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Samedi 8 Février 2014

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Accueil / Repères & Sources / Mise à jour 22/09/2003

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Sécurité...

Lobbying – Un rapport du « Environmental Health Fund » révèle l'intense lobbying de l'administration Bush contre le projet européen REACH (Registration, Evaluation, and Authorization of Chemicals) qui vise à modifier la législation européenne sur les produits chimiques en y intégrant des normes relatives à la santé et à l'environnement...

The New Chemicals Legislation - REACH
European Commission DG Enterprise

US Intervention in EU Chemical Policy Environmental Health Fund Report 09/03

Les logiciels sélectionnés par Strategic-Road « ...In February 2001, the European Union released a plan for a sweeping reform of chemical regulatory policy known as REACH, which would require manufacturers to test chemicals for health impacts before putting them on the market. This report describes the efforts of the United States government, under the Bush Administration, to weaken REACH.

Documents obtained from anonymous sources and through the Freedom of Information Act lay out elements of an ambitious and wide-ranging campaign by the Environmental Protection Agency, State Department, Commerce Department, and United States Trade Representative to weaken REACH in concert with narrow chemical industry interests. The documents cover the period from April 2001 to April 2003.

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The US chemical industry strongly opposes REACH, which would require the chemical industry to provide information about the health and environmental effects of their products, and which proposes a method for restricting use of the most dangerous chemicals. REACH was designed to address a previous regulatory system that "grandfathered" the majority of chemicals out of requirements for safety data. This system resembles the current situation in the United States, where 95% of the chemicals in use today lack basic safety data about possible hazards to human health and the environment.

The US chemical industry fears REACH might serve as a model to update the US chemical regulatory policy. To weaken REACH, the industry engaged the aforementioned four agencies of the US government.

As these documents show, the US government essentially operated as a branch office of the US chemical industry.

These activities merit a full Congressional investigation into corporate influence over government actions at the relevant agencies and raise questions about the objectives of US foreign policy. EPA, Commerce, State, and USTR should desist from further lobbying against REACH and the Administration should publicly affirm the right of the European Union to implement important public health laws such as REACH without US government intervention... »

«...In February 2001, the European Union published the White Paper that described the REACH proposal. Internal documents reveal that the US government began to work on REACH the same year with personnel from EPA, State, Commerce, and USTR working together with each other and with the chemical industry..."

Le réseau des sites amis

ipmiginiac.com Une Galerie Del Nogier 2si-medical CCI « ... A document drafted by Charlie Auer, Director, EPA Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, reveals the key role of the EPA in making regulatory arguments against REACH... »

« ... A June 14, 2001 document describes US government meetings with industry and coordination among government agencies with the goal of influencing REACH in agreement with industry interests... »

« ...In September 2001, the chemical industry complained about the lack of an industryfriendly US policy on US-EU trade matters... The US government responded by attending a meeting at American Chemistry Council headquarters on January 17 and 18, 2002... The Bush administration solicited the chemical industry's position paper and the industry in turn Services en direct

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asked for help in influencing EU Member States against the proposal... A briefing paper for Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Linda Conlin, reveals the Department's impatience with the chemical industry and their active solicitation of the industry to lobby against REACH... The US government agencies were so anxious to begin lobbying on the industry's behalf, they did not wait for the industry's position paper to begin the campaign...»

- « ...The connections between the Administration and chemical industry solidified with the publication of the US government position, the "nonpaper"... The "nonpaper" effectively replicated the viewpoint of the chemical industry into the US government position...
- « ...On March 21, 2002, Colin Powell responded to the chemical industry's call for help by sending an "action request" cable to the US embassies in EU Member States and 35 other
- ...On March 22, 2002, the US Embassy Environment Science and Technology Officer accompanied EPA and American Chemistry Council officials on a March 8, 2002 meeting with German government officials and business representatives to lobby them against REACH... »
- « ...On April 9, 2002, the US Chamber of Commerce held a closed members-only meeting in Washington DC to discuss... »
- ...On May 21, 2002, US Ambassador to the EU, Rockwell Schnabel, commented on US government help to the chemical industry on REACH lobbying at a speech at the European
- « ...On May 28, 2002, Secretary of Commerce, Donald Evans, wrote to Geoffrey Gamble of Dupont, in his capacity as Chair of the US Trade Representative's Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Chemicals and Allied Products (ISAC-3). The Committee provides the chemical industry with many opportunities to influence US trade policy... »
- « ...On July 25, 2002, Rockwell Schnabel mentioned that the US government was closely following REACH in a speech at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council... »
- ...A United Kingdom chemical industry executive contacted Charlie Auer of the EPA, in late August 2002. Liz Surkovic, UK Chemical Industry Association, informed Auer that the industry had effectively placed itself in the position of helping to formulate UK policy on REACH by "loaning" her to the UK government. 40 Surkovic sought Auer's advice about substituting the US chemical regulatory system under TSCA for the REACH proposal...
- « ...Former CEO of Cabot Chemical Corporation and current Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Sam Bodman, addressed the American Chemical Society in August 2002... »
- « ...In September 2002, the US State Department helped coordinate another lobbying trip to the EU. 42 The US Embassy Environment Science and Technology Officer, Todd Wilson, arranged a trip for Charlie Auer and Susan Hazen of the EPA, to Brussels to meet with EU officials and chemical industry executives... »
- « ...In October 2002, the American Chemistry Council thanked the US Government, "...for its efforts to garner support for U.S. industry's position on the new EU Chemical Strategy (REACH Registration, Evaluation, Assessment of Chemicals)... »
- « ... A high-level meeting between US and EU officials took place December 16, 2002... »
- ...On December 17, 2002, Under Secretary of Commerce, Grant Aldonas further revealed the Department's dedication to the industry position at a press conference at the US Mission to the EU in Brussels... »
- In March 2003, Rockwell Schnabel wrote an editorial in the European Voice claiming to "...all US stakeholders - the administration, the business and environmental community at an early stage in the development of these new rules...
- « ...On April 2, 2003, Jeffrey M. Burnam, Assistant Secretary for Environment, spoke at a meeting of the Society of Organic Chemical Manufacturers Association. Burnam expressed concerns that RACH-style legislation that better protects public health might spread to
- « ...On April 29, 2003, just several days before REACH was released for public comment, Colin Powell sent a cable to EU Member States. 47 The cable repeated industry objections to REACH and urged US government agencies,...»
- "...In May 2003, the EU formally presented REACH for public comment. William Lash, Assistant Secretary, Department of Commerce, told the New York Times that, "This is a big game; it will dwarf the G.M.O. dispute." 48 Using chemical industry language, Lash described REACH as, "...a barrier based on unsound science or non-existent risk analysis that damages our exports..."... »
- « ...On May 6, 2003, the State Department issued a press release promoting a report from the National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC) concerning "...trade barriers that ignore sound
- « ...Press reports described the US government's opposition to REACH was due to, ".. unsound science and an abuse of regulatory authority... "... »

Voir aussi :

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chemical industry Health Care Without Harm 09/09/03

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Ecrits 2005-2009 - Jean-Philippe Miginiac
(CEO & Founder Strategic-Road.com)

L'auteur a réuni ici plusieurs de ses articles publiés entre 2005 et 2009, en France, aux Etats-Unis et au Proche-Orient. Dans ces articles il analyse les principaux enjeux géostratégiques de la période ayant suivi l'invasion de l'Irak.