

# Texans want toxic shipments stopped

**United Press International**  
**WASHINGTON** — William Ruckelshaus has a great deal of interest in acid rain pollution and the Reagan administration will not propose legislation on the issue until he becomes EPA chief, an environmental official says.

Nancy Maloley of the President's Council on Environmental Quality told a congressional forum on acid rain, Tuesday, that the administration will not take a definitive stand on air pollution legislation pending in Congress until Ruckelshaus settles in at the Environmental Protection Agency.

In addition, a Canadian government source said Ruckelshaus will be directly involved in any future talks between the United States and Canada.

Ruckelshaus, a former EPA administrator popular among environmentalists, was nominated by President Reagan last month to take over the troubled agency. He is expected to win Senate confirmation within a month.

Congress and the White House have been deadlocked for more than two years over

reauthorization of the Clean Air Act, a landmark environmental protection law. The reauthorized bill is likely to impose limits on sulfur-dioxide pollution environmentalists and some scientists believe it will reduce environmental damage from highly acidic air pollution.

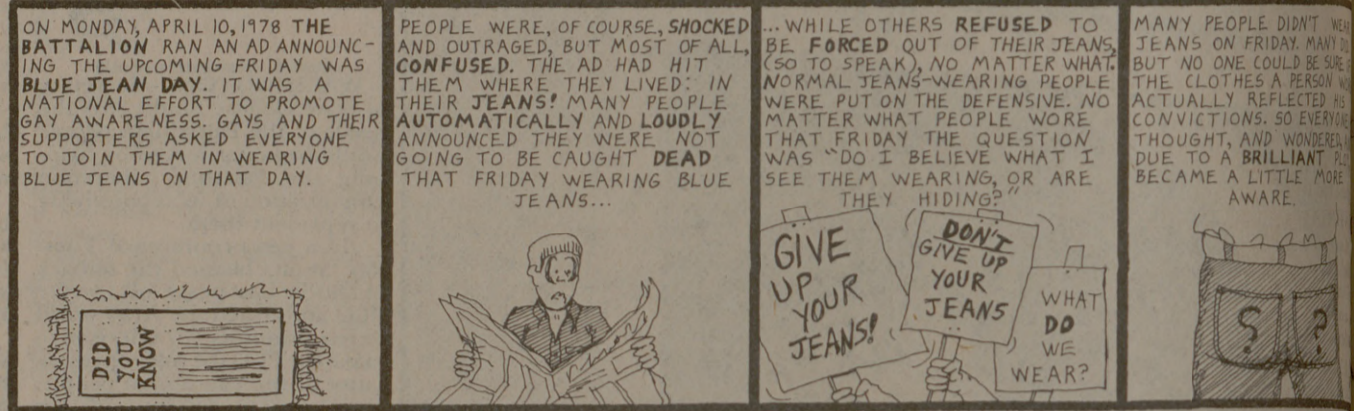
The decision to await Ruckelshaus, a moderate Republican, before proceeding further on the Clean Air Act may indicate the administration is reducing its efforts to weaken the law.

Acid rain is created when sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides combine with water vapor in the atmosphere. It is blamed for damage to lakes, streams, forests and man-made structures in eastern North America and parts of Europe.

Environmentalists assert available evidence points strongly to sulfur emissions from coal-burning power plants, especially in the Midwest United States, as the major cause of acid rain damage in the East.

## Warped

by Scott McCull



## EPA chief awaiting approval

# Acid rain rulings held up

**United Press International**  
**WASHINGTON** — A Texas citizen's group is threatening to set up a boat blockade to prevent a hazardous waste disposal company from hauling contaminated rain water from Alabama for disposal in Corpus Christi.

"If I can find out when the barges come through Matagorda, we intend to block the canal with shrimp boats, pleasure boats, canoes, whatever we can find," said Sharon Sarafino, head of a Matagorda County environmental group.

The group was formed to fight Chemical Waste Management Inc.'s plans to open a new landfill near Bay City.

Donald Reddcliffe, a company spokesman, said Tuesday from the firm's Oakbrook, Ill., headquarters that it appeared the firm will go forward with plans for the landfill.

Sarafino said the Matagorda County Citizens for Environmental Protection object to hazardous wastes being brought to nearby Corpus Christi from another state, and to the lack of regulation over shipment of toxic substances on the Intra-Coastal Waterway.

Reddcliffe said Chemical Waste Management will move rain water, which has after recent heavy downpours in Western Alabama, to help clear the way for opening of its 2,100-acre site near Emelle, Ala. State officials ordered the site of alleged violations including the rain water barges carrying the waste to Corpus Christi on a new inland waterway, Reddcliffe said. He said he was sure that company technicians thoroughly tested that water, and were it not hazardous waste site, it would not be defined as hazardous.

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