

Statement for the EPA WTC Expert Technical Review Panel

My name is Diane Dreyfus and I represent Little Italy Neighborhood Association and 911_health Alerts - the latter organization formed to counter the EPA's lack of Outreach.

To hear the Head of EPA declare it was safe in lower Manhattan after nobody said it was particularly dangerous was sort of a "ho-hum". After all on the day of 9/11, we had gasped with relief to know that no Air Quality Alert was going to force evacuation and that the ashen people, who had staggered through our neighborhood until dark were not going to be sickened by toxic dust.

The EPA lullaby signaled downtown to get about healing the shock and grief. But too soon our daughters started miscarrying and delivering low birth weight babies and our kids needed more and better cough syrups and inhalers to keep their asthma under control. Through the second year, we coped with the clean-up follies and many of us who could not say otolaranthologist saw one. Now in the third year it's friends with that long, deep and repeating Bronchitis and pneumonia.

This experience tells us something went bad-wrong with the environmental science, yet we have no way of getting it right unless you help us.

We need to know:

The "foot print" and the "finger print" of the plume - that is the distribution in miles and the chemical composition.

How Canal Street remains the Northern limit why less than 4500 people were enrolled accept the EPA testing?

Why can't less invasive and alternate methods of sample collection be explored - like hepa filter system distribution followed some period later by collection and analysis of the machines and their contents.

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