

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 31, 1992

To Whom It May Concern:

It was my pleasure to make videotaped presentations at all three National Teleconferences on the Earth Summit, which occurred in February, March and April of this year. I would have happily appeared to speak live at these broadcasts, but scheduling conflicts prevented it.

I consider these satellite TV broadcasts to be a great success. They educated people on the importance of the Earth Summit and about how American citizens could make their voices heard regarding our government's negotiating positions. I understand that altogether these broadcasts reached hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people.

My press officer, Marla Romash, worked closely with the executive producer, Frank Melli. She was pleased that the productions were interesting, informative and covered the issues comprehensively. The other speakers were well-informed, dynamic and knowledgeable.

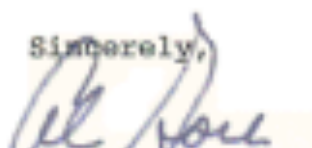
Clearly, our government works best when citizens are well-informed and can take part in public debate about important issues facing our nation. I view these teleconferences as an innovative way to inform citizens and bring them into public debate. They focused on one of the most important issues facing humanity -- the needs of the people both today and in the future.

During the two years of preparatory negotiations and during the Earth Summit itself, the Bush Administration blocked consensus on many of the issues being debated. In fact, it is generally agreed that the Administration's positions prevented stronger agreements in several areas and worked to isolate the United States from the rest of the world. However, I believe that efforts such as the Earth Summit teleconferences did have some impact on the Administration. Without such efforts, the obstruction and stubborn unwillingness to compromise by the Bush Administration would likely have been even worse.

I understand Mr. Melli is reassembling the production team that successfully created the teleconferences on the Earth Summit to organize a national teleconference as a follow-up to the Earth Summit. If their future work is as creative as it has been in the past -- and I expect it to be -- it definitely will be a worthwhile

undertaking. This new project could make a valuable contribution to public understanding of and involvement in global environment and development issues.

Sincerely,



Albert Gore, Jr.
U.S. Senator