

**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

fyi

>>>>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.

DUPLICATE  
NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD

DUPLICATE  
NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD

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>>>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 it's kind in the  
>>>country) and she is BY FAR the greenest commissioner and strongest  
>>>environmental advocate on the PUC.

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>>>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

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>>>

>>>Mark Dowie

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