

● **About *Looking at the Planet***

Looking at the Planet is a selection of the papers, talks, testimony, articles, comments, etc. that I authored or co-authored in the years 1978-2007 when I was active in environmental politics.

They include articles published in newspapers, newsletters and journals; scripts read on the eponymous “Looking at the Planet” program I hosted on KSUN community radio in Bisbee, Arizona; papers, reports and *communiques* issued by non-governmental organizations; talks delivered to environmental, political, religious and business organizations and Earth Day gatherings; comments to and testimony before governmental and intergovernmental bodies at local, state, national and international levels—most made financially possible largely due to a number of non-profit foundations and environmental organizations, government agencies, and private parties corporate and individual. Most of the policy-related papers of Arizona Toxics Information, the non-profit I started in 1990) are included, except for a few lengthier technical reports and interactive software on US-Mexico border issues).

I started putting these papers together for publication in book form a few years ago in the belief, or at least in the hope, that insofar as they led to successful outcomes on struggles they engaged, they may be of more than historical, cultural or biographical interest, may in fact be of practical use to people faced with similar environmental threats and issues.

Following the recent elections, with evisceration of environmental laws and regulations being openly proposed by powerful forces in Washington and state capitols, it occurred to me that they may be of even more immediate and widespread use than I had thought likely. With that sense of urgency in mind, I decided to make them accessible as soon as possible on the Web even though the brief introductions I had planned for each section of the hardcopy compilation were as yet unfinished or unwritten. Those are posted here as works-in-progress of sites under-construction.

The papers are sorted by topic (with considerable overlapping) in eleven sections or chapters and within each section, more or less chronologically by first date of presentation or publication. Most of them date from 1978-1999, none earlier than that and only five later. The introductions which head each section are intended not as essays in themselves, nor as synopses of the sections they introduce, but simply to suggest contexts in which the papers originally appeared; in general, no attempt is made to reference later developments in science, politics, etc.

All but four of the papers are reproduced as they were originally, except for minor corrections of typos, grammar, spelling, punctuation, format, etc. Those four are presented here only in part: the Bisbee Vegetation Management Committee paper and USFS IPM papers are complete except that the exhibits presented with the originals are here excluded; the reports on the Border Right to Know Project and the Tijuana River Watershed Toxics Data Project are represented here only by their introductions, summaries and recommendations of the originals.

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