



# Our Policy Position on

# Community Right-to-Know

The Edison Electric Institute (EEI) in 1993 adopted a policy position on Community Right-To-Know.<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to this policy, EEI:

- Supports the public's right to the availability of accurate, meaningful information on the presence and environmental release of substances that would pose hazards to the community. EEI also supports public availability of accurate information on the relative potential hazards posed by these substances to human health or the environment.
- Supports a system for reporting information on releases of hazardous substances that has technical and scientific merit. Such reporting would include substances identified as hazardous to human health or the environment. Reporting thresholds should be based on the level of hazard to human health or the environment. Any reporting program must recognize that small quantities of some substances, including those found in fossil fuel combustion byproducts, may not pose a hazard to human health or the environment. Reasonable estimates based on best engineering judgments should be an acceptable method for reporting purposes.
- Encourages the development of a systematic approach to reporting that will provide accurate, useful, and timely information about hazardous substances in the community. EEI supports the

efforts of federal, state, and local authorities to establish and maintain programs that help define risks, that evaluate hazardous substances, and that provide communities with information to manage, understand, and develop contingency plans for hazards.

- Supports those changes to existing community right-to-know regulations or laws that are based upon an assessment of the degree of hazard to human health or the environment and are consistent with the guidelines of this policy position. The addition or deletion of facilities and/or chemicals through the regulatory process or changes to the law should always be based upon complete and scientifically accurate data. Thus, in this assessment process EPA and Congress should consider the findings of the EPA Report to Congress on the health risks from electric utility emissions of hazardous air pollutants that is required by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990.

<sup>1</sup> Approved by the EEI Board of Directors, March 31, 1993.



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