

STAMFORD CONNECTICUT

The Stamford Urban Redevelopment Commission (URC), is soliciting qualifications of firms interested in developing a mixed use residential/retail project on an ideally located 4.5 acre site in downtown Stamford. Information regarding the project and selection process is available in the URC's Request for Qualification which can be obtained by remitting \$25.00 to:

Urban Redevelopment Commission

605 Main Street
Stamford, CT 06901
Tel: (203) 327-9180
Submission Deadline - May 13, 1988

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pay raise for Federal civilian employees of the military.

The committee's budget leaves intact the agreed upon spending level of \$294 billion for military programs for the 1989 fiscal year and does not change the proposal designed to raise \$14 billion in new taxes. Most of the levies would be on corporations.

Study Finds Dioxin Caused No Increase In Defects at Birth

CHICAGO, March 17 (Reuters) — An accident in 1976 in Italy that exposed the largest population ever to the chemical byproduct dioxin caused no increase in birth defects, scientists have reported.

The accident at the Givaudan-La Roche Icmesa plant near Seveso, north of Milan, released a cloud of gas containing dioxin that spread over 1,800 densely populated acres.

Dioxin causes cancer in animals and possibly in humans and has induced birth defects in laboratory animals. After the accident, there were fears that exposure of the nearby population to minute amounts of the substance would cause birth defects.

But in the current edition of The Journal of the American Medical Association, researchers at Rome's Catholic University and the Italian Birth Defects Monitoring Program said children born in the contaminated area after the accident appeared not to have been abnormally affected.

The findings are consistent with those of several other studies on humans that have failed to find evidence that exposure to dioxin causes birth defects.

The Italian researchers said a study of 15,291 children born over a six-year period found a rate of malformations and other birth defects about the same as in areas of the country that had not been contaminated. "Still more important is the fact that no infant with a major malformation was identified in the most highly contaminated zone," the researchers reported.

The scientists said their study, together with others conducted in humans, suggested that if there was any increased risk of birth defects associated with exposure to dioxin it was "unlikely to be large, or might be limited to very rare and specific birth defects."

Dioxin is a contaminant that shows up in the manufacture of herbicides, pesticides and other chemicals. It was present in Agent Orange, the defoliant used in Vietnam, which has been blamed by soldiers exposed to it for subsequent health problems.

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