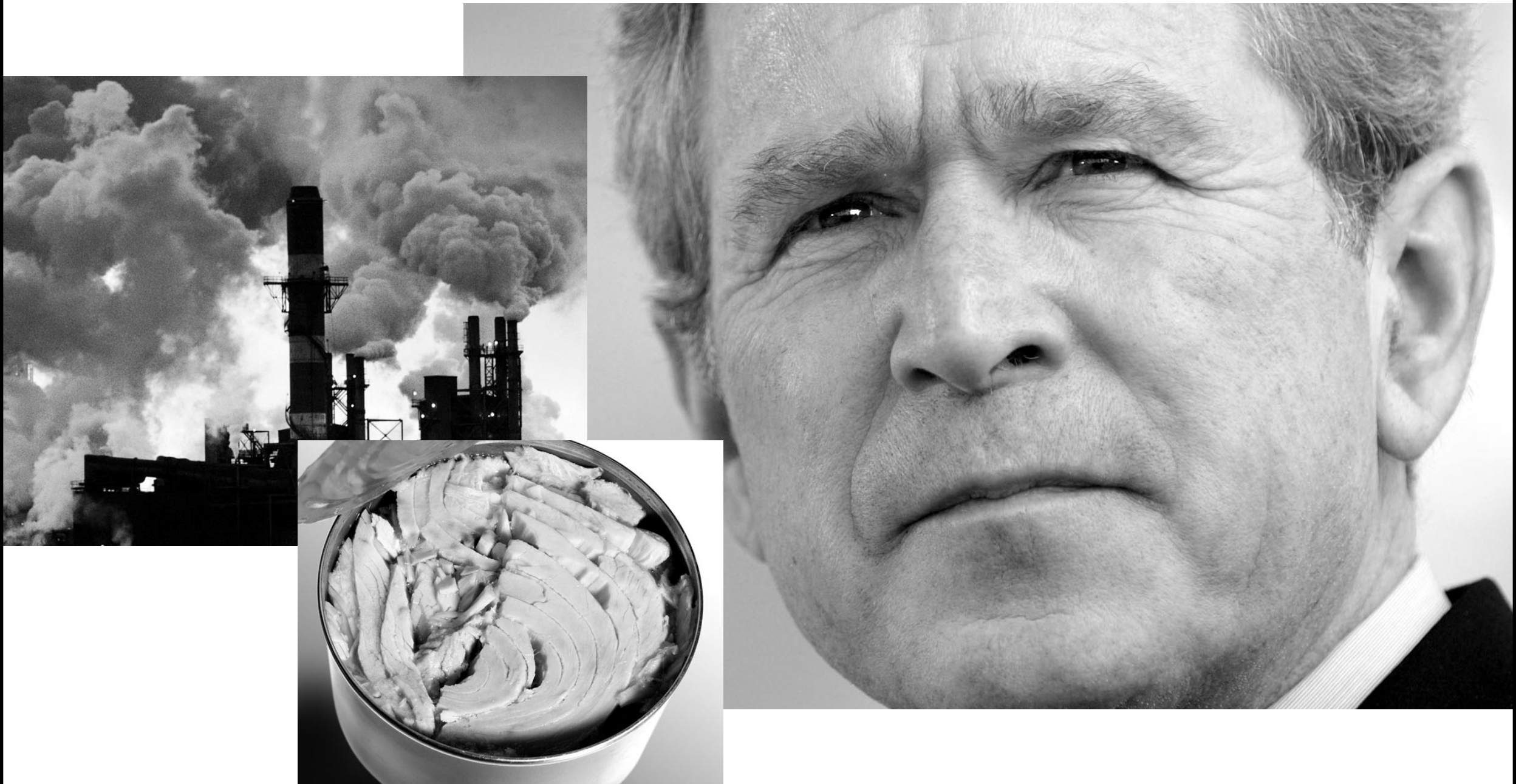


First Arsenic Now Mercury

GEORGE BUSH'S EPA AND THE POLITICS OF POLLUTION



America learned this week that tuna, and many other fish, can contain harmful levels of toxic mercury. Forty-five states already post warnings of mercury contamination in their lakes and streams. So why is President Bush trying to weaken controls on mercury pollution?

It's déjà vu all over again. Early in his presidency, George Bush tried to allow more arsenic in drinking water. Now, he wants the EPA to let coal-fired power plants treat their mercury pollution as "non-hazardous" even though mercury threatens pregnant women and children.

The Bush administration's

ploy would allow coal-fired power plants to put more mercury into the air, where it rains down on lakes and oceans, is swallowed by fish, and could wind up on your plate. Exposure to mercury can cause learning disabilities and neurological damage in kids and the developing fetus.

Guess who is praising this scheme? Coal power companies, who are big mercury polluters and big political contributors, too.

The Mercury Money Trail

The big mercury polluters and their trade associations are aggressive political players in Washington. Their

executives and PACs are also generous political donors. It's no surprise that the Bush administration is following the industry's script for weakening mercury regulations.

Last time around, President Bush had to back down on arsenic in the face of a massive outcry from people across the political spectrum.

Let's make history repeat itself.

Tell President Bush to get serious about reducing mercury pollution. Our kids deserve no less. Let the Bush administration and the EPA hear your voice about its proposed mercury rule. Go to www.nrdc.org

YES, I want to join the Natural Resources Defense Council and help thwart President Bush's plan to weaken controls on toxic mercury. Here is my tax-deductible gift of \$ _____.

NAME

EMAIL (NRDC WILL NEVER SHARE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WITH OTHERS)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Make your check payable to NRDC and mail it to NRDC Mercury Campaign, 40 West 20th St., New York, NY 10011. Your gift of \$10 or more entitles you to a Wildlands tote bag and a year's subscription to Nature's Voice, the bulletin of environmental campaigns and victories.

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