




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### DEMS' SMELLY TIMING ON WTC AIR

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September 1, 2003 -- Living on the Lower East Side on 9/11 it was obvious there was "stuff" in the air ("... While Midgets Snipe," Editorial, Aug. 27). Also was it obvious that tons of glass, wiring and computers had just been pulverized and incinerated next door. The danger was evident, without the EPA's guarded words.

The Democratic leadership was largely silent: It may be they judged the air quality a low-priority at that chaotic time. Choosing to make air quality an issue now does indeed seem timed for political impact.

**Dwight MacAllister  
Manhattan**

The report The Post dismisses - simply because its author was a Clinton appointee - shows that the original draft of a Sept. 13, 2001, EPA press release stated "Even at low levels, EPA considers asbestos hazardous in this situation..." The Sept. 18 release - rewritten by a Bush appointee and former industry trial lawyer - assured that "Short-term, low-level exposure [to asbestos] of the type that might have been produced by the collapse of the World Trade Center buildings is unlikely to cause significant health effects."

**Michael Governor  
Jersey City, N.J.**

Rep. Jerry Nadler joins a long list of political bags-of-wind, more than willing to fuel the flames of 9/11 hysteria by yelling, "The EPA lied!" You had to be asleep or not breathing to not notice that the World Trade Center air was not safe to inhale for many weeks following 9/11.

If Nadler can fume over air quality in his district, where are the independent studies commissioned by his office that were done to make sure his constituents and those contributing to his district's economy would not be harmed? Where was Nadler when our lips, nostrils and throats were burning?

**Tish Ferguson  
Pt. Pleasant, N.J.**

Finally, Hillary Clinton is demanding action and answers from the EPA and the Bush administration regarding the air quality post-9/11 around Ground Zero ("Hillary Knows Conspiracies," Editorial, Aug. 28). Of course, this comes two years later: It's easy to blame and distance yourself from any responsibility for seeking out answers for your constituents when they are necessary.

**Joe DellaCamera  
Staten Island**

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If the Environmental Protection Agency misled the public about the status of the air quality around Ground Zero after 9/11, the residents of New York City - and the whole country, for that matter - deserve to know. If the speculation turns out to be accurate that the Bush administration deliberately turned a blind eye to inaccurate environmental statements, the public should know that, too.

Who better to give voice to this issue than the junior senator from the Empire State? Whether Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton has been exposed to a conspiracy in her day or not is of little concern.

**Lewis Cohen**  
**Manhattan**

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Hillary Clinton slipped and told the truth the other day in her eagerness to accuse the Bush White House of misstating the air quality levels in New York after the 9/11 attacks. She said, "I know a little bit about how the White House works. Somebody in that White House - probably under instructions from someone further up the chain - told the EPA, 'Don't tell the people of New York the truth,' and I want to know who that is."

Of course, in the Clinton White House, that job was hers.

**Bob Lacko**  
**Linden, N.J.**

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As a firefighter who searched through the wreckage of the World Trade Center, it is my estimation that it is neither "over-the-top" nor "intemperate" for Rep. Nadler to request a Department of Justice investigation into the White House's role in misleading New Yorkers by getting the EPA to downplay post-9/11 health concerns.

Following 9/11, it was the EPA's job to protect us from toxic chemicals in the environment. It was not the EPA's job to put politics ahead of the people by downplaying concerns of air quality and contaminants in WTC dust. Many firefighters are still, today, working in firehouses contaminated by WTC dust.

**Rudy Sanfilippo**  
**Queens**

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The Post calls Sen. Clinton to task over her reaction to the EPA inspector general's report concerning the condition and quality of the air in the immediate aftermath of the World Trade Center destruction on 9/11.

What boggles the mind here is that the writers of those words, the editors and the entire staff of this newspaper breathed those poisons. Yet you can only be critical of the critics.

**Marsha Haber**  
**Holliswood**

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