Re: Fwd: More on Sludge

Mabutas, Maria

From: Francesca Vietor [francesca@igc.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2010 9:20 PM
To: Harrington, Ed
Subject: Re: Fwd: More on Sludge

I hope it doesn't start a spitting fight.

Good job.

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Sent using BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----
From: Francesca Vietor <francesca@igc.org>
To: Harrington, Ed
Sent: Thu Mar 25 20:21:16 2010
Subject: Fwd: More on Sludge

fya

>>>Dear John,
>>>>
>>>I have conducted a small private investigation of the PUC Toxic
>>>Sludge situation in San Francisco and found some problems with
>>>your reporting, problems that could land you in trouble. Let me
>>>cut right to the quick. From what I can find Francesca Vietor, has
>>>never "actively promoted" the PUC giveaway of sludge, nor has she
>>>ever defended it. If you have hard evidence to the contrary I
>>>suggest you produce it quickly or at least have copies ready to
>>>produce if you need them. I understand that you have been asked,
>>>and have offered to produce the scientific data behind your
>>>claims and have not done so. I advise you, as a friend, to follow
>>>through on that offer. I also understand that when you spoke to
>>>Francesca she told you that that was the first she had heard of
>>>the whole matter, and you left that statement out of your report.
>>>I suggest you find a way to work it back into your reporting if
>>>possible.
>>>>
>>>I am not doing this in defense of Francesca Vietor, who is, I
>>>admit, an acquaintance. But as I told you a while back, that it is
>>>her husband Mark Hertsgaard who is my friend. And I am not doing
>>>this as a favor to him either. I am doing it in defense of good
>>>journalism and to protect you from possible litigation. This is
>>>not a threat, John, from me, Francesca, Mark or the PUC, just my
>>>observation and the the observation of others who have read your
>>>reports (and OCA's letter to Alice Waters) and the facts behind
>>>the story, that you are treading a thin fine line between truth
>>>and libel.

5/17/2010
Incidentally, I have watched Francesca Vietor at work for almost twenty years. She created and lead the first Mayor’s Environmental Department in San Francisco (one of the first of its kind in the country) and she is BY FAR the greenest commissioner and strongest environmental advocate on the PUC.

In short I encourage you to step back, take a closer look at everything you have, and if you can prove your case against Vietor with strong documentation, fire away, if not I would recant a few of your seemingly undocumented allegations and have Ronnie stop trying to get Francesca fired from the Chez Pannisse Foundation by comparing her to Monsanto. John, that sounds like Tea Party rhetoric.

Very Best,

Mark

Mark Dowie

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