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**BIG DADDY DOW AND THE WEEDKILLER OF DOOM**

by: [El Dragón](#)  
 Tue, 10/28/2008 - 15:49

Ah, NAFTA! What a wonderful web of malfeasance you've wrought. In your efforts to enhance "free trade" (one of the greatest examples of real-life [newspeak](#) there ever was), you've created a crowbar for multinationals to pop open markets against their will. Cool!

Take [the stand-off currently going on between Quebec and Dow AgroSciences](#). Quebec has the audacity to tell Dow, a company that's roughly 4.5 times the size of God, that they don't want Dow's weedkiller "2,4-d" to be used in Quebec for merely cosmetic, squirt-it-around-the-lawn purposes. I mean, who the hell is Quebec? Dow has divisions bigger than Quebec's GNP, and they're gonna throw down a ban?

Well, Dow doesn't have an army with which to invade (yet), so they submitted a 27-page brief under Chapter 11 of NAFTA, which allows companies and investors to end-run local courts and sue the federal government, if the locals get uppity. In their paper, Dow calls Quebec's actions tantamount to "nationalization" (??) in an effort to get Canada's federal government to lean on its provinces. From the above article:

*Dow's legal brief accuses the Quebec government of implementing a pesticide ban that "is not based on science" and was applied to 2,4-D "without providing any meaningful opportunity" for the company to make its case that the herbicide is safe.*

Such nice, polite talk, eh? "Here now, my good man, you've done me a disservice by not affording me a meaningful opportunity!" What crap. I know a smackdown when I see one, so, here, now, is the Food Fighter interpretation of Dow's argument.

*Oh, no, no, no, you gonna suck Big Daddy's weedkiller, baby! Don't like that? Too bad! Cuz after the 24D, we gonna make you buy our [breast implants](#), too! Someone's gotta take em! Thank God for NAFTA! Wazzup, Canada?!*

OK, so they aren't looking to dump breast implants on Quebec as far as we know (but where DO you think all those Ziplock bags of silicone went?).

Anyway, here's the real Kicker. If Big Daddy Dow doesn't get his way? Dow's going to go crying to the U.S. federal government and claim \$2+ million in lost trade damages. That's right. Joe the Plumber is gonna have to pay up to Dow because Quebec doesn't want people overusing pesticides and tainting their groundwater.

Ah, the rich, syrupy taste of socialism. Nar um num num num num!

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