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To: Lorraine D. Hunt OIRA ECON GUIDE/OMB/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: OMB Draft Guidelines

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March 29, 2003

Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs Lorraine Hunt  
Office of Management and Budget, NEOB  
Room 10202, 725 17th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs Hunt:

&#8226;The "OMB Draft Guidelines for the Conduct of Regulatory Analysis and the Format of Accounting Statements" determines that saving the life of an elderly person is worth less than saving the life of a younger person.

&#8226;The OMB's conclusion that the lives of senior citizens are less valuable raises serious ethical and scientific questions. In fact, one could argue that their life experiences make them more valuable.

&#8226;The analysis proposes to devalue the life of a human over 70 to 2/3 that of the rest of the population and lowers the established EPA price tag of a human life from \$6.1 million to \$3.7 million.

&#8226;If analysis is fully applied, regulations for air pollution, toxic waste cleanup, food labeling and other quality of life issues could be weakened or not even implemented at all&#8212;and our senior citizens will feel the brunt of it since their health is the most vulnerable to dirty air and unhealthy food.

&#8226;This is a mere pretext to cut the value of health and safety standards in order to protect the industries that stand to gain from this White House initiative. The current administration has already shown it will go to any lengths to hack away at any and all protections for the citizens of this country if that could possibly increase the income of the big business.

In fact, if this administration prevails all our lives will be of lower quality and value as we are forced to breathe fouled air, consume dangerous food and water, vacation in trashed environments, work in unsafe work places (or stand in ever lengthening unemployment lines), do without health care or other social services etc. all so Bush's cronies can have more billions in their pockets.

Sincerely,  
Julie Pizzo