

"WATER" RADIO AD BACKUP

League of Conservation Voters
 "Water"
 Radio: 60

AUDIO	BACKUP
<p>Methyl tertiary butyl ether – MTBE.... It threatens our drinking water</p>	<p>MTBE Is In The Water Supply Of 15 Million People. MTBE is in 1,515 public water systems in the United States, and impacts more than 15 million people. [Portland Herald Press, 11/10/03]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Few Drops Of MTBE Can Make An Olympic Size Swimming Pool Undrinkable. Only a few drops of it can make an Olympic size swimming pool completely undrinkable. [New Jersey State Law Journal, 10/20/03] • MTBE Gives Water A Foul Odor And Taste Making It Undrinkable. At relatively low levels, MTBE can create a foul taste and odor in water - making it virtually undrinkable. But the Environmental Protection Agency has indicated that there is little likelihood of MTBE causing adverse health effects at concentrations less than 20 ppb. The average level in Massachusetts is 4.6 ppb. [The Boston Globe, 10/19/03]
<p>And there are over 1900 MTBE sites in North Carolina.</p>	<p>There are Over 1900 Polluted MTBE Sites in North Carolina. According to data obtained from the Ron Krebs at the North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources there are 1911 sites contaminated with MTBE. [North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, Regional UST Database; Ron Krebs #(704) 663-1699]</p>
<p>The House recently passed a bill - with a special interest loophole for the oil and gas industry - that gets them off the hook for cleaning up these polluted MTBE sites in North Carolina.</p>	<p>The Energy Bill Will Create A Liability Waiver For MTBE Producers Nullifying Lawsuits Filed After September 5, 2003. Title XV Section 1502 of the Energy Policy Act establishes a "safe harbor" for MTBE producers by removing all lawsuits by cities, states and other entities seeking compensation for groundwater contamination filed after September 5, 2003. [HR 6 Title XV Sec. 1502 p. 21.]</p>

	<p>Energy Bill Will Virtually Eliminate All MTBE Suits. Since the energy bill conference report now makes the MTBE liability waiver retroactive to September 5, 2003 it would mean that practically all MTBE lawsuits currently pending in the court systems across the United States would be null and void. [Associated Press, 11/15/03]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MTBE Waiver Impacts More Than 130 Communities With Pending Lawsuits. There are currently 130 communities across the United States that would have to pass the costs of MTBE cleanup on to taxpayers if the waiver is passed as part of the Energy Policy Act. [http://www.ewg.org/issues/MTBE/20031117/liabilitywaiver.php, Accessed 12/12/03] • The Number Of MTBE Suits Continue To Rise. The number of MTBE related lawsuits rose rapidly in while the energy bill was being negotiated in conference committee. In September, about 60 MTBE lawsuits were filed nationally. Experts estimate that the total would rise above 100 within a couple of months. [Hartford Current, 10/17/03]
<p>And Congressman Richard Burr? He voted for it.</p>	<p>Congressman Richard Burr Voted For The Energy Bill. On November 18, 2003 Congressman Richard Burr voted to pass the Energy Policy Act of 2003. [HR 6, Roll Call 630, 11/18/03]</p>
<p>Why? Because Richard Burr has taken hundreds of thousands of dollars in contributions from the oil and gas industry that makes MTBE.</p>	<p>1994-2004: Burr Took Over \$200,000 From Oil, Gas Industry: From 1994-2004 Richard Burr has taken \$215,736 from the oil and gas industry. [Center for Responsive Politics, Campaign Finance Data, 1994-2004]</p> <p>Oil Industry Lobbied Hard For MTBE Option In Energy Bill: According to the Poughkeepsie Journal the oil and gas industry lobbied hard for the MTBE option in the energy bill. The paper wrote, The oil industry fought hard for the MTBE option, since this additive is a byproduct of the refining process and cheaper to use than other alternatives, such as ethanol." [Poughkeepsie Journal, 11/20/03]</p>
<p>Polluters who will save \$29 billion dollars in clean up costs – leaving taxpayers to clean up their mess.</p>	<p>Waiver Estimated To Be A \$29-Billion Industry Giveaway. The MTBE liability waiver included in the Energy Policy Act of 2003 is estimated to protect MTBE producers from an estimated \$29 billion that they would have to pay to cleanup contaminated sites across the United States according to the</p>

	Environmental Working Group. [www.ewg.org , Accessed 12/15/03]
No wonder the non-partisan League of Conservation Voters just named Richard Burr to its Dirty Dozen. A list of America's worst legislators when it comes to protecting the environment.	League Of Conservation Voters Named Burr To Dirty Dozen List. In 2004, the League of Conservation Voters named Richard Burr to its Dirty Dozen list. [Washington Post, 9/13/04]
Log on to lcv.org and learn more about Richard Burr's votes against protecting North Carolina's air and water. The League of Conservation Voters is responsible for the content of this advertising. Paid for by the League of Conservation Voters at lcv.org not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.	