

2008 Presidential Candidate Environmental Health Comparison

	1997: ANA HOD Resolution: Reduction of Health Care Production of Toxic Pollution	ANA Adopts Precautionary Approach	2004 HOD Resolution: Inappropriate Use of Antimicrobials in Agriculture	2006 ANA HOD Resolution: Nursing Practice, Chemical Exposure, and Right-to-Know	EPA Mercury Lawsuit
Senator Barack Obama	<p>States environmental protection will be “understood as a cornerstone of prevention</p> <p>“Children have the right to be protected from environmental toxins like mercury”</p> <p>Wants the EPA to ID sources of toxics that endanger health an take action to stop flow into environment</p>	<p>States environmental protection will be “understood as a cornerstone of prevention”</p>		<p>Will push for passage of his “Healthy Communities Act” which expands research on toxicants and pollutants.</p> <p>Comment: Need to ensure that the research is independent and done before market release</p>	<p>“Children have the right to be protected from environmental toxins like mercury”</p> <p>Environmental degradation disproportionately effects low-income and minority communities</p> <p>Will strengthen and vigorously enforce the Clean Air Act</p> <p>“We must have aggressive reductions in mercury emissions from coal plants immediately”</p>
Senator John McCain	<p>Identifies self as “a reformer who fights waste, pollution, and other short-sighted practices that neglect our obligation to future generations”</p> <p>Comment: This is a broad statement that can also be applied to the precautionary principle and the chemicals policy resolution. It was not on found the list of issues, but was part of the introductory paragraph for his Environmental Stewardship Coalition.</p>			<p>States that “the U.S. Must Become A Leader In A New International Green Economy. Green jobs and green technology will be vital to our economic future.”</p> <p>Will make “Greening the federal government a priority” Wants to lead by example and “move the construction market in the direction of green technology.”</p>	<p>Will “Commit \$2 Billion Annually To Advancing Clean Coal Technologies”</p> <p>Will “Encourage The Market For Alternative, Low Carbon Fuels Such As Wind, Hydro And Solar Power” and proposes that “we rationalize the current patchwork of temporary tax credits that provide commercial feasibility”</p> <p>Comment: Although clean coal technologies would reduce mercury emissions. It would be preferable to commitment this magnitude of funding to advancement of renewable energy sources (e.g. solar, wind)</p>

- **Obama** is very prevention oriented which is key in the precautionary principle but not specific in his plans.
- **McCain** is heavily focused on energy policy and climate change. Chemicals/chemicals policy reform are not specifically addressed.

Information in this chart relies substantially on materials from the Obama and McCain campaigns, candidate questionnaire responses, websites.