

“Texaco has admitted it dumped more than 18 billion gallons of toxic waste water into Ecuador's Amazon waterways when it was the exclusive operator of an oil consortium from 1964 to 1990. The waste included carcinogens such as benzene, and five indigenous groups assert their traditional lifestyles have been decimated by the contamination.” - *Amazon Defense Coalition Press Release: 2/17/09*

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“As examples, Prieto pointed out that Chevron itself submitted several soil samples to the court that show high levels of public health risk above legal norms. While the typical norm is Ecuador is 1,000 parts per million in the soil for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (norms mark the point past which public health is threatened), Chevron found samples at 63,140 ppm (63 times higher than the Ecuadorian norm) at Texaco's former Sacha 51 well site, 39,180 ppm (39 times higher) at Texaco's Sacha 21 well site, and 20,180 ppm at Texaco's Sacha 53 well site (20 times higher).

Garrigo's claim that these soil samples pose no risk to human health is demonstrably false, said Prieto. The [official U.S. government website](#) that tracks toxicity asserts that substances in TPH – which include the carcinogen benzene – can cause leukemia, damage the central nervous system, and create fatigue, headache, nausea, and drowsiness.” *Amazon Defense Coalition Press Release: 5/4/09*

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“The lawsuit charges that Texaco systematically discharged billions of gallons of "formation water" into the rainforest and abandoned more than 900 toxic waste pits gouged out of the jungle, which are still leaking toxins into soils and groundwater on which the local population relies for drinking water.

Formation water is a mixture of harmful hydrocarbons that includes the carcinogen benzene and is highly saline. In the U.S. and most other countries, "formation waters" almost always are re-injected into deep wells to avoid contamination of fresh water.” - *Amazon Defense Coalition Press Release: 4/30/09*

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“Evidence in the civil trial shows "remediated" waste pits with Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) of up to 206,512 parts per million (ppm), or 206 times higher than the Ecuadorian norm of 1,000 ppm, according to Douglas Beltman, a scientist at Stratus Consulting in Boulder who works with the plaintiffs. TPH are a body of toxic chemicals that include benzene, a known human carcinogen.” - *Amazon Defense Coalition Press Release: 9/15/08*

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“Of 46 waste pits operated exclusively by Texaco, 42 had levels of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPHs) over the Ecuadorian norm of 1,000 parts per million - meaning they pose a serious threat to public health. (TPHs contain a variety of life-threatening carcinogens such as benzene.)” - *Amazon Defense Coalition Press Release: 9/10/08*