

“We’ve Got A Road to Walk”
1982 Warren County PCB Protest Song
To the music of “Come by Here My Lord” (Kumbyah)
By: Deborah Ferruccio

Well, Warren County has some PCBs;
They’re from the governor; he does what he please.
But we will dump Jim Hunt before too long.
Oh, Lord, come along.

We’ve got a road to walk; it’s mighty steep too.
But one thing that we know is true,
Let history not be repeated,
A people united will never be defeated.

The way we’re walking is dark and long,
But while we’re marching we’ll sing our song.
Give us faith, Lord, when we can’t see.
Oh, Lord, come by me.

Our good old earth we’ve got to guard and share;
We’ve got to keep her safe and free from care,
And that means standing up for what is right.
We’ll fight poison with all our might.

We won’t stop, oh Lord, we’ll barely rest.
We’re committed ’cause the truth is our test.
We have righteousness on our side;
Those poison devils had better hide.

Some folks think we’ll never win,
That toxic waste is a deadly sin,
But we ain’t gonna let nobody turn us around.
We once were lost, but now we’re found.

During the 1982 Warren County PCB movement, I wrote these protest lyrics to “Kumbaya,” often sung as a social protest song. I could not have known just how long our road to walk would become, how steep the climb would be, and how standing up

for right, fighting poison, and speaking truth to power is an environmental justice and freedom road that never ends.

In a November 29, 1985 letter from Pete Seeger to Ken and me, Pete recounted the history of "Kumbaya." He said it was an "African version of an old gospel song," "Come By Here, Lord, Come By Here," and told me that he was going to share my song lyrics with several Northeast publications.