Message

**From:** VB/I-70 Community Advisory Group [vbi170cag@gmail.com]
**Sent:** 5/15/2020 3:20:57 PM
**To:** Aviles, Jesse [Aviles.Jesse@epa.gov]
**Subject:** CAG: REMINDER MONTHLY VIRTUAL MEETING MAY 19/ 5:30

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# Newsletter

## Community Advisory Group(CAG)

EPA Vasquez Bl. / I-70 Superfund Site

Denver, Colorado

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Join us for the May 19, 2020 *Virtual* CAG Meeting

5:30 - 7:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting. ( See more details at end of newsletter)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83740027832?pwd=T2V4N2JYQWIHTIZJa0dRWjlNMmNEQT09

Meeting ID: 837 4002 7832

Password: 760351

*5 Items to follow.*

## 1. CAG Administrator's Message

Dear Friends,

The new COVID 19 reality has given us pause to reflect on the relationship between our complex environment and the health and well being of our communities.

LINKS: Science has found that there are undeniable links between pollution, rampant global development, destruction of earth's ecosystems, climate change, poverty and our health. Everything is connected.

POOR: Pandemics like COVID 19 reminded us that

because the poor are deprived of adequate health care and healthy food and are often exposed to toxic pollution, they suffer disproportionately from the diseases. Urban planning decisions often expose them to poisoned air, soil and water.

EXPENDABLE: The lives of the poor can seem expendable even after science has shown that pollution, even at very low levels, can cause sickness and early death.

OUR NEIGHBORS: Many of the residents who live in the VB/I-70 Superfund Site are low income, minorities.

CAG: The VB//I70 CAG, is a group of dedicated, volunteer, Denver residents along with their excellent volunteer technical experts and Advisory Board members.

CAG ROLE: Together we are making every effort to learn about the environmental and health hazards that exist, even today, in the VB/ I-70 Superfund Site. The CAG is charged by Congress to work along side

of USEPA and other agencies and to advise them as work progresses to clean up the environment in this low income minority community.

EJ SITE: EPA has even designated the community as an Environmental Justice Site.

EMPOWERMENT: The CAG is also charged with informing the community about what we learn to help empower you to have an impact on life altering decisions that are often made by others on your behalf.

*"No one is safe until everybody is safe."*

We thank you for your interest and support. If you would like to be a part of the work of the CAG, no matter how small, we have a place for you. Contact me by email.

LaMone Noles

CAG Administrator

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## 2. Will Supreme Court Decision on the Clean Water Act Impact the VB/I-70 Superfund Site?

Mr. John Putnam, CDPHE (click on image for background)

The CAG recently sent a letter to Mr. John Putnam, Director of Environmental Programs at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment:

*Dear Mr. Putnam:*

*The Vasquez/I70 Superfund Community Advisory Group has recently been made aware of the April 23, 2020, decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in County of Maui, Hawaii v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund, et al.*

*https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/19pdf/18-260_5i36.pdf*

*https://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/county-of-*

*maui-hawaii-v-hawaii-wildlife-fund/*

*We would like to request that CDPHE, as the designated authority in Colorado for enforcement of the Clean Water Act, present written and oral comments to the (virtual) May 19, 2020 Community Advisory Group meeting regarding the implications of the Hawaii decision.*
*We would appreciate CDPHE's comments regarding the decision in general, and in particular with respect to the groundwater plume discharges to the South Platte River from VB/I-70 OU3 (cadmium plume) and VB/I-70 OU2 (the plume from Denver's mid-20th century landfill).*

See CAG Technical Advisor Chuck Norris' Memo to CAG :

*GLOP & discharge of leachate from OU2 into Waters of the United States*

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## 3. CAG Resolution to EPA

EPA Dir, Andrew Wheeler & Pres. Trump

Click link to read full Resolution:

CAG Resolution 2020-1

The CAG has often been challenged by EPA, CDPHE and Denver's, reluctance to share pertinent information with them and/or their technical experts and to provide support and services offered other CAGs in Colorado.

The requested information is needed for the CAG to fully discharge its responsibilities per their Congressional mandate and the EPA Guidelines for Community Advisory Groups. This legitimate CAG has many unanswered questions and unfulfilled requests for documents and other information.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:**

1. That EPA Region 8 immediately bring the Community Advisory Group up to date on EPA communications, documents and discussions with the Potentially Responsible Party or Parties (PRP) regarding plans and work on the Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study for Operable Unit 2; and

2. That EPA release to the Community Advisory Group an up-to-date list of all documents and studies, along with a link to each document/study or a PDF of same, being reviewed and/or relied upon to arrive at a description of OU2 and a new remedial investigation for OU2; and,

3. That EPA also release to the Community Advisory Group all documents and communications pertaining to the cadmium plume that has been identified in OU3; and,

4. That, going forward, the EPA, CDPHE, DDPHE and CCD facilitate the inclusion of CAG technical advisors Chuck Norris and Adrian Brown in meetings, communications and documents pertaining to planning

and work at the Site; and,

5. That the Community Advisory Group will, consistent with its obligations under the CAG's By-Laws, write to EPA Region 8 advising EPA of its obligations to respond to the CAG formally, in the manner consistent with Superfund regulations pertaining to Community Advisory Grouprecommendations and advice.

Approved via email by members of the Community Advisory Group May 13, 2020.

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## 4. CAG AGENDA Virtual Meeting

May 19, 2020, 5:30- 7:30 PM

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Introductions/ Sign In

**1. Agency Presentations /Updates**

**EPA:** OU2 & OU3 ( Leachate /Cadmium Plume)

**CDPHE:** CAG Support / Supreme Court Decision/ County of Maui …

**Denver:** Planning and Work Progress in OU2 & OU3

2. **CAG Technical Advisor Chuck Norris**

   Ongoing research on OU2 & OU3

   County of Maui, Hawaii v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund et al.

3. **Presentation:**

   The "Missing Properties" in OU1

4. **Expanding CAG Membership**

5. **Discussion:**

   Do we need an OU4?

Action Steps

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## 5. ZOOM CAG Meeting Details

Topic: VB/i70 Community Advisory Group Meeting
Time: May 19, 2020 05:30 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)
Every month on the Third Tue, until Oct 20, 2020, 6 occurrence(s)
May 19, 2020 05:30 PM
Jun 16, 2020 05:30 PM
Jul 21, 2020 05:30 PM
Aug 18, 2020 05:30 PM
Sep 15, 2020 05:30 PM
Oct 20, 2020 05:30 PM
Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files
to your calendar system.
Monthly:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZcqc-morDwi
GdaeWF3j231xdDwprjTkJQIw/ics?icsToken=98iyKuGrq
T8qGtaSuBqFRpwqB4-gc_TzpmZHjadcmSjDUCoBMV
LuMsZVIqB1JNP6

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Dial by your location
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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
Meeting ID: 837 4002 7832
Password: 760351
Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcAQwnUkE

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**Our mailing address is:**
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Denver, Co 80207

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