Rhonda,

Below is a note that we have sent to the Fox reporter, Steve Harrigan, who is now in Ecuador, taking the “toxic tour” with the plaintiffs this week. Jim Craig met with his producer, Fin Gomez, yesterday in Quito. We thought we were making progress yesterday, but got an email earlier today indicating that they did not believe they would have time to meet with us further and see our sites. Gomez and Harrigan are out of the Miami bureau of Fox News. Both covered the BP Spill and were alerted to the situation in Ecuador when the Ecuadorian plaintiffs visited the Gulf Coast a few weeks back. Their story appears to be a 2-minute segment on the impact of oil spills on indigenous people.

Based on where this story is trending, we have launched a full offensive to kill it or redirect it. Both Kent and Greg Jenkins (Brunswick) have spoken to Nancy Harmeyer, the Fox News bureau chief in Miami. Jenkins knows Nancy from his time as a producer at Fox News. Nancy was not fully up-to-speed on the story, just having returned from vacation yesterday. She understands our concern, and told us she has spoken to the reporter. The reporter told her that he intended to with us in Ecuador tomorrow, though we have yet to confirm this directly with the reporter himself.

In addition to working through the Miami bureau, we have reached out to more senior news folks at Fox News, both in NY (through Dana) and in WDC (through Greg Mueller). So, we are trying to attack this story on multiple fronts. To this end, Kent is set to talk to John Stack and Sean Smith who both reside at Fox News in NY at 1:30 p.m. today.

Finally, if need be, I think we may need to pull the JSW card with Roger Ailes. We have checked John’s availability to place a call to Roger, but his first availability is tomorrow afternoon. That may be too late, since they plan to air the story on Thursday. We have pulled together some talking points John could use in a five-minute phone call with Ailes.

Anyway, we can discuss after our 1 p.m. call. Dave

Steve, Nancy passed along your email and suggested I get in touch with you about the story you’re working on. I’d spoken with Fin briefly yesterday and hopefully he has e-mail from me as well (attached).