order will stimulate demand for and production of goods containing recycled materials, and increase the incentive for public involvement in the recycling movement.

I certainly appreciate learning your thoughts and concerns about the implementation of this draft Executive Order, specifically with regard to post-consumer content standards and the paper bleaching process. We believe that this initiative will achieve the desired results of spurring our nation's recycling efforts, while also promoting a healthy environment. Rest assured that we are carefully considering all policy options in this very important matter.

Again, thank you for letting me hear from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "M" and "G".

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

P. O. Box 1114
Ross, CA 94957

September 7, 1993

Ms. Kathleen McGinty
Director
Office of Environmental Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20501-0001

Re: Draft Executive Order on Federal Recycling, Acquisition, and
Use of Environmentally-Preferable Products and Services

Dear Ms. McGinty:

Since one of the purposes of the proposed executive order is to encourage the use of recycled and environmentally-preferable products in the general economy, I write to suggest some clarifications and changes to Sections 404 and 405 to make the order more understandable and effective for the broader application. Four points are addressed:

1. Recycled content measured as fiber
2. A post-consumer or equivalent recycled fiber standard for paper
3. Tests for recycled fiber content in paper
4. Public review of life cycle analyses of environmentally-preferable products

Cellulose fiber or pulp is the recovered material from paper recycling; thus any recycled content standards for paper should be measured as a proportion of fiber content in the paper. The draft of the executive order is vague as to the calculation of the required content of post-consumer recovered material. It can be interpreted either as the percentage of fiber in the paper or the percentage of all the materials in the paper. The appropriate interpretation is as the percentage of fiber content in paper and can be clarified by stating that the defined percentage is measured as a portion of fiber content of the paper.

Printing and writing paper grades vary widely in fiber content, ranging from about sixty percent to over ninety percent. Most of the grades identified in Section 404(a) have high fiber content, while some of the grades included in Section 404(b) have much lower fiber content. The latter includes coated printing and writing paper ranging from magazine paper to very high quality free sheet printing paper. Manufacture of high quality products in these grades with higher content of deinked pulp is very difficult and resource inefficient. For this practical reason, as well as consistency in regulation as to how the paper is made on a paper machine with a fiber recipe, minimum fiber content standards should be defined as a percentage of fiber content in the paper.

Fiber content standards should be based only on inclusion of recovered material that must have contaminants removed before it can be used as feedstock for a paper machine. Using the terminology of the draft order, recovered material which does not meet the "post-consumer material" definition falls into two categories. The first category contains those recovered materials, such as unprinted envelope clippings, that may be used directly in the papermaking process after collection and transport to a paper mill. This material is also known as a pulp substitute, generally sells near the price of pulp, and is nearly one hundred percent recovered and reused. The material in the second category must be processed by deinking, depolying, or similar facilities before the recovered fiber can be used as a feedstock for paper. Typical materials in this category are printer's waste from which ink must be removed and milk carton clippings from which the plastic must be removed. The deinking, depolying, and similar processes required to process the material in this second category are the same processes used to prepare post-consumer materials with similar contaminants.

Including all deinked, depolyed, and similarly processed fiber within a single recovered material standard has four specific advantages for the purpose of the executive order:

1. It is more likely that material such as printer's waste and polyethylene coated carton clipping will continue to be used in papermaking. If only post-consumer material counts, papermakers may demand only post-consumer material as their feedstock. Since the difficulty making quality products is often related to contaminants in deinked or depolyed material in the feedstock, papermakers will have the tendency not to use deinked or depolyed material from non-credited

sources to meet requirements. There is an increased likelihood that pre-consumer inked or polyethylene coated material will end in a landfill if its use does not count toward meeting the standard.

2. There is a limited amount of clean pulp substitutes that qualify to meet the recovered material standards of Section 404(b). After those are used, and they currently are being used, the limited availability of uncontaminated recovered fiber will constrain the manufacture of qualifying recycled paper. If the total recovered material requirement in Section 404(b) is deleted, it is likely that more inked and polyethylene coated material will be processed into paper.
3. Since there are no reliable technical tests to determine whether a recovered material is "post consumer," both paper mill programs to assure standards are met and auditing by customers will be more effective if a deinked or depolyed standard is applied.
4. As technical capability to use higher contents of deinked and depolyed material is developed, a single criteria will exist for the marketing competition to focus upon -- use of more inked or poly coated recovered material.

As part of the Product Testing program in Section 405, the Commerce Department needs to develop a protocol for determining that products that claim to meet recovered content standards do meet those standards. Part of any sound purchasing program requires obtaining proper assurance that specifications for products purchased are indeed met. Simply put, one gets what one inspects, not what one expects. For post-consumer recovered fiber I know of no technical test to distinguish between post-consumer and pre-consumer. For recovered fiber there has been some microscopy developments at the University of Wisconsin which can indicate a likelihood that a sheet contains recovered fiber, but the test is not definitive. For a sound purchasing program an assurance protocol should be developed. The development process for the protocol should be openly done with appropriate public review, as any such protocol is likely to be controversial, expensive, or both.

Ms. Kathleen McGinty
September 7, 1993
Page 4

Life Cycle Analysis and other programs under Section 405 need to be developed openly with public review of the assumptions, the evaluation, and the results prior to their adoption. If the government is to identify environmentally-preferable products, the definitions relevant to the decision are very important and need to be understood by all involved. Establishing these definitions is potentially controversial, particularly as quantitative equivalence between emission A and discharge B are defined. Trade offs are difficult to address. Life cycle analysis may be able to provide an inventory of emissions, discharges, raw materials, etc., for the cradle to grave effects of product manufacture and use, but it is unable to identify that product C is more desirable than product D. It also will not address the economic implications of choosing product C over product D, including job losses, trade issues, etc.

As an example of the difficulties the selection of an environmentally-preferable paper product will face, consider the conflict between the expected effects of the proposed executive order and the federal program to keep greenhouse gas emissions at 1990 levels in the year 2000. The draft order promotes the manufacture and use of more recycled paper. It is well established that the manufacture of recycled paper uses more fossil fuel per ton produced than the manufacture of paper from wood. So long as the forest on which the wood-based paper mill is based is continually renewed, the increased use of recycled paper has a relatively adverse effect on greenhouse gas emissions. As the government is advocating both increased use of recycled paper and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, it is fair to conclude that in the quantities involved the government has placed on increased use of recycled paper a higher environmental priority than on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This conclusion is drawn from analysis of federal activities and technical information, but the choice described represents an important environmental policy decision. Such decisions should be consciously made and be publicly described, understood, and reviewed.

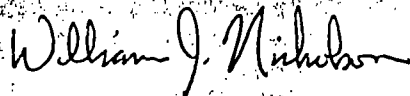
Ms. Kathleen McGinty

September 7, 1993

Page 5

I hope that these suggestions about the proposed executive order are useful in your considerations. Please call me if I may elaborate on these suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William J. Nicholson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Nicholson" clearly distinguishable.

WILLIAM J. NICHOLSON

WJN:ng

cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Diane Feinstein
Representative Lynn Woolsey

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 7, 1993

Mr. Hans C. Noetzli
President & CEO
Lonza, Inc.
17-17 Route 208
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Dear Mr. Noetzli:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your interest in the Executive Order on Recycled Goods.

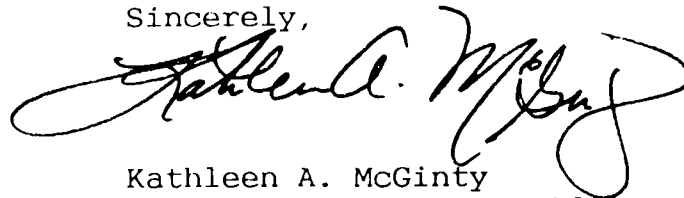
President Clinton and I are committed to the protection our nation's environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. Recycling continues to be one of our highest priorities.

This Executive Order will require federal agencies to begin procuring printing and writing paper containing postconsumer material. The purpose of this policy, among other things, is to provide an incentive for pulp and paper mills to use recovered materials, not just virgin materials, to make paper. This will provide markets for paper recovered from the municipal solid waste stream and ultimately result in substantially lower prices for recycled papers containing recovered materials.

I certainly appreciate learning your concerns about the implementation of this Executive Order. I believe that the Executive Order will adequately address the need for increased use and procurement of recycled and recovered materials.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen A. McGinty', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

HANS C. NOETZLI

President

Chief Executive Officer

LONZA INC.

17-17 ROUTE 208

FAIR LAWN, NEW JERSEY 07410

(201) 794-2400

August 3, 1993

Kathleen A. McGinty
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director, Office on Environmental Policy
Old Executive Office Building
17th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

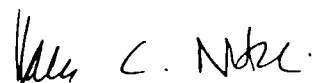
Dear Ms. McGinty:

I am writing with respect to the draft Executive Order on Federal recycling. While the Administration's desire to promote a healthy environment is laudable, the draft contains two areas of great concern. These are the governmental identification and promotion of "environmentally preferable" products and services and the procurement and market promotion of "totally chlorine-free" paper. I strongly urge that both of these extremely controversial provisions be removed from the draft Executive Order.

The above proposals would have major economic and social consequences. They would threaten the ability of the U.S. pulp and paper industry to compete domestically and internationally. In addition, there would be major losses for U.S. chemical producers. American jobs would be effectively exported to other countries. Yet it is questionable whether the Executive Order would achieve environmental benefits that are not already being achieved under existing regulatory programs.

An Executive Order is not an appropriate vehicle to make decisions of such a far-reaching nature. In effect, this amounts to the adoption of a regulatory program without the protections that are built into the regulatory process, including an open, public procedure for evaluating complex scientific and technical issues. All sides should be heard in this debate, in an open process rather than behind closed doors.

Sincerely,



Hans C. Noetzli
President & CEO

HCN/lw

CC: Frederick L. Webber
President, CMA

September 28, 1993

Ms. Kathleen Nave
Vice President, Communications
California Table Grape Commission
2975 N. Maroa, P.O. Box 5498
Fresno, CA 93755

Dear Ms. Nave,

Thank you for your letter and information concerning the bill to elevate the Environmental Protection Agency to cabinet status. I apologize for the delay in my response.

As you know, the President and I firmly believe that such an environmental steward in the top tier of our nation's government is critical to the preservation of the environment for future generations. The bill is currently being deliberated in the House. We remain optimistic that they will respond as did the Senate and that this process of change can begin swiftly. I thank you for your public poll information; we have kept it on file for future reference.

Again, thank you for letting me hear from you.

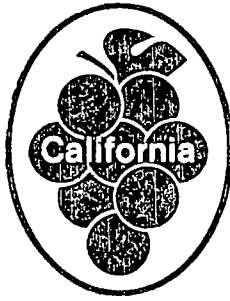
Sincerely,



Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/jac

California
Table
Grape
Commission



2975 N. MAROA · P. O. BOX 5498 · FRESNO, CALIF. 93755 · PH. 209-224-4997

May 7, 1993

Ms. Katie McGinty
Director, Office of Environmental Policy
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC 20500

Dear Ms. McGinty:

Recently, the California Table Grape Commission completed a survey of national leaders measuring their attitudes toward environmental issues facing the nation. We thought you would be interested in knowing that the opinion leaders surveyed ***support cabinet status for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by the same margin as the Senate.*** We thought the information might prove useful.

Seventy-nine percent of those polled support the EPA change. The poll, which was conducted on behalf of the 800 farm families that comprise the California fresh grape industry, surveyed more than 250 national opinion leaders representing 25 different disciplines. Disciplines included: major US corporations, trade associations, environmental associations and publications, major newspapers and magazines, religious associations, universities and state agencies.

Poll participants also felt that government and the business community, rather than environmental organizations, should take the lead in solving environmental challenges. Also, participants indicated that increased user fees or consumer taxes, rather than a tax on industry, should be used to fund environmental cleanup programs. Other findings of the poll:

- Air pollution was identified as the top environmental priority (20%), followed by water pollution (18%) and waste disposal (18%).
- Participants perceived different environmental priorities by industry: water pollution is seen as the top issue for industrial companies (52%), air quality issues such as acid rain for electrical utilities (71%), and ground water quality for farmers (66%).

Attached you will find a summary of the survey for your review and use. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to give me a call at 209-224-4997.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Nave".

Kathleen Nave
Vice President, Communications

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1993

Mr. Ed Nelson
Associate Deputy Chief for Technology
Soil Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
South Agriculture Building
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, D.C. 20250

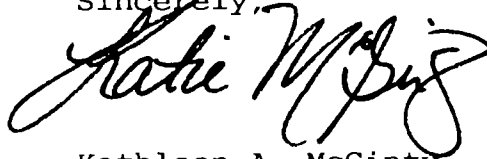
Dear Mr. Nelson:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you personally for your efforts to develop the President's wetlands policy.

Through the hard work of the interagency task force and your valuable input, we have shaped a policy that can move beyond the divisiveness that has characterized this issue for the past several years. I certainly appreciate your diligence in working toward a solution to this very important issue. I am enclosing a copy of my correspondence to Secretary Espy in this regard.

Again, thanks for your help on this initiative.

Sincerely,



Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

Enclosure

Thanks for all your help!