EJ 2020 FEDERAL AGENCIES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

I. Introduction

> Goal - To amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

Over twenty years of environmental justice practice has taught us that all federal agencies play a critical role in ensuring that we make a visible difference in communities overburdened with environmental and economic distress. In 1994, EO 12898 recognized the multi-faceted nature of environmental justice issues and called on every federal agency to "identify and address, as appropriate, the disproportionate human health and environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." EO 12898 created the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) to address these multiple concerns. Since then, robust EJ practice within communities and government agencies at all levels has produced further recognition that environmental justice is more than about ensuring that environmental burdens do not disproportionately affect areas of persistent poverty but also about creating opportunities to build healthy, wholesome, sustainable and resilient communities. We have learned that this is what communities want. This means promoting neighborhood amenities such as better housing, transportation, health care access, economic development, and green space. EPA will strengthen our working relationships with our sister federal agencies because responsibility for ensuring these benefits fall under their mandates.

II. Goal

Amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

III. Organizational Context

The federal agencies element of EJ 2020 is led by the Office of Land and Emergency Management, Region 4, and the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice. Because the EJ IWG is co-chaired by the Administrator of EPA and the Chair of the White House Council of Environmental Quality, the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and the Office of Environmental Justice play a special role in implementing this element.

In 2011, adopted the memorandum of understanding on E 12898 and the IWG on environmental justice. Identified the following agencies as covered agencies under the MOU: Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of the Interior, Department of Justice, Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Order applies to the following offices in the Executive Office of the President: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Office of the Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Policy, Office of the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, National Economic Council, and Council of Economic Advisers.

The Memorandum of Understanding established focus areas for the EJ IWG: (1) implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act; (2) implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; (3) impacts from climate change; and (4) impacts from commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement").

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In 2015, the EJ IWG adopted the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Framework for Collaboration to outline a plan for federal agencies to collectively focus on addressing the following five areas for the next three years: Impacts from Climate Change; Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement); National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples; and Rural Communities

IV. Strategies

Strategy 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

The IWG Framework for Collaboration defines goals and objectives for the next three years (2015-2018). It will advance federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resources communities. Two areas of priority focus for EJ 2020's support of the IWG Framework for Collaboration are NEPA and goods movement.

Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization on the regional, state and local levels.

Strengthening collaboration and coordination throughout the federal family on place-based projects and activities is important to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues in environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management and health disparities. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicate community- based programs to achieve long term revitalization, sustainability and enhance economic opportunities.

Strategy 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities and target attention and resources.

Strategy 4: Strengthen EPA's collaboration with the communities we serve and our government partners

V. Activities

Strategy 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

Activity 1.1: Provide leadership to finalizing and implementing the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration.

Activity 1.2: Improve the effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice issues in the NEPA process by promoting the use of *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews*.

- Training for and sharing of cross-department shared expertise among other federal agencies and NEPA practitioners (including supplemental material such as lexicon, cross-walk with CEQ regulations, repository of examples)
- Community/external stakeholder engagement
- Alignment with other (a) authorities (Title VI, planning) and (b) initiatives (goods movement, climate)
- Field application (comparative study with one project using Promising Practices and one using conventional approach)

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Activity 1.3: Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement (commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure) in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement

- Share findings of EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA programs and external partners
- Highlight key promising practices that would benefit EPA sponsored community based efforts
- Deploy promising practices among appropriate community based projects

Activity 1.4: Promote Integration of EJ Policy content, concepts and values among other federal community based programs and projects

- Document effective, innovative, and replicable approaches which promote sustainable community practices and highlight in Agencies' annual EJ progress reports. (Feb. 2016)
- Develop schedule of marketing and engaging other key federal agencies on the integration of EPA EJ Policy
- Execute marketing and engagement strategy and document efforts and results

Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration in support of efforts to address concerns of overburdened communities at the regional, state and local levels.

Activity 2.1: Facilitate solution oriented work sessions with communities through the regional IWGs and other interagency efforts to support and address community issues as one federal family.

- Establish feedback process, including timeframe and commitment from agencies in response to community concerns and requests. (June 2016)
- Implement the solution oriented work sessions in EPA MVD communities in collaboration with Regional IWG and EPA MVD project staffs (August 2016)
- Partner with key federal agencies to deploy relevant resources, tools, and strategies (October 2016)
- Produce annual summary of work session outcomes and best practices (beginning 2017)

Activity 2.2: Leverage federal agency resources and technical assistance in communities based on regional efforts, such as MVD, Brownfields, Urban Waters, Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving, etc.

- Work with the EPA EJ IWG Committee, the Office of Sustainable Communities and others to identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged with specific EPA projects. (October 2016)
- Share the EJ IWG's revised and updated Community Based Federal Environmental Resource Guide (June 2016)
- Work with EJ 2020 Communities Workgroup to identify communities and align where EPA and multiple agencies are working together to address environmental justice concerns. (June 2016)

Measures:
- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD and other community based efforts projects
- Creation and dissemination of the federal resource guide
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Strategy 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities.

Activity 3.1: Create and include EJ Criteria in Grants and Cooperative Agreement scoring schemes in all Federal EJ IWG agencies' grants and cooperative agreement eligibility processes.

Develop generic EJ criteria options and share among federal agencies (April 2016)

- Develop and deploy broad, generic EJ criteria from (OBLR, OGC, OGD, Urban Waters) Grants and Cooperative Agreements EJ criteria language (April 2016)

Identify potential federal assistance efforts that could incorporate the generic language (June 2017)

- Identify assistance efforts that could incorporate the EJ language developed to support communities sustainability and equitable development (March 2016)
- Share the EJ language with federal agencies, and internally, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listservs, etc. (April 2016)
- Track the success agencies which add EJ language into funding opportunities. (June 2017)

Activity 3.2: Identify databases and other online tools (such as EJSCREEN, C-FERST, etc...) that support community-based efforts and share among federal agencies and with the public.

Create a federal agency-wide inventory (April 2016)

- Develop a central location for links to tools on OEI's webpage. (February 2016)
- EJ IWG will review existing tools/database list and request updates needed (February 2016)
- Create the federal tools inventory (April 2016)

Market the final product to federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public (May 2016)

- Disseminate the inventory through the IWG, ECOS, State and Tribal Governments, academia, and national community-based organizations (April 2016)

Track the utilization of the resources and tools in the inventory (May 2017)

- Create a process for agencies to add to inventory (February 2016)
- EPA maintains central website/document tools compilation. (May 2016)
- Request feedback from IWG members and others and update the inventory (May 2017)

Measures:

- Number of community-based tools/resources within EJ IWG agencies
- Number of trainings, facilitated and/or provided by EPA, that support communities
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Activity 3.3: Improve community awareness of environmental data to increase community and stakeholder involvement in decision-making by making data available to inform the process.

Identify key federal environmental data sources and systems (March 2016)

- Compile data sources and systems in a central location (March 2016)

Develop a marketing strategy for promoting the data sources (April 2016)

- Share data sources information with stakeholders including program offices and federal agencies through the Federal EJ IWG, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listserves, etc. (April 2016)

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Develop examples and models of data source use options and include in marketing efforts (July 2016)

- Capture examples of data source use options and internally through listserv announcements, blogs, conferences, and externally through the federal agencies' IWG, ECOS and other local, state and tribal entities (July 2016)

Track usage of data sources and use the information and gathered feedback for continuous improvement of the databases (May 2017)

- Track usage of the databases using the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network for the health and environmental data (March 2017)
- Share successes through the agency's social media (May 2017)

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD projects
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Number of federal agencies that incorporate the EJ criteria scoring language into their agencies' grants and cooperative agreements in the next year after and to what extent this was done

Strategy 4: Strengthen EPA's collaboration with the communities we serve and our government partners

Activity 4.1: Expand EPA's capacity to support communities by strengthening partnerships through the EJ IWG

- Identify Regional EJ IWG contacts, and engage EPA program staff in coordination with Regions for EJ IWG subcommittees (OEJ/Lead Region)
- Promote opportunities to increase EPA program office support to Regional offices in working with EJ IWG and addressing needs (OEJ/Lead Region)
- Increase coordination between agencies on community-based activities and training. (OEJ/OSC)

Activity 4.2: Advance consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA review process by implementing EJ and NEPA analytic methodologies

- Produce documents to assist in NEPA training and share the EJ IWG's NEPA Training Products with EPA NEPA practitioners (OEJ)
- Work with the EJ IWG NEPA Committee to strengthen community/external stakeholder engagement

Activity 4.3: Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement

- Share findings of EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA Regions and programs (OEJ)
- Work with EJ IWG Goods Movement Committee to select 1-2 communities with multiple federal agency involvement and apply a successful community-based concept/promising practice(s) (e.g. Brownfields to Healthfields) to address goods movement concerns. (OEJ, EJIWG)

Suggested Measure:

- Number of communities where Goods Movement and NEPA concepts were introduced and applied by federal agencies

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EJ 2020 FEDERAL AGENCIES GOALS and OBJECTIVES

Lead Offices and Regional Champion: OSWER, Region 4, OA/OEJ

Acronyms Legend	
OA	Office of the Administrator
OSWER	Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
OSC	Office of Sustainable Communities
OW	Office of Water
OITA	Office of International and Tribal Affairs
OCIR	Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
OSBP	Office of Small Business Programs
OPE	Office of Public Engagement
NEJAC	National Environmental Justice Advisory Council
ITEP	Institute of Tribal and Environmental Professionals
NTEC	National Tribal Environmental Council

Executive Summary

EPA must work each and every day-hand-in-hand with other federal agencies, state and local governments, tribes, and local communities- to improve the health of American families and protect the environment all across the country.

Strengthening our collaboration and coordination on interagency environmental justice projects and activities throughout the federal family is the key to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues in environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management and health disparities. For the past twenty years, the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) created by Executive Order 12898 and chaired by EPA, has facilitated the active involvement, leveraging of resources and expertise of the federal family.

The EJ IWG was critical in integrating EJ into agency policy under EJ 2014 by requiring agencies to issue EJ strategies and facilitating an interagency approach to improving the effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA process.

Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicate community- based programs to achieve long term revitalization, sustainability and enhance economic opportunities. The following goals, objectives, and deliverables will bring a focused approach to leverage the federal agencies tools, technical resources and investments to address disproportionate health and environmental impacts.

Goal 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Action Agenda Framework. (The Framework is a strategic plan to define new goals for the next three years and advance greater federal

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agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resources communities).

Key Objective 1:

- Improve the effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice issues in the NEPA process through the sharing of best practices, lessons learned, research, analysis, training, consultation, and other experiences of federal NEPA practitioners.

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Jan 2016: Disseminate Report (to whom) on Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews for 6 month trial period
- June 2016: Provide recommendations to the EJ IWG based on trial period review/comments
- In collaboration with the EJ 2020 Communities work group efforts, the EJ Methodologies will be shared among federal agencies as part of enhanced leveraging efforts in support of community based projects and programs.

Key Objective 2:

- Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a results of goods movement

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Share findings of key EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA programs and external partners involved with community based programs and projects
- Highlight key promising practices that would benefit EPA sponsored community based efforts
- Deploy promising practices among appropriate community based projects which are supported by EPA and other federal agencies

Key Objective 3:

- Promote Integration of EJ Policy content, concepts and values among other federal community based programs and projects

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Feb. 2016 -Document effective, innovative, and replicable approaches which promote sustainable community practices and highlight in Agencies' annual EJ progress reports.
- Develop schedule of marketing and engaging other key federal agencies on the integration of EPA EJ Policy
- Execute marketing and engagement strategy and document efforts and results

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Goal 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization on the regional, state and local levels.

Key Objective 1:

- Facilitate solution oriented dialogue sessions with communities through the regional IWGs to evaluate the effectiveness of the IWG as well as agency specific EJ policies and strategies where IWG efforts are underway.

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Design template for dialogue sessions
- Develop schedule of dialogue sessions
- Determine success measures for the dialogue sessions
- Implement the dialogue sessions in EPA MVD communities in collaboration with Regional IWG and EPA MVD project staffs
- Document results of dialogue sessions and capture solutions generated
- Partner with key federal agencies to deploy relevant resources, tools, and strategies

Key Objective 2:

- Leverage federal agency resources and technical assistance in MVD communities

Deliverables/Milestones:

- EPA EJ IWG team will review Federal agencies EJ plans to identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged with specific EPA MVD projects.
- EPA EJ IWG team will document key federal programs, projects and resources and provide that document to EPA programs which work in support of community based efforts.
- EPA EJ IWG team will partner with EJ 2020 Communities work group and EPA MVD staff to coordinate interaction among EPA MVD projects and other federal resources

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD projects
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Suggested Program Offices:
EPA Offices (OSC, OW, OCIR, OITA, OSBP, OPE, OSWER)
Regional Representatives (Regions 2, 8, and 9)
Regional IWG Agency Representatives (EPA, HUD, HHS, GSA, USDA, DOJ)

Suggested Future Project Partners: External Stakeholders: Academic Institutions, Industry Affiliates, Community and State Liaisons, including, but not limited to: NEJAC, ITEP, and NTEC.

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Goal 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities.

Key Objective 1:

- Create and include EJ Criteria in Grants and Cooperative Agreement scoring schemes in all Federal EJ IWG agencies

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Develop some generic EJ criteria options and share among federal agencies
- Identify potential federal assistance efforts which could incorporate the generic language

Key Objective 2:

- Identify databases and other online tools (such as EJ Screen, C-FERST, etc..) which support community based efforts and share among federal agencies and with the public

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Convene team which will collect database and tool inventory
- Create federal agency-wide inventory
- Market final product to federal, state and local government agencies, and the public
- Track utilization of the resources and tools

Key Objective 3:

- Improve Community awareness of environmental data to increase community and citizen involvement in decision-making

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Identify key federal environmental data sources and systems
- Develop marketing strategy for promoting the data sources
- Develop examples and models of data source use options and include in marketing efforts
- Track usage of data sources and use for continuous improvement of the databases

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD projects
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Suggested Program Offices:
EPA Offices (OSC, OSWER, OAR, OW, OCIR, OITA, OSBP, OPE)
Regional Representatives (Regions 2, 8, and 9)
Regional IWG Agency Representatives (EPA, HUD, HHS, GSA, USDA, DOJ)

Suggested Future Project Partners: External Stakeholders: Academic Institutions, Industry Affiliates, Community and State Liaisons, including, but not limited to: NEJAC, ITEP, and NTEC.

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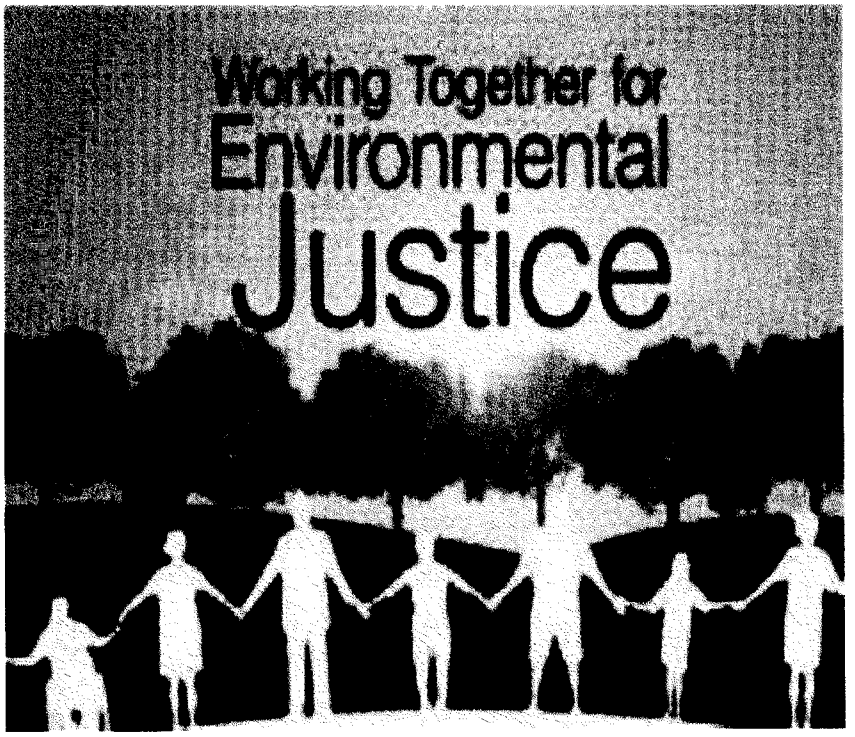
Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice



Making a Visible Difference in Overburdened Communities

Action Agenda Framework

Fiscal Years 2016 - 2018

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Introduction

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) plays a central role in creating healthy and sustainable communities by bringing together the federal family to address critical environmental justice issues. The EJ IWG provides leadership, guidance, and support to federal agencies on the following key areas:

- Coordinating a focused and concerted effort by federal agencies to directly address the environmental, social, economic, and public health burdens in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities;
- Implementing policies that have measurable impacts on environmental justice; and
- Focusing federal agency resources and technical assistance to address disproportionate health and environmental impacts.

The EJ IWG Action Agenda Framework (Framework) is a strategic plan to define new goals for the next three years and advance greater federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened[1] and under-resourced communities. Increased coordination and cooperation among federal agencies will promote holistic community-based solutions to environmental justice issues and ensure that the public has meaningful opportunities for participation in the decision-making process.

Background: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

The EJ IWG facilitates the active involvement of all federal agencies to implement President Clinton's Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," (Order)[2]. The Order states that federal agencies must identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.

Established by the Order, the EJ IWG provides a forum for federal agencies collectively to advance environmental justice principles. The EJ IWG works as a federal family to assist communities in building the capacity to promote and implement innovative and comprehensive solutions to address environmental justice issues.

[1] http://compliance.supportportal.com/link/portal/23002/23009/Article/34316/What-is-the-definition-of-overburdened-community-that-is-relevant-for-EPA-Actions-and-Promising-Practices

[2] Executive Order No. 12898, 59 F.R. 7629 (1994): http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources/policy/exec_order_12898.pdf

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The EJ IWG is chaired by the EPA Administrator and includes federal agencies and White House offices. The EJ IWG has standing committees and other committees established as necessary to carry out responsibilities outlined by the Order. The EJ IWG consists of senior leadership representatives, senior staff representatives, and other persons designated by a federal agency. Additional information on the EJ IWG's governance structure can be found in Appendix A of this document.

In 2011, the EJ IWG agencies took a landmark step to support environmental justice by signing a Memorandum of Understanding[3] on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (MOU) and adopting a Charter. The MOU serves as a formal agreement among federal agencies to recommit to addressing environmental justice through a more collaborative, comprehensive, and efficient process. The Charter, revised in late 2014,[4] outlines the EJ IWG's governance structure which includes the following standing (permanent) committees:

- Public Participation
- Regional Interagency Working Groups
- Strategy and Implementation Progress Reports
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

In addition, consistent with the Presidential Memorandum[5] issued with the Order, and based on public recommendations, every three years the EJ IWG determines if there are additional focus areas for federal agencies to consider and address. During fiscal years 2016 – 2018, the EJ IWG will maintain committees to address the following five focus areas:

- Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples
- Rural Communities
- Impacts from Climate Change
- Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement)
- National Environmental Policy Act

Action Agenda Framework Goals

The EJ IWG developed this Action Agenda Framework, which builds on decades of environmental justice work, to focus the collective efforts of the federal agencies on three strategic goals for fiscal years 2016-2018:

[3] MOU: http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/resources/publications/interagency/ej-mou-2011-08.pdf
[4] Charter: http://www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice/resources/publications/interagency/iwg-charter-2014.pdf
[5] Presidential Memorandum: http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources/policy/clinton_memo_12898.pdf

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I. Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities;
II. Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to solve environmental justice issues; and
III. Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities.

Outlined below are a few ways the EJ IWG committees will work to achieve the goals over the next three fiscal years.

I. Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities

- Enhance community outreach to provide greater public access to federal information, resources, and training;
- Maximize opportunities for federal agency leadership to consider stakeholder feedback; and
- Facilitate opportunities for EJ IWG senior leadership to share updates on EJ implementation with advisory boards (e.g., National Environmental Justice Action Council, site specific advisory boards) and community leaders.

II. Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to solve environmental justice issues

- Enhance community capacity building through sharing of lessons learned, promising practices, and resources;
- Identify and leverage federal resources to address environmental challenges and build sustainable community infrastructure; and
- Foster federal interagency collaboration on a regional, state, tribal, and local level.

III. Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities

- Increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and goals to get feedback that assists the federal family in implementation;
- Identify opportunities to highlight interagency community solutions to help advance implementation of federal EJ policies and guidance; and
- Improve implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance.

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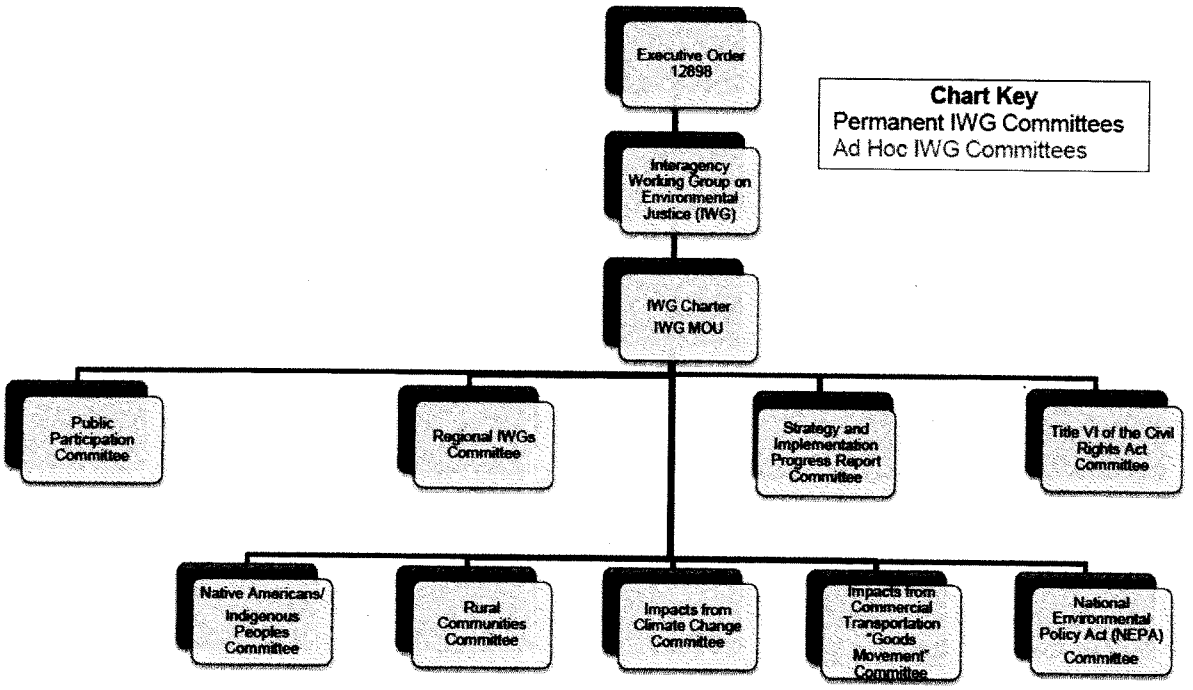
Appendix A: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Governance Structure

The EJ IWG's responsibilities and authority to act on environmental justice issues are established by Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," with two accompanying documents: 1) the Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 and 2) The Charter for the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. Each of these documents can be found on the EJ IWG webpage: http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency/.

EJ IWG Governance Chart FY 2016 - 2018



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EJ IWG STANDING COMMITTEES (PERMANENT, Displayed in green on the Governance Chart)	
COMMITTEE NAME	**PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE**
Public Participation	Develops listening sessions and opportunities for public input. Facilitates collaboration and public participation with federal agencies and external stakeholders. Utilizes social media and other means of communication to build participation. Helps coordinate responses to public input.
Regional Interagency Working Groups	Provides targeted and coordinated technical assistance; develops relationships between federal field and regional staff; and develops best practices for prioritizing EJ concerns.
Strategy and Implementation Progress Report	Serves as a resource for federal agencies as they review, update, or develop their environmental justice strategy, and the annual implementation progress reports. Works with agencies to help coordinate programs, policies, and activities. Coordinates EJ IWG Senior Leadership meetings. Manages implementation of the EJ IWG Action Agenda Framework and Standard Operating Procedures.
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act	Serves as a resource to help agencies connect their civil rights enforcement responsibilities with their other efforts to achieve environmental justice.

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EJ IWG AD HOC COMMITTEES (AD HOC, Displayed in light blue on the Governance Chart)	
COMMITTEE NAME	**PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE**
Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples	Facilitates effective coordination and collaboration of federal agencies in identifying and addressing issues of environmental justice that are of concern to federally recognized tribes, indigenous peoples (including state recognized tribes, tribal members, indigenous community-based organizations, native Hawaiians, native Alaskans and individual Native Americans), and others living in Indian country.
Rural Communities	Supports efforts to: ensure collaboration between federal agencies and rural environmental justice communities, create prosperity so rural environmental justice communities are self-sustaining and economically thriving, and coordinate federal agency investments to further holistic community-based solutions that solve environmental justice issues.
Impacts from Climate Change	Supports collaboration across federal agencies and with communities with environmental justice concerns around climate change-related issues including ensuring vulnerable populations are considered in agencies' climate adaptation activities; providing information, services, and data to help make communities more resilient; providing relevant tools, systems, and policies to communities and businesses needs to mitigate impacts on natural resources and human health due to climate change; and ensuring two way communication around climate-change related issues. Implements the Educate, Motivate & Innovate (EMI) Project.
Impacts from Commercial Transportation "Goods Movement"	Serves as a resource to coordinate with other federal agencies on reducing environmental and health effects of commercial transportation and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement") that impact low-income, minority and tribal populations (overburdened communities)". Ensures that overburdened communities have greater opportunities to benefit from federal efforts related to goods movement.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Improves effective, efficient and consistent consideration of EJ principles in the NEPA process through sharing of promising practices and lessons learned developed by federal departments and agencies.

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Appendix B: Action Agenda Framework Fiscal Year 2016 Priorities

The Action Agenda Framework spans a three-year timeframe. The FY 2016 priorities are a snapshot of the activities planned for implementation by the end of October 2016. The EJ IWG will produce an annual Action Agenda Framework Progress Report.

Collaboration

- Identify and highlight successful community-based models that leverage federal investments, technical assistance, and community-based resources on the EJ IWG website
- Increase collaboration and leveraging of resources for capacity building, economic investments, and research (e.g., climate, traditional cultural resources) in rural communities
- Issue Draft Report of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Committee on Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews

Community Resources

- Issue and post on the EJ IWG home page, a memorandum to federal funding recipients on how Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, applies to federally funded activities that have an impact on the environment and human health
- Update and post on the EJ IWG home page the August 2011 Community-Based Federal Environmental Justice Resource Guide and Directory
- Post on the EJ IWG home page, Annual Action Agenda Framework Progress Report and Agency EJ Accomplishments Reports

External Communications and Outreach

- Select EJ IWG Committees will conduct trainings, webinars, or presentations on EJ IWG focus areas to inform and educate communities
- The Public Participation Committee will Identify opportunities to increase public access to EJ IWG Senior Leadership through community visits and public dialogue sessions to solicit feedback from key stakeholders, including state, tribal, local governments and communities with environmental justice concerns, on tools and resources needed to achieve solutions
- The Public Participation Committee will Increase social media presence to communicate and share EJ IWG activities with the public

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Appendix C: Annual Progress Report for the Action Agenda Framework

The EJ IWG will post annual progress reports (i.e., 2016, 2017, and 2018) on the EJ IWG webpage (www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency), to provide a concise report on progress during the previous fiscal year in implementing the Action Agenda. In addition, each federal agency will include relevant Action Agenda highlights within their annual Environmental Justice Progress Reports posted in accordance with the MOU.

Send Comments to ejstrategy@epa.gov

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, June 23rd, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

By Friday, June 24th 2016 *COB*

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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP

Public Comment Report

EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration FY2016 - 2018

DRAFT

December 2015

Introduction

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) plays a central role in creating healthy and sustainable communities by bringing together the federal family to address critical environmental justice issues. The EJ IWG provides leadership, guidance, and support to federal agencies on the following key areas:

- Coordinating a focused and concerted effort by federal agencies to directly address the environmental, social, economic, and public health burdens in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities;
- Implementing policies that have measurable impacts on environmental justice; and
- Focusing federal agency resources and technical assistance to address disproportionately high and adverse health or environmental effects;
- Developing partnerships with colleges, universities, and other organizations outside of the federal government to facilitate long term support for, and improvement in, overburdened communities.

The EJ IWG created a draft Framework for Collaboration (Framework)[1] as a strategic plan to define new goals for the next three years and advance greater federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and support economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resourced communities. Increased coordination and cooperation among federal agencies will promote holistic community-based solutions to environmental justice issues and ensure that the public has meaningful opportunities for participation in the decision-making process.

To increase public participation and transparency within the development of the Framework, the EJ IWG held a public comment period on the Framework from September 1 – Oct. 30, 2015 with several national webinars to gain public input on these strategic goals. During the public comment period, the EJ IWG received approximately 29 written comments that provided suggested edits and additional environmental justice matters to consider.

Framework for Collaboration Fiscal Years 2016 – 2018

The EJ IWG developed the Framework for Collaboration to build on decades of environmental justice work, to focus the collective efforts of the federal agencies on four strategic goals for fiscal years 2016, 2017, 2018:

I. Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities;
II. Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to solve environmental justice issues;
III. Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency

[1] [redacted]

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programs, policies, and activities; and

IV. Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long term technical assistance to overburdened communities.

To reference the entire document or find additional background on the EJ IWG, please visit: http://www3.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/resources/publications/interagency/fy18-action-agenda.pdf

Public Comments Received

The EJ IWG held a two-month public comment period (September 1 – October 30, 2015) and hosted several national webinars on the draft Framework to allow stakeholders and the public an opportunity to review and provide informed comments on the Framework. During the public comment period, the EJ IWG received approximately 29 written comments that provided suggested modifications and additional environmental justice matters to consider within the Framework.

Comments obtained were organized in fourteen categories to assist the EJ IWG to review comments. These categories include: grammatical and editorial comments; goals and strategic comments; measurable milestone and outcome comments; legal strategies, terms and definitions; Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Goods Movement; best practices; public participation and outreach; utilizing organizations, programs, schools and churches; transparency; various technical subject matters; communities, populations, special needs; agency collaboration; and leveraging resources.

Below is a chart that provides a high-level overview of comments with reoccurring themes. Currently, the EJ IWG is reviewing these comments and considering where to make appropriate edits within the Framework.

Public Comments Organized by Categories Note: This is a high-level overview of comments with reoccurring themes	
CATEGORIES	THEMES WITHIN EACH CATEGORY
Grammatical and Editorial	• Direct edits to the document • Terms, language use, clarity
Goals and Strategies	• Need to further develop strategies to engage stakeholders • Include mechanisms to educate, train, and/or engage stakeholders
Measurable Milestones and Outcomes	• Needs benchmarks to measure success • Identify what success looks like • Document seems to be focused on the process
Legal Strategies, Terms and Definitions	• Definition of environmental justice • Incorporating community driven legal strategies • Terms are being generalized and should be focused • Neet to written in a clear manner for easy reading

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Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964	• Administer complaints and share best practices • Utilize statutory authority to respond to EJ concerns • Make a permanent committee
Goods Movement	• Need for strategies to clean up freight activities • Need to adopt regulations on key sources impacting communities/address the problems created by good movements • Need for regional office to identify priorities
Best Practices	• Create a best practice database
Public Participation, Outreach, and Engagement	• Create outreach mechanisms • Utilize community liaisons • Co-developing and sponsoring community driven popular education materials • Communicate range of dangerous and unhealthy environmental conditions • Utilize methods outside online resources • Tell the stories of EJ communities • Public listening, information sessions, internet resources • Engage with residents • Focus on in-person methods – community visits, public dialog, radio, local newspapers • Create materials in native languages • Facilitate conversations between communities and agencies (e.g., local, state, etc.) • Consider linguistic, cultural, and technology barriers that exist between federal agencies and overburden communities • Hold meetings with EJ stakeholders, regions, etc.
Utilize Organizations, Programs, Schools, Churches, etc.	• EPA's Youth Mentoring Programs • Public school systems • Non-government organizations • Public participation • Local churches/faith community
Transparency	• Allow for input on committee priorities • Make meeting notes public • Create specific details within the action agenda • Provide regular opportunities for public input

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Technical Subjects	• Radon • Flouride in Water • Monitoring and Reporting • Address cumulative impacts and collective impacts
Communities and Populations	• Urban Communities • Immigrant Communities • Autism and Disabilities • Focus on populations, not just locations
Agency Collaboration	• Increase EJ considerations and coordinations between Agencies • Rulemaking, permitting, and enforcement • Grants and funding opportunities
Leverage Resources	• Create positive engagement with existing environmental resources

The EJ IWG would like to thank the individuals, organizations and agencies that took the time to review the Framework. A revised Framework will be published on (insert date).

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FY 16 EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Activities Summary

I. Regional IWG

- **Developed Regional IWG Model Lessons Learned**

Interviewed with successful working groups that address EJ issues to create a document that compiled lessons learned. This document can be used as a how-to guide for regional staff and external stakeholders looking to form a collaboration addressing EJ concerns. This document can be distributed to interested federal staff to help guide them through successful practices and techniques for forming a working group. The document details lessons learned from two different types of groups- collaborations formed from federal place based initiatives, and collaborations formed on a more ad hoc basis.

- **EJ Search Terms Guide and Resources Document**
  Developing a compendium of links, search terms for grants.gov and cfda.gov, and resources to be posted on the EJ IWG Website. This list can be updated to add new resources and terms as they come up. The compendium includes a list of terms associated with environmental justice in order to help the public find resources available that address EJ concerns.
- **EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series**
  Launched an EJ IWG monthly webinar series. FY 2016 topics have included: federal grants, intro to the EJ IWG, children's health, federal collaborations, and regional spotlights. The webinar series brings together subject matter experts to discuss different approaches and ideas that address various EJ concerns. Topics are sourced from the EJ IWG and the general public.
- **Region 4 EJ IWG Support**
- **Region 2 EJ IWG Support**

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FY 17 EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Priorities

Regional EJ IWG

Framework Goal 1: Enhance communication and coordination to improve health, quality of life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

- **Continue EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series**

Continue to produce monthly webinars. For some of the upcoming webinars, create a resource document coinciding with the webinar topic that has links to relevant resources and contact information.

Framework Goal 2: Enhance multiagency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues.

- **Look for opportunities to help establish a Regional/State EJ IWG**
  Work with field staff and stakeholders to identify ways to help create one or more additional Regional/State EJ IWGs. Provide resources and promote the benefits of these groups on place based initiatives and serving the needs communities with EJ issues. Develop tools and resources as well as link to existing resources that can be used to support these regional collaborations and local communities.
- **Look for opportunities to expand agency participation in EPA EJ Academy**

Framework Goal 3: Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities.

- **Continue Support to RIWGs**

Framework Goal 4: Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities.

- **Look for opportunities to expand CUPP**

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FY 17 EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Priorities

Regional EJ IWG

Framework Goal 1: Enhance communication and coordination to improve health, quality of life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

- **Continue EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series**

Continue to produce monthly webinars. For some of the upcoming webinars, create a resource document coinciding with the webinar topic that has links to relevant resources and contact information.

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  Work with field staff and stakeholders to identify ways to help create one or more additional Regional/State EJ IWGs. Provide resources and promote the benefits of these groups on place based initiatives and serving the needs communities with EJ issues. Develop tools and resources as well as link to existing resources that can be used to support these regional collaborations and local communities.
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Framework Goal 3: Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities.

- **Continue Support to RIWGs**

Framework Goal 4: Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities.

- **Look for opportunities to expand CUPP**

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
Cc: Good, Sheryl[Good.Sheryl@epa.gov]
From: Muwwakkil, Saudia
Sent: Tue 5/17/2016 9:15:20 PM
Subject: Please share w/ R4 IWG
EJ Academy_Request for Application Reviewers 2016.pdf

Hi, Cynthia:

Would you share the attached flyer with the regional EJ IWG? We are seeking volunteers to serve as EJ Academy application reviewers and would like to get a mix of internal and external volunteers. Please let me know if you have any questions.

You can use the following in your email-

The Region 4 EPA Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability invites members of the Regional Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group to assist in reviewing applications for the upcoming Environmental Justice Academy class. We will issue an announcement about the 2016-2017 cohort later this month and anticipate 30-40 applications. See the attached flyer for details.

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FEDERAL AGENCIES

(Version 4: 02-09-16)

OBJECTIVE

Amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

Over twenty years of environmental justice practice has taught us that all federal agencies play a critical role in ensuring that we make a visible difference in communities overburdened with environmental and economic distress. In 1994, EO 12898 recognized the multi-faceted nature of environmental justice issues and called on every federal agency to "identify and address, as appropriate, the disproportionate human health and environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." EO 12898 established the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) to address these multiple concerns. Since then, EJ practice within communities and government agencies at all levels has produced further recognition that environmental justice is more than about ensuring that environmental impacts do not disproportionately affect areas of persistent poverty, but also about creating opportunities to build healthy, wholesome, sustainable and resilient communities. We have learned that this is what communities seek. This means promoting neighborhood amenities such as better housing, transportation, health care access, economic development, and green space. Because these benefits fall under the mandates of our sister federal agencies, EPA will work to strengthen their capacity to address environmental justice.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

The federal agencies priority of EJ 2020 is led by the Office of Land and Emergency Management, Region 4, and the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice. Because the EJ IWG is co-chaired by the Administrator of EPA and the Chair of the White House Council of Environmental Quality, the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and the Office of Environmental Justice play a special role in implementing this priority.

In 2011, the heads of 17 federal agencies and White House offices signed the Memorandum of Understanding on EO 12898 and the EJ IWG (MOU). They committed the following organizations as covered agencies and offices under the MOU: Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Justice, Labor, Transportation, Veterans Affairs, the General Services Administration, White House Council on Environmental Quality, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

The MOU established focus areas for the EJ IWG: (1) considering EJ under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); (2) implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; (3) addressing impacts from climate change; and (4) addressing impacts from commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement"). In 2015, the EJ IWG adopted the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Framework for Collaboration, which outlines a plan for federal agencies to collectively focus on addressing five priority areas for the next three years:

- Impacts from Climate Change;
- Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement);
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA);
- Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples; and
- Rural Communities.

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STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Strategy 1: Address key environmental justice challenges in collaboration with government partners through the implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

The IWG Framework for Collaboration defines goals and objectives for the next three years (2015-2018). It will advance federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resourced communities. Two areas of priority focus for EJ 2020's support of the IWG Framework for Collaboration are NEPA and goods movement.

Action 1.1: Advance consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA review process by implementing EJ and NEPA analytic methodologies

The *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies for NEPA Review* is an important advance for considering environmental justice throughout the federal family. It was a significant effort under EPA's Plan EJ 2014 and we are building on it under EJ 2020. These promising practices for EJ analytic methodologies are significant beyond the practice of NEPA as they offer important models and lessons about how to address similar methodological challenges in EJ analysis for other areas. EPA will carry out this Action by:

- Promoting cross agency collaboration and training on NEPA by sharing EJ IWG's NEPA Training Products with other federal agencies and governmental partners;
- Producing documents to enhance better understanding of EJ analytical methodologies for NEPA reviews (e.g. supplemental material such as lexicon, cross-walk with CEQ regulations, repository of examples);
- Strengthening community and stakeholder engagement and understanding of EJ and NEPA by working with the EJ IWG NEPA Committee (e.g. outreach, training, technical assistance, citizens' guide);
- Developing case studies on how EJ analytic methodologies for NEPA reviews have proven to be useful, particularly in issue areas of concern to communities (e.g, goods movement);
- Conducting applied research to evaluate the effectiveness of the promising practices for EJ analytic methodologies for NEPA review; and
- Providing training on the *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* to all EPA NEPA review staff and EJ Coordinators.

Action 1.2: Identify and address potential adverse impacts from the commercial distribution of freight (goods movement) and related infrastructure (e.g., ports, rail yards, distribution centers) by developing and implementing assessment and engagement tools and programs that promote emissions reductions, better planning and sustainable development practices, and enhance the health, safety, quality of life, and meaningful engagement of affected communities.

Goods movement has emerged as an important national issue, as reflected in the EJ 2020 public comments. Goods movement activity is projected to increase significantly in the future, with its adverse environmental and human health impacts falling on already overburdened communities. EPA will address these impacts through a number of approaches, including:

- Producing promising practices and lessons learned by focusing on community impacts from goods movement activities identified in NEPA reviews;
- Developing and implementing community engagement tools to support communities impacted by goods movement activities (*Ports Primer, EJ Primer,* and *Community Action Roadmap*) and an online community of practice for communities, government partners and others;

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- Conducting pilot projects and foster collaborative problem-solving efforts between communities and marine port decision-makers;
- Continuing to provide funding opportunities to remove older diesel engines from operation through the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant program; and
- Working with EJ IWG Goods Movement Committee to select 1-2 communities with multiple federal agency involvement and apply a successful community-based concept/promising practice(s) (e.g. Brownfields to Healthfields) to address goods movement concerns.

Strategy 2: EPA headquarters and regional offices will work with federal partners to improve on the on-the-ground results of interagency collaborations on community revitalization at the regional, state and local levels.

EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the work of the EJ IWG and supports community-based efforts to promote long term-revitalization, economic opportunity, equitable development and sustainability.

Action 2.1: Strengthen interagency partnerships in the EPA regions through Regional EJ IWGs to leverage federal agency technical assistance, resources, and programs to support on the ground work in overburdened communities.

EPA and the EJ IWG will identify and leverage federal resources to address environmental challenges and build sustainabile community infrastructure. EPA's Regional offices, in collaboration with the EJ IWG workgroups will identify overburdened communities, using tools such as EJSCREEN, and to align efforts where EPA and multiple agencies will work together to address environmental justice concerns. These partnerships will also share relevant tools and strategies with overburdened communities, including existing resources and programs that can be leveraged for specific projects. By 2020, EPA will finalize its draft EPA Community Practice Toolkit (2016) and share it within the Agency, with our governmental partners, and with the public. This document will help to institutionalize best practices for working in communities into the culture of the Agency, including around our work on federal partnership.

Strategy 3:
Foster the capacity of EPA and our federal agencies to meaningfully address environmental justice concerns through the use and continued development of environmental justice tools, resources, and language.

Since the signing of Executive Order 12898 in 1994, federal agencies have developed tools for considering environmental justice in our programs and policies. However these efforts have been very disparate and uncoordinated. EJ 2020 seeks to use the EJ IWG to ensure more consistent consideration of environmental justice tools across the federal family, to coordinate the development and usage of tools, and to improve the sharing of information on available tools with the public.

Action 3.1: Develop EJ criteria for inclusion in the scoring schemes for Federal EJ IWG agencies' grants and cooperative agreements eligibility processes

EPA will work with the EJ IWG to instill a culture of environmental justice among all federal agencies by working to incorporate EJ language in applicable funding opportunities. The EJ IWG will review, develop, and disseminate EJ criteria language collected from existing Agency and federal partner's grants and cooperative agreements. This effort will have an emphasis on potential federal assistance efforts that focus on community sustainability and equitable development. The team will track and share information on the agencies which add EJ language into funding opportunities.

Action 3.2: Promote the use and continued development of EPA and other federal agencies' analytic

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and data tools that enable and encourage our governmental partners and community members to consider and address environmental justice issues.

Having accessible and user-friendly tools are an important building block in engaging, understanding and acknowledging environmental justice concerns. To help build the capacity of our governmental partners and community members to start or continue addressing these concerns, EPA will create and share a centralized inventory online of federal agencies' EJ tools and databases, such as EJSCREEN. These resources will not only be accessible to federal, state, and local government agencies, but with the public as well. To facilitate a mutual understanding of environmental justice issues, EPA and our federal partners will look to further develop and expand these resources through the EJ IWG. EPA will also seek out opportunities with our federal partners and the community to gather feedback on ways to improve the utilization and effectiveness of these EJ tools.

MEASURES

Measure 1: (Options: Preference is Option B or C, which is much more aspirational. Currently working with OECA Management/OFA to develop)

A. All EPA NEPA review staff and EJ Coordinators will have completed training on *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews*.
B. Increase use of promising practices for EJ analytic methodologies in EPA's reviews of Environmental Impact Statements under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act by 10% each year starting in 2017, for a total of 40% by 2020.
C. Increase use of promising practices for EJ analytic methodologies in Environmental Impact Statements reviewed by EPA under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act by 10% each year starting in 2017, for a total of 40% by 2020.

Measure 2: EJ Criteria Measure

A. The number of federal agencies' grants and cooperative agreements solicitations using EJ Criteria Language, as measured annually beginning in 2017, and achieving a 20% increase in incorporation of EJ criteria between 2018 and 2020.

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Strategy 2: Work with the EPA regional offices to foster on-the-ground federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization at the regional, state and local levels.

Strengthening collaboration and coordination throughout the federal family on place-based projects and activities is important to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. These issues include environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management, and health disparities. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicates community-based programs to promote long term-revitalization, economic opportunity, equitable development and sustainability.

Action 2.1: Cultivate and strengthen interagency partnerships in the EPA regional offices that directly support on the ground work in communities.

Coordinating efforts with other federal agencies will increase our collective impact on communities. In order to do so, we will identify Regional EJ IWG contacts, staff at other federal agencies, state and local governments in 2016. Through these connections, our goal is to identify current or upcoming work on critical community issues and coordinate support among the agencies in the EPA regions to address them collaboratively. To improve our efforts, we will coordinate trainings within the EPA, with other federal agencies and local officials on how to best support communities, build relationships and empower communities through technical assistance by January 2017.

Identify opportunities to increase EPA program office support HQ to Regional offices in working with EJ IWG and addressing needs.

Action 2.2: In collaboration with regional IWGs and other interagency efforts, disseminate resources and facilitate solution oriented work sessions with overburdened communities to support and address community issues as one federal family.

EPA will conduct outreach and build relationships to partner with key federal agencies to disseminate relevant resources, tools, and strategies to overburdened communities in 2016. We will also collaborate with staff from Regional IWG and EPA MVD projects to implement solution oriented work sessions, which may include a large annual meeting and/or smaller monthly meetings, in EPA MVD communities. These work sessions will assess what are the community problems, what are the resources that other agencies can offer, and what is an action plan to deploy those resources. In 2017, EPA will evaluate the outcomes of the work sessions to provide an annual summary and collection of best practices to share within EPA and other stakeholders.

In order to efficiently and effectively respond to community concerns and requests, EPA will develop a strategic feedback process, which would include creating a timeframe and obtaining commitment from agencies by June 2016.

Action 2.3: Leverage federal agency resources and regional efforts that provide technical assistance, such as MVD, Brownfields, Urban Waters, Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving, etc., to support overburdened communities.

There are existing federal agency resources, but they are not fully effective if the information is not shared with those who need the support. EPA will partner with the EJ 2020 Communities Workgroup to identify overburdened communities and align efforts where EPA and multiple agencies are working together to address environmental justice concerns. In conjunction with EPA EJ IWG Committee, the Office of Sustainable Communities and other federal workgroups, EPA will update the EJ IWG's

Community Based Federal Environmental Resource Guide to identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged for specific EPA projects in overburdened communities in 2016. This Guide was last updated in 2011 and comprehensively identifies hundreds of resources and programs that provide funding and/or technical assistance to communities. EPA will also create and implement a communications plan, including effective outreach and follow up, to disseminate the updated EJ IWG's Community Based Federal Environmental Resource Guide to ensure that it is continually shared with key partners and overburdened communities.

Action 2.4: Examine 10 locations, with ongoing Agency work, where EPA has brought together the expertise and resources of various federal agencies to address critical community issues and identify key lessons learned from federal interagency collaboration.
EPA often plays the role of a convener of federal agencies in communities where we are addressing multiple environmental and human health issues. Working with other federal agencies in a community is often done on an ad hoc basis and without an established protocol. Over the coming years, EPA will examine one community in each region where EPA and other federal agencies are working together to address key community concerns. We will strive to focus on 10 of the 50 MVD communities as a pilot and develop a best practices document in 2020 highlighting cross agency efforts in this communities to share within the Agency, with our governmental partners, and with the public.

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
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Holly Wilson, *Office of Air Quality and Planning Standards, EPA*

- EPA would like support in organizing a 'National Funding Resources and Training Summit for Vulnerable Communities'- Oct 25-26th 2016
- Needs: Representative from your Agency to serve on the planning team and/or be an exhibitor or sponsor. Reach out and invite your EJ community member or partner (as appropriate) to participant in the DC Summit.

2:20 EJ IWG Update
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

- Principals Meeting
  - Focus of meeting will be transition planning and strengthening EJ programs and infrastructure across the federal government.
  - Save the date email will go out the week of May 31st, senior reps and senior staffers will also receive hard copies of the invitation.
  - Agenda includes opening remarks from Gina McCarthy, EPA Administrator, a community voice speaker and a panel discussion: "Opportunities to Strengthen EJ Programs and the IWG". We will hear presentations from three agencies that will discuss building, collaborating and sustaining strong EJ programs and the impact of transition. The importance of transition planning and a few words on EJ staff and resources across the federal government. Last 30 min will be devoted to special acknowledgements and signing the CUPP MOU. Closing Remarks from HHS.
- Public Participation Committee
  - Community Resource Guide- so far the committee is looking to provide a list of agency contacts- EJ IWG contact list, agencies EJ webpages. More to come...
  - The Committee has put together a factsheet that aims to tell the 'IWG story' and guiding principles
  - A survey that aims to collect committee outreach activities, went out to committee chairs- info is due to Jeanine Finley by June 3rd.

2:30 Rural Committee Presentation- USDA Summer Meals Program
Lance Hendrix
Place-Based Initiatives Coordinator, Office of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the

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Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

Erin Shew
White House Council on Environmental Quality

- The White House is looking for 10-12 leaders in the climate justice sector to nominate as Climate Equity Champions of Change.
- CEQ is engaged with the EJ IWG Climate Change Committee to look for areas to engage with the awardees and are open to planning ideas. There may be opportunities to bring in experts from around the federal government to moderate panels during the event.
- Please visit www.Whitehouse.gov and search "champions of change" to submit a nomination. Application deadline June 10th.
- The EJ IWG Climate Change Committee will look for opportunities to host the nominees to learn about their outstanding work

2:10 EJ IWG Creating Change Through Collaboration
Mustafa Santiago Ali
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

- June 30th has been confirmed for the Prinicpals Meeting.
- The EJ IWG would like to form a EJ transition language writing team to help ensure that agencies are inserting EJ language into transition documents. Some IWG members have asked for assistance in this area.
- We would like to recognize GSA and DOI for preparing EJ strategies and having them out for public comment.
- We would like to recognize DOT for their redesigned EJ webpages.
- Mustafa consistently participates in speaking engagements around the country. A reoccurring theme that is expressed by stakeholders is a request to continue to create opportunities for stakeholders to engage and to work to identify more opportunities for technical assistance and resources.

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http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

2016, July 26-27th
https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/urban-waters-national-training-workshop-2016

- Help Set HUDs Research Agenda: HUDs Office of Policy Development and Research is updating the Research Roadmap. Submit feedback by Friday May 27th
http://www.huduser.gov/forums/index.php?q=research_roadmap.html

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi
- Robert Garcia

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
June 23, 2016
July 28, 2016

Attachments:
Rural Challenges and Summer Meals-USDA
Summer Food Service Program Factsheet- USDA

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Administrator, USDA
Link to the Summer Meals Toolkit http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit

- Lance Hendrix works with the Rural Human Health Subcommittee which has merged with the Environmental Health Team of the Rural Committee.
- Rural Committee action items: The Summer Food Program, EPA's Brownfields to Healthfields Program and improving drinking water through addressing inadequate water infrastructure.
- USDA's Summer Meals Program is looking for greater federal agency participation. There are 18 million currently being served through the summer meals program every year. The program is under-utilized nation-wide, and they would like to increase participation through partnership with other agencies. In the past USDA has worked with HUD, HHS ect. Please contact Lance for more information.

2:50 EJ 2020 Presentation - EPA's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan
Mustafa Santiago Ali
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA
EJ 2020 pages: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-action-agenda
Blog link: https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/ej-ej2020-2/

- EJ 2020 was released for public comment-- *Comment period open May 23rd-July 7th*
- EPA's Office of Environmental Justice is holding two informational webinars on June 2nd and June 7th. Registration information will be sent out to the IWG members.

3:20 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements:

- Nominate a White House Champion of Change for Climate Equity: Applications close Friday June 10th https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/04/20/nominate-white-house-champion-change-climate-equity
- Apply to the Tribal EcoAmbassadors Program, Applications will close Friday June 17th https://www.epa.gov/tribal/funding-opportunity-2016-2017-tribal-ecoambassadors-grant-program
- EPA Urban Waters Federal Partnership National Training Workshop

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Principals Meeting June 30th, 10am-12pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Room 350
1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
By Friday, June 17th 2016 *COB*

ED_001416_00005099-00005

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To: Beverly Wright[beverlylwright@gmail.com]; Mcallister, Lauren[mcallister.lauren@epa.gov]; Coopwood, Theodore[Coopwood.Theodore@epa.gov]; Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]; Finley, Jeanine[finley.jeanine@epa.gov]
Cc: Grafton, Bernadette[Grafton.Bernadette@epa.gov]; Benforado, Jay[Benforado.Jay@epa.gov]; McCullough, Melissa[Mccullough.Melissa@epa.gov]; Cassandra.Allen@nih.hhs.gov[Cassandra.Allen@nih.hhs.gov]; Smuts, MaryBeth[Smuts.Marybeth@epa.gov]; Julien, Rhona[julien.rhona@epa.gov]; sonya.neal-reeves@wdc.usda.gov[sonya.neal-reeves@wdc.usda.gov]; (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] rubin.patterson@howard.edu[rubin.patterson@howard.edu]; jlwhite-newsome@kresge.org[jlwhite-newsome@kresge.org]; adrienne@weact.org[adrienne@weact.org]; (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] Sandra.Howard@HHS.GOV[Sandra.Howard@hhs.gov]; Miniard.Culpepper@hud.gov[Miniard.Culpepper@hud.gov]; Chanya.Liv@hhs.gov[Chanya.Liv@hhs.gov]; swilson2@umd.edu[swilson2@umd.edu]; sforman@pgcc.edu[sforman@pgcc.edu]; Wilson, Holly[Wilson.Holly@epa.gov]; Scheherazade W Forman[formansw@pgcc.edu]; mtishman@emeraldcities.org[mtishman@emeraldcities.org]; Maggie (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] Cerasani, Gina[Cerasani.Gina@epa.gov]; Matt.Campbell@fema.dhs.gov[Matt.Campbell@fema.dhs.gov]; jhiser.colab@gmail.com[jhiser.colab@gmail.com]; Rumley, MaKara[Rumley.MaKara@epa.gov]; Swan-Townsend, Val[Swan-Townsend.Val@epa.gov]; Durand, Jessica[Durand.Jessica@epa.gov]; jerome@jastechdevelopment.org[jerome@jastechdevelopment.org]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]; dennis@groundworkdc.org[dennis@groundworkdc.org]; Darryl Haddock[darryl@wawa-online.org]; Mckelvey, Laura[Mckelvey.Laura@epa.gov]; ann-marie.chischilly@nau.edu[ann-marie.chischilly@nau.edu]; kari@empowerdc.org[kari@empowerdc.org]; (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]
(b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]
From: King, Marva
Sent: Tue 9/27/2016 4:29:45 PM
Subject: Federal Interagency Working Group on EJ (EJ IWG) Webinar: Creating Safe and Healthy Environments for Children
Announcement EJ IWG Children's Health Webinar.pdf

Hi Health and Environmental Resources Team,

Although we decided that we could not squeeze in a session dedicated to children health at the Oct 25-26 Summit, I wanted to share this webinar discussion scheduled for October 13, 2016 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Eastern (see attached flyer)

This Oct 13 webinar is very similar to what we wanted to have at the Summit. I suggest you register for it and learn more on what the *President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children* does. One of our team members, **Sandra Howard**, Senior Environmental Health Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is speaking.

During the Oct 25-26 Summit, both HHS and the EPA's Office of Children's health will have tables in the ECO Café. Therefore if you participate in the October 13th webinar you could also bring your questions to Sandra Howard specifically (throughout the Summit) and in the ECO Café generally.

I've also introduced Ted Coopwood (EPA's Office of Children Health) and Jerome Shabazz (Engaging Youth session lead) because my hopes is they can find a way to incorporate some of the information the Oct 13 webinar is sharing into that session. Of course, I will leave it up to the two of them to discuss.

FYI -- I will also share this flyer and webinar information with our two other track teams.

Hope you can participate,

Marva

Marva E. King, Ph.D.

Senior Policy Advisor

EPA's Office of EJ

WJC South 2224A

1200 Pennsylvania Av., NW (MC 2201)

Washington, DC 20460

Phone: 202-564-2599

Fax: 202-501-1107

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, June 23rd, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

2:10 **Mustafa Santiago Ali**
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

2:20 EJ IWG Update
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA
- June 30, 2016 Principals Meeting
- EJ IWG 2016 Framework for Collaboration Deliverables Table
- July 28 Community Spotlight: LA City Project
- 2016 National Funding Resources & Training Summit for Vulnerable Communities

2:30 EJ 2020 Presentation - EPA's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan
Charles Lee
Deputy Associate Assistant Administrator for Environmental Justice, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, EPA
EJ 2020 pages: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-action-agenda
Blog link: https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/ej-ej2020-2/

3:00 Committee Updates

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U.S. EPA
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- EJ IWG Webinar Series

3:15 Agency Announcements

Announcements:

- EPA releases final *technical guidance for assessing environmental justice in regulatory analysis*, an informational webinar will take place on July 11th from 3-4pm, EJ Technical Guidance. Registration at the following link.

- 2016 Nsedu Obot Witherspoon (NOW) Youth Leadership Award. The Children's Environmental Health Network is seeking nominations! Accepting nominations until 4pm EST, July 15th, 2016! Submit Application Here

- The National Park Service, Historic Preservation Fund Grants to Underrepresented Communities. For more information, click here! Details on eligible recipients and how to apply are posted on Grants.gov under **Funding Opportunity #P16AS00184.** Applications

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
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2:00pm – 3:30pm

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are due on July 15, 2016

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Robert Garcia, The City Project (July 28, 2016)
  - http://www.cityprojectca.org/
- Cat Goughnour, Right to Root
- Glen Harris, Center for Social Inclusion in NYC
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
July 28, 2016
August 25, 2016

Attachments:
May 26, 2016 EJ IWG Notes

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, June 23rd, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
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SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Principals Meeting
June 30th, 10am-12pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Room 350
1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)

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Agenda

2:00 **Roll Call/Welcome**

2:10 **Opening Remarks**
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

Report out NEJAC Panel/Meeting and next steps

- NEJAC meeting requests: sharing meeting notes with the public
- NEJAC members wanted more time to engage with the EJ IWG.
- EJ IWG Panel took place on the 12th with various representation from agencies involved in the EJ IWG at HQ (DOJ, USDA, DOI, HUD and others) and from regions 2 and 4
- The panel received a lot of questions and the transcript of the questions will be shared with the EJ IWG members. A lot of interest in public health, engagement with farmers, public housing, coastal and rural focus.
- Suggestions around increasing training opportunities and aligning federal missions with community needs
- What role can NEJAC members play with EJ IWG Committees?
- OEJ has a new intern that will be working on helping us get Max.gov up and running with committee pages.
- Opportunities to recruit more federal partners to join the EJ IWG?

The first committee chair meeting will take place on Nov 2nd from 1-2pm

2:20 **Community Spotlight- Environmental Justice Academy, EPA Region 4**
Sheryl Good
Environmental Scientist, EPA Region 4

- Next steps: form an inter-agency planning committee to increase federal collaboration and support for the EJ Academy. A call will go out from Marsha for participants in the committee

3:05 **FY 2016 Reporting and FY 2017 Priorities**

- EJ IWG Committee Chair Meeting will take place on Nov 2nd from 1-2pm

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conferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

- Will discuss 2016 accomplishments, reporting and planning for FY 2017 deliverables. Discuss roles, expectations and opportunities for collaboration among committees.

3:25 **Agency Announcements**

- DOE is holding a Veteran's Forum on Nov 9th
- USDA Native American Heritage Month Observance, Nov 17th 10-11am
- Brownfields Assessment Grants Deadline Dec 20th
- Revitalizing Vulnerable Communities Summit- information on viewing parties will be sent out soon.

Other Announcements:

- **Call for Student Climate Justice Abstracts for the Educate, Motivate, Innovate Workshop at the National EJ Conference and Training Program,** March 8-10, 2017 Deadline for Abstract Submission: November 14, 2016 at 11:00PM ET https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/09/ej-emi-call-for-abstracts/
- **Follow EPAs EJ in Action Blog to read the "Young Environmental Leaders in Action Series"** https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/10/ej-youth-in-action-series/
- **Check out the EJSCREEN User Impact Survey:** https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/09/ej-ejscreen-user-survey/
- **Oil and Gas Development in the Appalachian Basin - Request for Applications.** Details at https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/oil-and-gas-development-appalachian-basin applications due Nov 9th
- **Technical Assistance Scholarship Program, Center for Community Progress**. Details at http://www.communityprogress.net/technical-assistance-scholarship-program--tasp--pages-494.php applications due Nov 17
- **Free Brownfields Technical Assistance, New Orleans, LA** Details at http://www.cdfabrownfields.org/cdfa/brownfields.nsf/index.html Date: November 3, 2016; 3:00 - 5:00 pm
- **2017 Collaboration Prize, Lodestar Foundation.** Details at www.thecollaborationprize.org Applications due by November 16, 2016.
- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Small Grants.** Details at https://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act/how-to-apply-for-a-nawca-grant.php#us-small Applications due by November 3, 2016.

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es, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
conferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
November 17, 2016 (date changed due to holiday) Hosted by DOI!!!
December- meeting cancelled

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Miles Ballogg
Sent: Sat 8/13/2016 1:00:27 PM
Subject: RE: [epa-ej] REMINDER: Federal Interagency Webinar Today!

I missed it. How did it go?

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: "Peurifoy, Cynthia" <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Date: 8/11/16 10:58 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: wynettawright@bellsouth.net, Miles Ballogg <Miles.Ballogg@cardno.com>, Ken Pinnix <kpinnix1@gmail.com>
Subject: FW: [epa-ej] REMINDER: Federal Interagency Webinar Today!

Hey,

Thought you might be interested in this webinar.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Environmental Justice EPA [mailto:environmental-justice@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2016 10:13 AM
To: Environmental Justice information <epa-ej@lists.epa.gov>
Subject: [epa-ej] REMINDER: Federal Interagency Webinar Today!

REMINDER: Webinar Today!

Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Access & Awareness Webinar Series

"Federal Agencies Convening for Environmental Justice: Connecting Communities to Green Space, Healthcare and Jobs"

Thursday August 11, 2016 at 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern

Register Now!

The link for the webinar is: https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejiwg-webinar/

Established by Executive Order 12898, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) comprises 17 federal agencies and White House Offices that work together to guide, support and enhance environmental justice and community-based activities. Check out the EJ IWG Webpage for more information.

The EJ IWG is launching the Access & Awareness Series, a monthly event, to provide public access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. This series will help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating and what resources are available to anyone interested in improving the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

The first webinar of the series, "Federal Agencies Convening for Environmental Justice: Connecting Communities to Green Space, Healthcare and Jobs" will provide an introduction to the Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group established in 1994 under Executive Order 12898 and chaired by the Environmental Protection Agency. It will highlight three innovative federal projects with presentations from the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor and the Department of the Interior, National Parks Service. These presentations will highlight agency programs and how they integrate important EJ principles to target underserved and overburdened communities.

- **Date:** 8/11/2016
- **Time:** 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
- **Conference Line:** 1-866-200-3188
- **Pin Code** (b)(6) Personal Privacy

The link for the webinar is: https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejiwg-webinar/

When you click on the link, enter the webinar room, as a guest, input your name and hit "enter room." Adobe Connect may require you to download a plug-in, so please enter the room at least 5 minutes early to ensure that you can join us on time.

If you have any issues accessing the webinar room or conference line, please email Simone Walter for assistance.

000857

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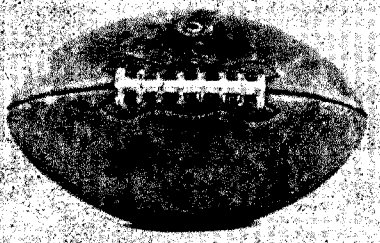
You're invited to:



THE 1st ANNUAL EJ IWG SUPER BOWL TEAM CELEBRATION

Location: US EPA 6226 EPA South
Teleconference: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]
Date: Thursday, January 28, 2016

- 2:00pm Pre-Game Show (EJ IWG Meeting)
- 2:30pm Tailgating
- 2:45pm Kick Off/First Quarter: Players Recognition
- 2:55pm 2nd Quarter: Team Substitutions
- 3:05pm Half Time: Special Presentation
- 3:15pm Third Quarter: Special Teams Recognition
- 3:30pm Fourth Quarter: Touchdown

RSVP to EJ IWG Team Captains: Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov) and Suzi Ruhl (ruhl.suzi) by Jan. 25, 2016

If you would like to donate a tailgate item (e.g. chips, nuts, nachos, soda, etc) or a small monetary donation, please contact one of the Team Captains

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To: Lung, Tai[Lung.Tai@epa.gov]; Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Benjamin, Kent
Sent: Wed 2/10/2016 10:31:19 PM
Subject: nxt strat 2
smime.p7s

Strategy 2: EPA headquarters and regional offices will work with federal agencies to improve on the on-the-ground results of federal interagency collaborations on community revitalization at the regional, state and local levels.

The EPA and the EJ IWG will work in partnership with EPA's efforts to undertake a proactive strategy to institutionalize community-based work. EPA and other Federal agencies' efforts will collaborate in using the EPA Community Practice Toolkit and other resources to improve on the ground results in overburdened communities. The EPA and the EJ IWG will collaborate on enhancing multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to solve environmental justice issues. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicates community-based programs to promote long term-revitalization, economic opportunity, equitable development and sustainability.

Action 2.1: Strengthen interagency partnerships in the EPA regions through Regional EJ IWGs that directly support on the ground work in communities to leverage federal agency resources that provide technical assistance to support overburdened communities.

EPA and the EJ IWG will identify and leverage federal resources to address environmental challenges and build sustainabile community infrastructure. EPA's Regional offices, in collaboration with the EJ IWG workgroups will identify overburdened communities, using tools such as EJSCREEN, and work to align efforts where EPA and multiple agencies will work together to address environmental justice concerns. These partnerships will disseminate relevant tools and strategies to overburdened communities, including existing resources and programs that can be leveraged for specific EPA projects. By 2020, EPA will finalize its draft EPA Community Practice Toolkit (2016) and share it within the Agency, with our governmental partners, and with the public. SO WHAT

Kent A. Benjamin, M.S.

Deputy Director, Office of Communications, Partnerships and Analysis

Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)

Tel. 202-564-9095; Mobile: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

FOLLOW OLEM on Twitter @EPAland

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To: Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]; Lung, Tai[Lung.Tai@epa.gov]
From: Benjamin, Kent
Sent: Wed 2/10/2016 10:28:20 PM
Subject: strategy 2
smime.p7s

Strategy 2: EPA headquarters and regional offices will work with federal agencies to improve on the on-the-ground results of federal interagency collaborations on community revitalization at the regional, state and local levels.

The EPA and the EJ IWG will work in partnership with EPA's efforts to undertake a proactive strategy to institutionalize community-based work. EPA and other Federal agencies' efforts will collaborate in using the EPA Community Practice Toolkit and other resources to improve on the ground results in overburdened communities. The EPA and the EJ IWG will collaborate on enhancing multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to solve environmental justice issues. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicates community-based programs to promote long term-revitalization, economic opportunity, equitable development and sustainability.

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Kent A. Benjamin, M.S.

Deputy Director, Office of Communications, Partnerships and Analysis

Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)

Tel. 202-564-9095; Mobile (b)(6) Personal Privacy

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foster on-the-ground federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization at the regional, state and local levels to affect more comprehensive, solution oriented engagement and investment.

Strengthening collaboration and coordination throughout the federal family on place-based projects and activities is important to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. Over-burdened communities typical face multiple challenging issues that can be improved through structured partnerships with federal agencies and other stakeholders. These issues include environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management, and health disparities. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicates community-based programs to promote long term-revitalization, economic opportunity, equitable development and sustainability.

Action 2.1: Cultivate and strengthen solution-oriented interagency partnerships in the EPA regional offices that directly support on the ground work in communities.

Building upon lessons learned regarding the benefits associated with coordinated multi-agency engagement and investment, EPA in partnership with other federal agencies, will convene and facilitate solution-oriented structured partnerships in overburdened communities to support and address community issues as one federal family. EPA's EJ 2020 Federal Agencies and Community-based Work workgroups will identify overburdened communities, using tools such as EJSCREEN and C-FERST, and work to align efforts where EPA and multiple agencies will work together to address environmental justice concerns. These partnerships will disseminate relevant resources, tools, and strategies to overburdened communities. Annually, EPA will evaluate outcomes in at least ten of these structured partnerships to produce an annual summary and collection of best practices. By 2020, EPA will develop a best practices document from interagency work in communities and share it within the Agency, with our governmental partners, and with the public.

Kent A. Benjamin, M.S.

Deputy Director, Office of Communications, Partnerships and Analysis

Office of Land and Emergency Management

Tel. 202-564-9095; Mobile (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]

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To: Miller, Latoya[Miller.Latoya@epa.gov]
Cc: Tennessee, Denise[Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov]
From: Thomas-Burton, Tami
Sent: Mon 2/29/2016 2:53:47 PM
Subject: RE: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

Latoya,

I do not have any notes from the N.Birmingham meeting. I left at noon for another off-site meeting. Tami

From: Miller, Latoya
Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 9:15 AM
To: Rumley, MaKara; Lindsley, Mara; Thomas-Burton, Tami
Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia; Davis, Anita; Jenkins, Brandi
Subject: Fwd: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

Just received this note from Edwin... Any chance that we can meet this week about the subgroup breakout. Looks like Edwin is ready to get to work on the action items?

Latoya

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Revell, Edwin" <Edwin.Revell@birminghamal.gov>
Date: February 29, 2016 at 9:01:02 AM EST
To: "Miller, Latoya" <Miller.Latoya@epa.gov>
Cc: "Moore, Kevin W." <Kevin.Moore@birminghamal.gov>
Subject: RE: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

Good Morning Latoya:

Would you happen to know when we can expect to receive a copy of the minutes taken during our subgroup breakout session? I want to make sure that we stay on top of our action items on this end. Thank you.

Edwin Revell, Deputy Director

City of Birmingham

Department of Planning, Engineering & Permits

Planning, Urban Design and Watershed Management Div.

710 20th St. North, Room 500

Office (205)254-2479

Cell (205)532-9967

Fax (205)254-2738

edwin.revell@birminghamal.gov

From: Miller, Latoya [mailto:Miller.Latoya@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 4:00 PM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Bouchillon, Terry A. <Terry.Bouchillon@birminghamal.gov>; Brewer, Jeffrey <jeffrey.brewer@fema.dhs.gov>; brian.ruggs@arcadis-us.com; Kidd, Cheryl <Cheryl.Kidd@birminghamal.gov>; [redacted] Curtis.M.Flakes@usace.army.mil; Davis, Anita <Davis.Anita@epa.gov>; Debardlabon, Ralph <Ralph.DebardlabonJr@birminghamal.gov>; deirdre_hewitt@nps.gov; Delli-Gatti, Dionne <Delli-Gatti.Dionne@epa.gov> [redacted] Revell, Edwin <Edwin.Revell@birminghamal.gov> [redacted] Giattina, James <Giattina.Jim@epa.gov>; Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>; Joseph.W.Paine@usace.army.mil; joshua_moore@nps.gov; Joyce_Stanley@ios.doi.gov; Liles, Erika <eliles@kwlenterprises.com>; Lindsley, Mara <Lindsley.Mara@epa.gov>; Mbanugo, Linus <Linus.MBANUGO@birminghamal.gov>; MLB@adem.state.al.us; Moore, Kevin W. <Kevin.Moore@birminghamal.gov>; Naomi Gordon <Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov>; Nelson, Rosemarie <nelson.rosemarie@epa.gov>; Parker, William A. <William.Parker@birminghamal.gov>; Powell, Alan <Powell.Alan@epa.gov>; Rotan, Renee K. <Renee.Rotan@birminghamal.gov>; Robert.Haywood2@fema.dhs.gov; Robinson, Stanley <Stanley.Robinson@birminghamal.gov>; Shari.Schaftlein@dot.gov; Stephanie.madson@fema.dhs.gov; Tennessee, Denise <Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov>; tiffany.d.brown@hud.gov; Wright, Anthony <Anthony.Wright@fema.dhs.gov>; Naomi Gordon <Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov>; Davis, Anita <Davis.Anita@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

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(b)(6) Personal Privacy

Cynthia...Thanks for that correction

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 4:54 PM
To: Miller, Latoya <Miller.Latoya@epa.gov>; Bouchillon, Terry A. <Terry.Bouchillon@birminghamal.gov>; Brewer, Jeffrey <jeffrey.brewer@fema.dhs.gov>; brian.ruggs@arcadis-us.com; cheryl.kidd@birminghamal.gov; (b)(6) Personal Privacy Curtis.M.Flakes@usace.army.mil; Davis, Anita <Davis.Anita@epa.gov>; Debardlabon, Ralph <Ralph.DebardlabonJr@birminghamal.gov>; deirdre_hewitt@nps.gov; Delli-Gatti, Dionne <Delli-Gatti.Dionne@epa.gov>; (b)(6) Personal Edwin.Revell@birminghamal.gov; (b)(6) Personal Privacy Giattina, James <Giattina.Jim@epa.gov>; Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>; Joseph.W.Paine@usace.army.mil; joshua_moore@nps.gov; Joyce_Stanley@ios.doi.gov; Liles, Erika <eliles@kwlenterprises.com>; Lindsley, Mara <Lindsley.Mara@epa.gov>; Mbanugo, Linus <Linus.MBANUGO@birminghamal.gov>; MLB@adem.state.al.us; Moore, Kevin W. <Kevin.Moore@birminghamal.gov>; Naomi Gordon <Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov>; Nelson, Rosemarie <nelson.rosemarie@epa.gov>; Parker, William A. <William.Parker@birminghamal.gov>; Powell, Alan <Powell.Alan@epa.gov>; Renee.rotan@birminghamal.gov; Robert.Haywood2@fema.dhs.gov; Robinson, Stanley <Stanley.Robinson@birminghamal.gov>; Shari.Schaftlein@dot.gov; Stephanie.madson@fema.dhs.gov; Tennessee, Denise <Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov>; tiffany.d.brown@hud.gov; Wright, Anthony <Anthony.Wright@fema.dhs.gov>; Naomi Gordon <Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov>; Davis, Anita <Davis.Anita@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

Hello,

The link below is only for folks who are not travelling with the City of Birmingham. The City has a separate registration process and his handling the meals for the folks who are coming with them.

If you have any questions, the City of Birmingham point of contact is Naomi Gordon, MBA

Office of City Councilor William Parker, District 4

(c) 205-533-5085 or email: Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov

Thanks!!

Cynthia

From: Miller, Latoya
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 4:48 PM
To: Bouchillon, Terry A. <Terry.Bouchillon@birminghamal.gov>; Brewer, Jeffrey <jeffrey.brewer@fema.dhs.gov>; brian.ruggs@arcadis-us.com; cheryl.kidd@birminghamal.gov; (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] Curtis.M.Flakes@usace.army.mil; Davis, Anita <Davis.Anita@epa.gov>; Debardlabon, Ralph <Ralph.DebardlabonJr@birminghamal.gov>; deirdre_hewitt@nps.gov; Delli-Gatti, Dionne <Delli-Gatti.Dionne@epa.gov>; (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] Edwin.Revell@birminghamal.gov; (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] Giattina, James <Giattina.Jim@epa.gov>; Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>; Joseph.W.Paine@usace.army.mil; joshua_moore@nps.gov; Joyce_Stanley@ios.doi.gov; Liles, Erika (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted] Lindsley, Mara <Lindsley.Mara@epa.gov>; Mbanugo, Linus <Linus.MBANUGO@birminghamal.gov>; MLB@adem.state.al.us; Moore, Kevin W. <Kevin.Moore@birminghamal.gov>; Naomi Gordon <Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov>; Nelson, Rosemarie <nelson.rosemarie@epa.gov>; Parker, William A. <William.Parker@birminghamal.gov>; Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Powell, Alan <Powell.Alan@epa.gov>; Renee.rotan@birminghamal.gov; Robert.Haywood2@fema.dhs.gov; Robinson, Stanley <Stanley.Robinson@birminghamal.gov>; Shari.Schaftlein@dot.gov; Stephanie.madson@fema.dhs.gov; Tennessee, Denise <Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov>; tiffany.d.brown@hud.gov; Wright, Anthony <Anthony.Wright@fema.dhs.gov>
Subject: FW: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

This is the official invitation that went out earlier this week. Please use the link below to register and arrange for your lunch selection. Thanks

From: Jenkins, Brandi
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 4:17 PM

To: North Birmingham Environmental Collaborative <NBEC@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

North Birmingham Workgroup,

We wanted to remind you of the upcoming North Birmingham IWG Meeting being held here on 2/18. Follow the link below to register for the meeting. We have a number of tasks that we will need your support on for the meeting. Please stay tuned for an email in the next couple of days with details. We look forward to your participation and assistance with this meeting.

Thanks,

Brandi

2-9124

From: Bonner, Brenda **On Behalf Of** McTeerToney, Heather
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2016 2:22 PM
Subject: Your Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

Colleagues:

As a follow-up to the Save the Date invitation I sent a few weeks ago, I encourage you to join me at the Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group for Environmental Justice. In this important meeting, we will look to solidify the partnerships and next steps that all of our agencies have been working diligently towards. Our leadership is key in ensuring the communities of North Birmingham

are provided opportunities for a sustainable and equitable future. Please click on the link included in the invitation to register for the meeting. A draft agenda will be circulated next week.

Looking forward to seeing you on February 18th.

Hello,

You are invited to the following event:

Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice -- Focused on North Birmingham

Event to be held at the following time, date, and location:

Thursday, February 18, 2016
from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM (EST)

Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
2nd Floor Conference Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

View Map

Attend Event

The Region 4, Federal Interagency Working Group for Environmental Justice (R4 IWG) has embraced a coordinated approach to work with local stakeholders in developing plans to revitalize the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Fairmont, Collegeville and Harriman Park neighborhoods in Jefferson County, Alabama (a.k.a, North Birmingham Collaboration Project). In order to make additional resources available to the community and achieve maximum coordination, subgroups comprised of various community, state, local and federal agencies were formed to discuss potential short-and long-term goals in addressing priority issues, identify technical assistance

to help build capacity, and explore potential funding opportunities to support the needs of the North Birmingham communities. This effort has been identified in the Making a Visible Difference initiative by EPA's Administrator. On February 18, 2016, we will hear from City of Birmingham officials, review progress and accomplishments, workgroups will meet with key agency representatives and we will hear from representatives from the National Interagency Workgroup Group on Environmental Justice.

EPA will use your registration information solely for this event. We will not share your information with any third party.

If you require special accommodations, please contact Cynthia Peurifoy, on 404-562-9649 or email Peurifoy.Cynthia@EPA.gov by Friday, February 12, 2016 to make arrangements.

LUNCH ORDERS: To EPA, Other Federal and State Agencies and others whose travel is not being funded by Councilor Parker, City of Birmingham:

Cynthia Peurifoy is putting together a Jason's Deli group order and wants you to be included!

* To **accept** the invitation and add to the order click here.

* To **decline** the invitation and let the Cynthia know click here.

IMPORTANT ORDER INFORMATION: Everybody is paying for his or her own lunch today. For your convenience, please pay online.

Deadline: Submit your order by **2/17/2016 5:00 PM** Eastern Time

Please contact Cynthia Peurifoy at 404-562-9649 if you have any questions.

Please Note: If you are travelling from Birmingham and your travel expenses are being covered by the City of Birmingham, Councilor Parker's office, your lunch is being ordered separately. Please contact:

Naomi Gordon, MBA

Office of City Councilor William Parker, District 4

(c) 205-533-5085 or email: Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov

Visiting the Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center

The SNAFC is a 24-hour building. Visitor access hours are 8 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. on weekdays. There is limited access to the building after hours and on weekends. The main entrance to the building is located on Forsyth Street. Visitors must go through the metal detector, sign in with the security desk and be accompanied by an employee.

You will need to show a photo ID to enter the building. Please allow for adequate time to go through Security when entering the facilities.

Continental Breakfast will be available from 8:30am to 9:00am

We hope you can make it!

Cheers,
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia

This invitation was sent to Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov by U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia the organizer. To stop receiving invitations from this organizer, you can unsubscribe.

Eventbrite, Inc. | 155 5th St, 7th Floor | San Francisco, CA 94103

Heather McTeer Toney

Regional Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

(404) 562-8348; Fax (404) 562-9661

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To: Meredith Lilly - 4A[meredith.lilly@gsa.gov]
From: Jenkins, Brandi
Sent: Mon 2/8/2016 8:00:26 PM
Subject: You're Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

Meredith,

Here is the info @ the meeting on the 18th. I will also send you the Save the Date that was emailed out a few weeks ago.

Thanks,

Brandi J. Jenkins, Special Assistant

Office of the Regional Administrator

EPA – Region 4

O: 404.562.9124

(b)(6) Personal Privacy

From: Bonner, Brenda **On Behalf Of** McTeerToney, Heather
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2016 2:22 PM
Subject: Your Invited - Region 4 North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice - Feb 18, 2016

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View Map

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Heather McTeer Toney

Regional Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

(404) 562-8348; Fax (404) 562-9661

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EJ IWG Regional Interagency Working Group (RIWG) Subcommittee – May 19, 2016

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Teleconference: 866-299-3188 Code (b)(6) Personal Privacy

GOALS: To Discuss Status of current projects and next steps

Roll Call/Welcome

- Kedesch Altidor (HHS/Reg.2)
- Joey Baietti (HUD)
- Cynthia Ferguson (DOJ)
- Jeanine Finley (EPA)
- Marsha Minter (EPA/Co-chair)
- Siobhan Tarver (EPA/Reg. 4)

Webinar series/logistics (FY 16 Framework for Collaboration Goal)

- The team working on developing the webinar series met last week and decided on a tentative schedule and topics for the first four webinars.
- It was determined that the Title VI and Rural Development topics should not be put on the schedule until we receive feedback from the other subcommittees on what outreach they are planning to do. We are hoping to receive that information by June 3rd.
- The grant opportunity topic should be a priority, and there are existing webinars on this topic that we can pull information from.
- Each of the externally facing webinars should provide an action or participatory opportunity for the audience.

Next Steps:

- The webinar team will investigate the timing of federal grants/technical assistance and public comment periods in respective agencies (through grants.gov or other means) to determine when webinars on grants and public participation opportunities would be feasible. Follow-up meeting next week?
- Marsha will consider information that is being prepared through existing EPA webinars on grants to include in the EJ grants webinar.
- Siobhan will work on developing "Federal Collaboration for Community Revitalization" topic to help determine 'what is the story we are trying to tell?' regarding a specific municipality or community that shows how federal, state, and local agencies work together. Gary, IN is a possible case study where there have been multiple federal initiatives that overlap, GSA can contribute information about its projects.

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Resource document Update (FY 16 Framework for Collaboration Goal)

The resource guide team has been evaluating the best way to provide updated information on federal grants to EJ communities. Instead of providing a hard copy resource guide document, it would be more useful to provide the resource on an online platform. Grants.gov has been the main resource to search for federal grant opportunities online, however a search for EJ does not provide useful or comprehensive results. It was determined that EJ grants can be found under various search terms depending on each agency's preferred jargon.

Next Steps:

- Kedesch will begin the process of investigating the various search terms and cross-cutting issues that will allow a user to access EJ grant opportunities across the different agencies.
- Marsha will look at how this activity can coordinate with EJ 2020 objectives related to grants and grant-making.

3 RIWG models update

- Interviews have been scheduled with Joey and Jeanine starting Friday, May 20th
- Appalachia model has been added to the list

Meeting Schedule: First and Third Thursdays @ 1pm
Next meetings: June 2nd
June 15th

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EJ IWG Regional Interagency Working Group (RIWG) Subcommittee – October 6, 2016

1:00pm – 2:00pm Teleconference: 866-299-3188 Code (b)(6) Personal Privacy

GOALS: Discuss status of current projects and next steps

1:00pm Roll Call/Welcome

Team Members

- Marsha Minter (EPA/Co-chair)
- Evelyn Britton (GSA)
- Cynthia Ferguson (DOJ)
- Sonya Neal-Reeves (USDA)
- Jeanine Finley (EPA)
- Kedesch Altidor (HHS/Reg.2)
- Siobhan Tarver (EPA/Reg. 4)

1:05pm Committee Action Items (Sept. 1 Meeting Recap/Notes attached to Calendar Invite)

Next step: Jeanine and Joey will collect comments and integrate them into the next draft ***completed***

Next step: Southeast Brownfields Conference: Joey will check with HUD to verify a presentation on HUD strategy. Marsha will send information about the community day panel at the West Virginia brownfields conference. Marsha will also connect Stan with Cynthia to discuss a panel on port communities. ***completed***

Sonya will provide info on upcoming USDA conference in Virginia Beach, VA ***completed***

Next step: Kedesch will provide a draft resource terms and links by the next meeting ***completed***

1:10pm Webinar series/logistics Update (FY 16 Framework for Collaboration Goal)

- Survey Tool
- Oct. 13 Webinar

The EJ IWG webinar series has a space on the IWG webpage for recordings of the previous webinars and links to register for the upcoming webinars. We are collecting info on topics the audience would like to hear from through a survey. We will continue the survey for a few more of the webinars because there are different audiences for each. The October webinar will focus on Children's Health and will be moderated by Siobhan Whitlock of R4, Oct 13th from 1pm-2:30.

Is it possible to ask visitors to the webpage for topic ideas? We will have to follow up with the communications team which runs the webpage.

EJ Resource Terms Update (FY 16 Framework for Collaboration Goal)

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Kadesch has sent around a document on an EJ reference guide on searching for EJ related grants. Please review and provide any additional terms you think might be useful.

Next Steps: the regional IWG committee will provide comments on this draft by Oct 17th

RIWG Models Update

The latest draft of the RIWG Lessons Learned for interagency approaches to collaboration document was attached to the meeting invite. Joey and Jeanine have worked to get the document to the state of near completion. We hope you all will be able to review and provide a final round of comments before we make this document available to regional staff. There has been interest in this lessons learned document from staff working in the regions that have either decided to or are thinking about starting up a regional collaboration.

Next step: the regional IWG committee will provide comments on the second draft by Oct 17th.

1:30pm Oct. 13 NEJAC panel /Public Comment

Marsha and Mustafa will be meeting with NEJAC 1-1 to discuss the EJ IWG. EJ IWG panel will take place from 4-5pm on Oct 12th. The IWG will have representation from Mustafa Ali, Chris Trent (HUD), Suzi Ruhl (EPA), Christine Ash (EPA), Kim Lambert (USFW), Daria Neal (DOJ). The public comment period will take place starting at 6pm.

1:35pm FY 16 Accomplishments/FY 17 Priorities

A discussion on wrapping up the FY 16 accomplishments and moving into developing the FY 17 activities will take place at our next EJ IWG monthly meeting on Oct 20th.

1:50pm Support for RIWGs/Updates

- Oct. 18 Community Day and EJ Community Caucus and Listening Session/ 2nd Southeast Brownfields Conference (Link to the Southeast Brownfields Conference Website:http://www.floridabrownfields.org/event/2ndAnnualSEConference), Jacksonville, FL
- Interagency Exhibit/Panel

Meeting Schedule: First and Third Thursdays @ 1pm

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FY 17 EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Priorities

Regional EJ IWG

Framework Goal 1: Enhance communication and coordination to improve health, quality of life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

Access and Awareness Subcommittee

EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series

- The subcommittee will aim to produce 6 webinars in FY17.

Tools and Resources

- Create a resource document to coincide with Access and Awareness webinar topics that has links to relevant resources and contact information.
- Regional Interagency Collaboration Lessons Learned Document: distribute and collect feedback from the regions on tool. Look for opportunities to develop a similar tool for external stakeholders.

Framework Goal 2: Enhance multiagency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues.

- **Look for opportunities to help establish a Regional/State EJ IWG**
  Work with field staff and stakeholders to identify ways to help create one or more additional Regional/State EJ IWGs. Provide resources and promote the benefits of these groups on place based initiatives and serving the needs communities with EJ issues.
- **Look for opportunities to expand agency participation in EPA EJ Academy.**
  Form a Federal Environmental Justice Academy Steering Committee. Engage IWG members in planning and coordination of agency involvement in the EJA.

Framework Goal 3: Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities.

- **Continue Support to RIWGs**

Framework Goal 4: Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities.

- **Look for opportunities to expand CUPP**
  Host a webinar highlighting the work of the CUPP program and its role in interagency initiatives target at academic institutions that do not currently have partnerships with the CUPP program or the IWG.

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FY 16 EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Activities Summary

I. Regional IWG

- **Developed Regional IWG Model Lessons Learned**

Interviewed successful working groups that address EJ issues to create a document that compiled lessons learned. This document can be used as a how-to guide for regional staff and external stakeholders looking to form a collaboration addressing EJ concerns. This document can be distributed to interested federal staff to help guide them through successful practices and techniques for forming a working group. The document details lessons learned from two different types of groups- collaborations formed from federal place based initiatives, and collaborations formed on a more ad hoc basis.

- **EJ Search Terms Guide**
  Developing a compendium of links, search terms for grants.gov and cfda.gov, and resources to be posted on the EJ IWG Website. This list can be updated to add new resources and terms as they come up. The compendium includes a list of terms associated with environmental justice in order to help the public find resources available that address EJ concerns.
- **EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series**
  Launched an EJ IWG monthly webinar series, in FY 16 over 700 people engaged with the webinar series through Eventbrite registration and around 350 people participated in webinars that highlighted environmental justice initiatives from EPA, DOL, HHS, USDA and DOI. FY 2016 topics have included: federal grants, how to use grants.gov, intro to the EJ IWG, and regional spotlights. The webinar series brings together subject matter experts to discuss different approaches and ideas that address various EJ concerns. Topics are sourced from the EJ IWG and the general public.
- **Region 4 EJ IWG Support**
  Engagement of GSA in North Birmingham IWG to show how surplus government equipment and property can be assessed.
- **Region 2 EJ IWG Support**

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To: Trent, Chris B[Chris.B.Trent@hud.gov]; Poliwka, Annette[Poliwka.Annette@epa.gov]; Luther.Jones@wdc.usda.gov[Luther.Jones@wdc.usda.gov]; Ron Milam[ron.milam@hhs.gov]; Marshall, Sunaree K[Sunaree.K.Marshall@hud.gov]; Baietti, Joseph A[Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov]; Finley, Jeanine[finley.jeanine@epa.gov]; Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]; Smith, Rhonda[smith.rhonda@epa.gov]; christy.jackiewicz@gsa.gov[christy.jackiewicz@gsa.gov]; Evelyn Britton[Evelyn.Britton@gsa.gov]; Gary Bojes[Gary.Bojes@wdc.usda.gov]; (cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov)[cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov]; Kedesch Altidor[Kedesch.Altidor@hhs.gov]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]; Whitlock, Siobhan[Whitlock.Siobhan@epa.gov]; Trent, Chris B[Chris.B.Trent@hud.gov]; Mcgarry, Barbara[McGarry.Barbara@epa.gov]; Cheryl Kelly[cheryl_kelly@ios.doi.gov]; Allison_O'Brien@ios.doi.gov[Allison_O'Brien@ios.doi.gov]; Ash, Christine[Ash.Christine@epa.gov]; lucy.jenkins@gsa.gov[lucy.jenkins@gsa.gov]; valincia_darby@ios.doi.gov[valincia_darby@ios.doi.gov]; Brett, Rita[brett.rita@epa.gov]; Courtney Hoover[courtney_hoover@ios.doi.gov]
Cc: Washington, Phillip E - APHIS[Phillip.Washington@aphis.usda.gov]; Hurley, Daniel - RD, Washington, DC[Daniel.Hurley@wdc.usda.gov]; bianca.norman@gsa.gov[bianca.norman@gsa.gov]; brian_milchak@ios.doi.gov[brian_milchak@ios.doi.gov]; bianca.henderson@gsa.gov[bianca.henderson@gsa.gov]
Subject: Canceled: Regional EJ IWG Working Group

;;
Please use this time to watch the Access and Awareness Webinar, information below.

Access & Awareness Webinar Series
Webinar No. 10: A Seat at the Table: Environmental Justice and a New Generation of Leaders
October 5, 2017.

Date: 10/05/2017
Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm Eastern
To register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-seat-at-the-table-environmental-justice-and-a-new-generation-of-leaders-tickets-37461218513

Description

Is your agency or organization interested in learning about effective approaches to engage young people in environmental justice and environmental stewardship?

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) recognizes the key role that young adults play in bringing awareness to environmental and public health challenges. Young people are ready to get involved and become future leaders by offering fresh perspectives on environmental justice. It is essential that a new generation have a seat at the table to help inform decisions impacting communities around the country.

Through this webinar the EJ IWG is working to increase awareness about youth-driven projects across the country and provide the space to hear from young adults on how our organizations and agencies can more effectively engage young people. Join us to hear insights from three emerging leaders who are actively working to engage young people in projects that are helping to build stronger communities, increase sustainability and provide resources to those that are most in need.

Moderator:

Jeanine Finley- EJ IWG Coordinator, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

Speakers:

Carol E. Ramos-Gerena- Urban and Environmental Planning, University of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras Campus

Eriqah R. K. Vincent- National EcoLeaders Coordinator, National Wildlife Federation

Jeremy May- VISTA Member with the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement (Dept. of Interior), Mountain Studies Institute

Background:

Established by Executive Order 12898, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) comprises 17 federal agencies and White House Offices that work together to guide, support and enhance environmental justice and community-based activities. Check out the EJ IWG Webpage for more information.

The EJ IWG is hosting the Access & Awareness Webinar Series to provide public with access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. This series will help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating and what resources are available to anyone interested in improving the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.
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If you are not already a member, the Office of Environmental Justice would like to invite you to join the EJ ListServ. The purpose of this information tool is to notify individuals about activities at EPA in the field of environmental justice. By subscribing to this list you will receive information on EPAs activities, programs, projects grants and about environmental justice activities at other agencies. Noteworthy news items, National meeting announcements, meeting summaries of NEJAC meetings, and new publication notices will also be distributed. Postings can only be made by the Office of Environmental Justice. To request an item to be posted, send your request to environmental-justice@epa.gov and indicate in the subject "Post to EPA-EJ ListServ"
You are currently subscribed to $subst(List.Name) as: $subst(Recip.EmailAddr)
To unsubscribe, send a blank email to leave-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov
For problems with this list, contact $subst(List.Name)-Owner@lists.epa.gov

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Federal Agencies Actions

May 15, 2017

Strategy 1: Address key environmental justice challenges in collaboration with government partners through the implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

Action 1.1: Advance consideration of environmental justice in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process by implementing environmental justice and NEPA analytic methodologies.

Action 1.2: Identify and address potential adverse impacts from the commercial distribution of freight (goods movement) and related infrastructure (e.g., ports, rail yards, distribution centers) by developing and implementing assessment and engagement tools and programs that promote emissions reductions, better planning and sustainable development practices, and enhance the health, safety, quality of life, and meaningful engagement of affected communities.

Action 1.3: Strengthen interagency partnerships in the EPA regional offices through Regional EJ IWG partnerships that directly support on-the-ground work in communities to leverage federal agency resources that provide technical assistance to support overburdened communities.

Strategy 2: Seek opportunities to catalyze revitalization of overburdened communities through federal partnerships that connect protection of public health and the environment with economic development, land development, infrastructure investment and resiliency planning.

Action 2.1: OEJ and OSC will develop a community revitalization strategy in conjunction with the EJ IWG, communities and other federal agencies that complements EPA's core functions and supports communities in achieving their own vision of healthy, sustainable and equitable communities.

Action 2.2: OEJ will work with multiple public and private sector organizations to convene the National Funding Resources and Training Summit.

Action 2.3: OEJ and OSC will promote the use of best practices for place-based approaches to achieving community sustainability, equitable development and economic revitalization in overburdened communities.

Action 2.4: OEJ and OSC will work with the EJ IWG partner agencies to engage business and industry organizations to promote their participation in community-driven efforts to address environmental and economic concerns.

Strategy 3: Foster the capacity of EPA and our sister federal agencies to meaningfully address environmental justice concerns through the use and continued development of environmental justice tools, resources and ways to integrate environmental justice into programs and policies of all agencies.

Action 3.1: Develop environmental justice criteria for inclusion in the scoring schemes for Federal EJ IWG agencies' grants and cooperative agreements eligibility processes.

Action 3.2: Promote the use and continued development of EPA and other federal agencies' analytic and data tools that enable and encourage our governmental partners and community members to consider

and address environmental justice issues.

Action 3.3: Partner with other federal agencies through the EJ IWG to discuss and test new uses for EJSCREEN and other analytic and data tools, as well as share datasets.

MEASURES

National Environmental Policy Act

- Documentation: 100% of EPA's reviews of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), reviewed pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, will consider the adequacy of an agency's Environmental Justice analysis, which includes the implications of climate change and its effects on communities with EJ concerns. In reviewing these agency analyses, EPA will consider Principles and Specific Steps of the Federal IWG on EJ's Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews (Promising Practices) as defined by the National Training Product (NTP), in addition to other legal, regulatory and policy guidance. In EISs where environmental justice has been identified as a potential concern (e.g., via EJSCREEN or other means), EPA's comments on the agency's EJ analysis will be documented in EPA's Section 309 review letter to the federal agency. EPA will also consider Promising Practices and NTP, together with other NEPA and EJ resources, in developing the rating and the Section 309 review letter.

- Training: 100% of all current EPA NEPA reviewers will complete review of Promising Practices and the NTP training. New NEPA EIS review staff will complete review of Promising Practices and the NTP training within 4 months of being assigned NEPA review responsibilities.

Number of federal agencies' grants and cooperative agreements solicitations (and similar funding vehicles) using EJ Criteria Language, as measured annually beginning in 2017, and achieving a 20% increase above that 2017 baseline between 2018 and 2020.

FY-17 Deliverables

- NEPA: Conduct training on NEPA and EJ for federal agencies' staff; Conduct training on EIS for compliance officers
- Goods Movement – Port Pilot Projects; Develop C-PORT tool, port-related DERA funding
- Community Revitalization (TBD)
- Regional IWGs: Complete Lesson Learned document; conduct seven webinars

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OSMRE comments on "EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Fiscal Years 2016-2018"

The framework document needs to be edited to adjust the tone and verbiage to ensure that it is not exceeding the scope and intent of Executive Order 12898. The Executive Order requires federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of agency programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. The Executive Order establishes the Interagency Working Group and requires the Working group to provide guidance on criteria for identifying environmental justice issues, ensuring consistency in agency environmental justice strategies, and assisting research and data collection activities. Neither the agency nor the Working Group is required by the Executive Order to "improve the health of American families and protect the environment all across the country" which is the stated duty of the 5 new focus group committees described on page 5.

This example is only one of several throughout the document of instances where the intent of the framework seems to expand well beyond the original scope and intent of the Executive Order. Another example is the wording in item II on page 5 that federal agencies will focus on goals to "enhance multi-agency support of holistic community based-solutions to ***solve environmental justice issues***". Overall the implication the reader takes from this document is that each federal agency will be expected to find and implement projects to proactively address issues related to environmental justice populations, rather than to identify and address environmental justice issues associated with a specific federal action. Proactive environmental justice project finding exceeds the authorized and funded missions of most federal agencies. The Executive Order requires us to address environmental justice issues specific to a specific federal action, we are not specifically authorized or funded to proactively solve environmental justice issues where no federal action is involved.

The priorities list (starting on page 11 of the framework) provides many more examples where we seem to be straying much too far from the scope and intent of Executive Order 12898 and should be revisited. For example, the first bullet under External Communications and Outreach appears to say that EJ IWG intends to hold trainings, webinars and presentations about EJ IWG focus areas (not the impact of specific federal actions) for an audience of community residents. It does not seem likely that these efforts would be well attended given the time demands on the lives of normal people; the second and third bullets under "External Communications and Outreach" on the other hand seems to be more in line with the intent of the Executive Order and possibly a better use of resources.

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EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Priorities
RNAL: Listed by Committee)

I. Enhanced communication and coordination

Enhanced communication and coordination to improve health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities

Regional Engagement Committee

- ***Access and Awareness Subcommittee***
  EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series
  - The subcommittee will aim to produce 6 webinars in FY17.

Tools and Resources

- Create a resource document to coincide with Access and Awareness webinar topics that has links to relevant resources and contact information.
- Regional Interagency Collaboration Lessons Learned Document: distribute and collect feedback from the regions on tool. Look for opportunities to develop a similar tool for external stakeholders.

Public Participation

- Focus on **prioritizing in-person outreach efforts through** community visits and public dialogue sessions that solicit feedback from residents directly experiencing environmental impacts.[1] For example, coordinate participation of EJ IWG Agencies at EPA's National EJ Advisory Council public meetings.
- Review EPA's National EJ Advisory Council October 2016 public meeting notes for relevant feedback/recommendations and address as appropriate.
- Enhance EJ IWG's ***Website Presence*** (https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg) – provide information overburdened communities find useful.
- Utilize EJ IWG OMB Maxx/Max.gov page or other tool to keep federal agencies informed of relevant information, such as – community issues and EJ IWG efforts, EJ IWG community engagement opportunities, successes stories (photos, etc.).
- Facilitate EJ IWG & Committees' community engagement – distribute "Public Engagement Form" to EJ IWG Committee chairs to solicit plans for 2017 and then support (i.e. address language access needs and ADA concerns) and coordinate those efforts.
- Implement additional strategies to help bridge the "digital divide" – such as:[2]

a) connect with organizations that have the capacity to provide in person education and outreach;

[1] This was also one of the Framework FY2016 priorities. Agency attendance at EPA's Newport News Revitalization Forum in September 2016 is one example of opportunities the EJ IWG utilized to continue working on this priority.
[2] The PP Committee should choose a few of the items listed and look for opportunities to implement them in 2017.

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reach out to community based organizations that serve overburdened communities (churches, etc.);

b) build capacity for community organizations to dialogue with federal, local, state governments and private sector;
c) coordinate with libraries or schools to show webinars to groups (i.e., a children's health month webinar might be available for community viewing in schools);
d) utilize podcasts;
e) connect with minority radio stations; and
f) connect social media & "Influencers" or "Amplifiers") – (those who have a broad audience to "get the word out").

- Identify, or develop where necessary, communication tools (such as blogs, agency newsletters, talking points, etc.) to help ensure that communities are aware of the EJ IWG's efforts and accomplishments.

Goods Movement

- Draft a fact sheet identifying various government entities that communities can engage concerning potential concerns related to goods movement.

NEPA

- Continue to produce and disseminate to federal departments and agencies a regular (e.g., monthly) e-newsletter highlighting agency NEPA and environmental justice activities, including upcoming training and recently issued guidance.
- Support efforts to finalize and distribute a *Community Guide to the Promising Practices Report*. Consider possible community training.
- Catalogue and share on an ongoing basis best practices of federal departments and agencies.

II. Enhance multi-agency support

Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues

Strategy

The Committee will increase accountability of federal agencies and enhance multi agency support through the following activities:

- Increase # of federal agencies facilitating EJ IWG monthly meetings
- Facilitate annual meeting with EJ IWG Convener, EPA and EJ IWG Sr. Staff and Sr. Leadership Representatives
- Facilitate annual Senior-Level EJ IWG Dialogue on Opportunities for Advancing EJ with EJ IWG

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federal agency

- Facilitate periodic meetings to enhance coordination between the EJ IWG Committee Chairman to foster alignment of cross-cutting issues between EJ IWG committees
- Explore creation of Interagency Agreement to Increase resources to the EJ IWG
- Increase efficiency of interagency collaboration utilizing existing web applications
- Track and respond to public inquiries about EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration activities

The Committee will promote awareness about the EJ IWG though the following:

- Annual Reporting of FY 16-18 EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration

Title VI

- Continued training on Title VI and Environmental Justice. The Title VI committee will provide training at the 2017 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program. The training will be facilitated by Federal agency partners and will cover Title VI enforcement and the connection between Title VI and environmental justice. The committee also plans to host a roundtable for federal civil rights practitioners to discuss promising practices in Title VI investigations involving environmental justice issues.
- Public Engagement. The Title VI committee will continue to conduct outreach to various stakeholder communities, and will support federal agency partners in their efforts to reach out to recipients and beneficiaries of federal financial assistance.

Regional Engagement Committee

- **Look for opportunities to help establish a Regional/State EJ IWG** Work with field staff and stakeholders to identify ways to help create one or more additional Regional/State EJ IWGs. Provide resources and promote the benefits of these groups on place based initiatives and serving the needs communities with EJ issues.
- **Look for opportunities to expand agency participation in EPA EJ Academy.** Form a Federal Environmental Justice Academy Steering Committee. Engage IWG members in planning and coordination of agency involvement in the EJA.

Goods Movement

- Seek to leverage federal resources for communities participating in the EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality's Near-Port Community Capacity Building pilot projects

Climate

- **Abstracts submitted for APHA and other conferences, including climate justice efforts with a public health focus** Complete a proposal to hold a special session at the May 2017 National Adaptation Forum on the nexus of environmental justice and climate change.

Rural Communities

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- Improve Health and Wellness in Rural Communities through Brownfields to Healthfields (B2H). Foster collaborations that access federal capacity to transform brownfields and other contaminated properties into end uses that improve access to health and healthcare, food security, recreation, renewables, and drinking water/waste water infrastructure, especially in rural overburdened and underserved communities. Apply this approach in geographic regions (e.g., Appalachia) and for industry sectors (e.g., abandoned mine lands).
- Convene facilitated dialogues focusing on place-based rural community needs whereby community/neighborhood organizations and other stakeholders present their problem/need/solution to a panel of Rural Committee members who offer connections to programs with resources. Pilot this service for EJ organizations/networks in Appalachia. Develop engagement mechanism that allows for in person meetings and also meetings for communities in remote locations (e.g., using libraries and other federal-network public buildings).
- Host Community Focused Sustainability workshops focused on Persistent Poverty, Stikeforce, Promise Zone, Colonias, Appalachian, (and other initiatives the RD target) to Leverage existing USDA/EPA Workshop Tools to benefit minority areas with improved water and waste infrastructure.

NEPA

- Finalize the National Training Product (NTP) and make it available to federal departments and agencies in Spring 2017.
- Provide advice as requested on use of the NTP and create a Train-the-Trainer program.
- Participate in episodic meetings and provide support to advance cross-department activities.
- Engage with other EJ IWG committees to identify and support aligned activities (e.g., Rural, Title VI, Goods Movement, Indigenous).
- Continue departmental briefings and training on *Promising Practices Report* and expand to include more in-depth training.

III. Advance interagency strategies

Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies and activities

Strategy

The Committee will implement the EJ IWG Memorandum of Agreement (2011) and Charter (2014) through the following activity:

- Based on public recommendations, determine the areas of focus for the EJ IWG

Public Participation

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- Seek information from the EJ IWG Agencies regarding any public feedback/input that would inform this Goal (i.e. identifying and addressing environmental justice concerns about agency programs, policies, and activities). Disseminate to the EJ IWG the information gathered. Coordinate with the Senior Representatives for the EJ IWG Agencies to gather and share with the EJ IWG public feedback received on Agency EJ Strategies.[3]

NEPA

- Finalize Lexicon of NEPA terms for release in Spring 2017.
- Continue to support departmental implementation of Promising Practices and foster cross agency learning of effective practices.

- Continue to promote *Promising Practices* through departmental briefings and engagement with NEPA management and staff. Focus on agency priorities and environmental issues experienced by agencies.
- Field Application and Applied Learning: Demonstration/Pilot: Work with departments and agencies to apply *Promising Practices*, evaluate the positive impact, and make recommendations for adapting *Promising Practices* and informing other efforts of the NEPA Committee.
- Continue to produce and disseminate a regular (e.g., monthly) e-newsletter highlighting agency NEPA and environmental justice activities including upcoming training and recently issued guidance. Update and expand the list of recipients and distribution throughout the federal family.
- Finalize the *NTP* and have it available for federal departments and agencies in Spring 2017.
- Create a Train-the-Trainer program.
-
- Continue fostering cross agency sharing of deliverables, training opportunities, and promising practices.
- Identify potential candidates and initiate a case study on one or more elements of the *Promising Practices Report*.

Climate

- **Holistic, systems-based Climate Justice Framework** - Produce the all-federal framework on climate justice (layer 1); Produce the matrix of federal intersections with climate justice (layer 2); Publish frameworks as pdf for circulation among federal agencies and the public. FY18 - Create interactive infographic from framework as an on-line resource.
- **Compiled list of communities focusing on climate-justice and their best practices and information used for community driven solutions – expand to include other Agencies beyond EPA; analyze information for use in Climate Justice Portal**
- **Climate Justice Portal -** In the first quarter of FY17, the Subcommittee will draft and submit to

NOAA the justification for a Climate Justice Portal on NOAA's Climate Resilience Toolkit website. If NOAA is amenable to the idea, the Subcommittee will begin the compile and transfer resources for posting on the site during the remainder of FY17. The process of updating information on the Portal will be an ongoing as needed process.

- Summary of Related International Efforts (e.g., WHO, UNEP PROVIA, USAID, World Bank Group) and initial assessment of potential leveraging/partnering opportunities

Rural Communities

- Continue to advance cross-agency cooperation and collaborative efforts, incorporating federal agency efforts into the Brownfields to Healthfields program, climate change, and Strikeforce.

IV. Develop partnerships with academic institutions

Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities

Regional Engagement Committee

- **Look for opportunities to expand CUPP-** Host a webinar highlighting the work of the CUPP program and its role in interagency initiatives target at academic institutions that do not currently have partnerships with the CUPP program or the IWG.

Rural Communities

- Academic Institutions Addressing Health Care Needs of Rural Populations. Align with academic institutions addressing health care and well-being of rural populations (e.g., vision, mental health, diabetes) to leverage resources to promote health, economic and environmental vitality.

- Expand the EJ IWG's College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) that promotes interagency collaboration and community engagement with local colleges and universities. CUPP provides opportunities for government agencies to partner with local colleges and universities to address environmental justice concerns and provide free technical assistance to communities. For instance, Savannah State University is working with the Coastal Commission of Georgia to assist students in small cities, such as Riceboro and Midway, to develop designs for sustainable buildings and improvements to water infrastructure systems.

Climate

- **Educate, Motivate, Innovate (EMI)** EMI has identified the possibility of partnering with the 2017 HBCU Conference and hold an EMI workshop, and will be reviewing that partnership in the coming month. The Subcommittee team is finalizing this opportunity including how to fund student travel costs. EMI team will have a workshop at the 2017 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program. In process of confirming financial support for student travel and hotel costs. Long-Term Project: Finalizing partnership with the American Indian Higher

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Education Consortium and their Tribal Climate Resilience Network.

- Explore creating a Face Book page
- Add a mentoring component
- Virtual meeting for past students
- Introduce to NEJAC Climate Youth Group

NEPA

- Initiate collaborations with academic institutions (e.g., Yale, UTx, UNC, U New Mexico) to advance understanding and application of *Promising Practices* and overall EJ issues

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From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Location: 866-299-3188, access code (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Importance: Normal
Subject: FW: EJ 2020 Federal Agency Work group Implementation Plan weekly discussion
Start Date/Time: Wed 12/2/2015 5:30:00 PM
End Date/Time: Wed 12/2/2015 6:30:00 PM
EJ2020 Federal Agencies Outline kb pc 11042015 kb.docx

-----Original Appointment-----
From: Benjamin, Kent
Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2015 2:32 PM
To: Benjamin, Kent; Peurifoy, Cynthia; Minter, Marsha; Hoag, Paula; Ash, Christine; Bell, Aaron L.; Ruhl, Suzi; Lee, Charles; Robinson, Victoria; Mcgarry, Barbara; Olp, Kevin; Allen, David; Nowak, April; Carey, Pat; Tarver, Siobhan
Cc: Bartsch, Charlie
Subject: EJ 2020 Federal Agency Work group Implementation Plan weekly discussion
When: Wednesday, December 02, 2015 12:30 PM-1:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: 866-299-3188, access code (b)(6) Personal Privacy

11/25/15 Meeting follow-up and assignment clarification.
Thanks to the folks who were able to participate in today's EJ 2020 Federal Agencies Work Group Call.
Here are a couple of follow-up actions as the result of the call.

1. We have identified two people to serve as leaders for the subgroups who will be refining the 'deliverables' and examining the measures for the Implementation Plan.
2. Marsha Minter will be the team lead for all activities under Strategy 1 (1.1-1.4)
3. Cynthia Peurifoy will be the team lead for all activities under Strategy 2 (2.1 and 2.2 - she is learning this through this email)
4. Pat Carey will be the team lead for all activities under Strategy 3 (3.3 - 3.3)
5. The team leads will contact the members identified previously, coordinate activities necessary to refine deliverables (with the Who, What, When, and How's), and compile and submit the refined material to me.
6. The deadline for activity refinements has been extended to December 7, COB, to allow for the teams to convene and produce their materials.
7. The whole work group will provide feedback and comments on the subsequent Draft, Final Implementation Plan and submit it to Charles Lee for the EMC, for a December 15th deadline.

Here is the Implementation Plan in the common format that will be used for all topic areas, with

names added for the people who agreed to work on refining the deliverables and milestones for the December 1st deadline.

Today's (11/25/15) agenda will be just a quick check-in on progress with the refinement, and helping anyone who needs it to meet the deadline.
Finally, I am adding the names of the people who were referenced as being potential team members for the refinement groups.

If you can't make today's meeting and need help, please call me (202-564-9095) or Marsha Minter (202-566-0215) next week.

OW

Background and historical materials
We will be discussing the Draft Implementation Plan and assigning tasks to fill in the execution related details of the deliverables and milestones portions of the plan. We will also discuss the upcoming deadlines for the final Implementation Plan (December 15, 2015).

OPE

Acronyms Legend

OA Office of the Administrator
OSWER Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
OSC Office of Sustainable Communities
Office of Water
OITA Office of International and Tribal Affairs
OCIR Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
OSBP Office of Small Business Programs
Office of Public Engagement
NEJAC National Environmental Justice Advisory Council
ITEP Institute of Tribal and Environmental Professionals
NTEC National Tribal Environmental Council

DRAFT

EJ 2020 FEDERAL AGENCIES GOALS and OBJECTIVES

Lead Offices and Regional Champion: OSWER, Region 4, OA/OEJ

Executive Summary

EPA must work each and every day-hand-in-hand with other federal agencies, state and local governments, tribes, and local communities- to improve the health of American families and protect the environment all across the country.
Strengthening our collaboration and coordination on interagency environmental justice projects and activities throughout the federal family is the key to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues in environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management and health disparities. For the past twenty years, the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) created by Executive Order 12898 and chaired by EPA, has facilitated the active involvement, leveraging of resources and expertise of the federal family.

The EJ IWG was critical in integrating EJ into agency policy under EJ 2014 by requiring agencies to issue EJ strategies and facilitating an interagency approach to improving the effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA process.

Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicate community- based programs to achieve long term revitalization, sustainability and enhance economic opportunities. The following goals, objectives, and deliverables will bring a focused approach to leverage the federal agencies tools, technical resources and investments to address disproportionate health and environmental impacts.

Goal 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Action Agenda Framework. (The Framework is a strategic plan to define new goals for the next three years and advance greater federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resources communities).

Key Objective 1:

- Improve the effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice issues in the NEPA process through the sharing of best practices, lessons learned, research, analysis, training, consultation, and other experiences of federal NEPA practitioners.

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Jan 2016: Disseminate Report (to whom) on Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews for 6 month trial period
- June 2016: Provide recommendations to the EJ IWG based on trial period review/comments
- In collaboration with the EJ 2020 Communities work group efforts, the EJ Methodologies will be shared among federal agencies as part of enhanced leveraging efforts in support of community based projects and programs.

Key Objective 2:

- Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a results of goods movement

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Share findings of key EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA programs and external partners involved with community based programs and projects
- Highlight key promising practices that would benefit EPA sponsored community based efforts
- Deploy promising practices among appropriate community based projects which are supported by EPA and other federal agencies

Key Objective 3:

- Promote Integration of EJ Policy content, concepts and values among other federal community based programs and projects

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Feb. 2016 -Document effective, innovative, and replicable approaches which promote sustainable community practices and highlight in Agencies' annual EJ progress reports.
- Develop schedule of marketing and engaging other key federal agencies on the integration of EPA EJ Policy
- Execute marketing and engagement strategy and document efforts and results

Goal 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization on the regional, state and local levels.

Key Objective 1:

- Facilitate solution oriented dialogue sessions with communities through the regional IWGs to evaluate the effectiveness of the IWG as well as agency specific EJ policies and strategies where IWG efforts are underway.

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Design template for dialogue sessions
- Develop schedule of dialogue sessions
- Determine success measures for the dialogue sessions
- Implement the dialogue sessions in EPA MVD communities in collaboration with Regional IWG and EPA MVD project staffs
- Document results of dialogue sessions and capture solutions generated
- Partner with key federal agencies to deploy relevant resources, tools, and strategies

Key Objective 2:

- Leverage federal agency resources and technical assistance in MVD communities

Deliverables/Milestones:

- EPA EJ IWG team will review Federal agencies EJ plans to identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged with specific EPA MVD projects.
- EPA EJ IWG team will document key federal programs, projects and resources and provide that document to EPA programs which work in support of community based efforts.
- EPA EJ IWG team will partner with EJ 2020 Communities work group and EPA MVD staff to coordinate interaction among EPA MVD projects and other federal resources

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD projects
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Suggested Program Offices:
EPA Offices (OSC, OW, OCIR, OITA, OSBP, OPE, OSWER)
Regional Representatives (Regions 2, 8, and 9)
Regional IWG Agency Representatives (EPA, HUD, HHS, GSA, USDA, DOJ)

Suggested Future Project Partners: External Stakeholders: Academic Institutions, Industry Affiliates, Community and State Liaisons, including, but not limited to: NEJAC, ITEP, and NTEC.

Goal 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities.

Key Objective 1:

- Create and include EJ Criteria in Grants and Cooperative Agreement scoring schemes in all Federal EJ IWG agencies

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Develop some generic EJ criteria options and share among federal agencies
- Identify potential federal assistance efforts which could incorporate the generic language

Key Objective 2:

- Identify databases and other online tools (such as EJ Screen, C-FERST, etc..) which support community based efforts and share among federal agencies and with the public

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Convene team which will collect database and tool inventory
- Create federal agency-wide inventory
- Market final product to federal, state and local government agencies, and the public
- Track utilization of the resources and tools

Key Objective 3:

- Improve Community awareness of environmental data to increase community and citizen involvement in decision-making

Deliverables/Milestones:

- Identify key federal environmental data sources and systems
- Develop marketing strategy for promoting the data sources
- Develop examples and models of data source use options and include in marketing efforts
- Track usage of data sources and use for continuous improvement of the databases

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD projects
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Suggested Program Offices:

EPA Offices (OSC, OSWER, OAR, OW, OCIR, OITA, OSBP, OPE)
Regional Representatives (Regions 2, 8, and 9)

Regional IWG Agency Representatives (EPA, HUD, HHS, GSA, USDA, DOJ)

Suggested Future Project Partners: External Stakeholders: Academic Institutions, Industry Affiliates, Community and State Liaisons, including, but not limited to: NEJAC, ITEP, and NTEC.

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EJ IWG Webinar Series:
The EJ IWG Webinar Series will explore the federal response to environmental justice and help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating to address EJ challenges throughout the country.

Webinar #1
Title:
The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice: Supporting EJ Integration throughout the Federal Government

Speakers:
DOL: Toni Wilson presenting on YouthBuild and Kevin Thompson
Sharon Ricks, HHS Region IV Acting Regional Health Administrator

Date:
8/11/2016

Time:
1-2:30pm

Summary:
The webinar will provide an introduction to the Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group, co-chaired by the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House Council on Environmental Quality. It will also include presentations from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor and the Department of the Interior that highlight agency programs and how they integrate important EJ principles and target underserved communities.

Detailed Description:
Section 1: Marsha or Mustafa
Provide the audience with an introduction to the Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group, co-chaired by the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House Council on Environmental Quality. How the EJ IWG carries out its mandate outlined under Executive Order 12898 "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations.", its goals, priority areas and the 17 federal agencies that are working to develop collaborations to better integrate environmental justice into the work of their respective agencies.

Section 2:
Next, three federal agencies, The Department of Health and Human Services, The Department of Labor and the Department of the Interior, will provide presentations that highlight their respective agency programs and how they integrate important EJ principles and target underserved communities. The Department of Labor will discuss job training opportunities in

low-income, economically stressed communities. The Department of the Interior will discuss their national urban parks initiative that supports urban revitalization through environmental stewardship and healthy green spaces. Lastly, the Department of Health and Human Services will discuss place-based EJ programming being carried out in North Birmingham. These presentations will demonstrate how different agencies are working to address EJ challenges through a range of diverse programs and initiatives.

Section 3: Question and answer with the audience

Webinar #2

Title:
Federal Grants: Navigating Grants.gov and federal funding resources for environmental justice communities

Date:
9/8/2016

Time:
1-2:30

Description:
Section 1-
The program will begin with an introduction on how to use the grants.gov website to apply for federal grants. Grants.gov is a federal resource that allows the public to apply for grants from federal agencies. A presenter will walk through basic steps for using grants.gov, viewers will learn how to make an account, locate specific grant opportunities and how to begin the application process.

Section 2-
A combination of federal agencies will discuss the current funding opportunities that are available from their respective agencies. Viewers will learn about upcoming grants and technical assistance resources as well as relevant loan and innovative financing opportunities.

Webinar #3
Title:
Achieving Synergy in Collaborative Governance for Community Revitalization

Date:
10/13/2016

Time:
1-2:30pm

Description:
Since the signing of the *Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898* in 2011, a number of federal placed-based initiatives have emerged in an effort to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resourced communities. While multiple resources and varied strategies from federal agencies can been leveraged to meet a community's needs, knowledge and vision from local stakeholders including nonprofit and private partners is vital in redevelopment projects. With so many different players on the team, is it possible to work cohesively to for successful revitalization?

This webinar will focus on the importance of achieving synergy for collaborative community revitalization. Viewers will gain a better understanding of the dynamics of place-based initiatives, and the collaboration mechanism between community, federal, state, and local agencies, as well as other stakeholders.

Section 1: An overview of the EJ IWG Collaboration Framework will be provided along with a more in-depth look at the Regional IWG Committee and its role as a regional engagement team for place-based initiatives.

Section 2: Interagency placed – based efforts will be showcased, highlighting the importance of collaboration and being a team player, knowing what you bring to the table in placed-based initiatives, and how **NOT** knowing that role can impede progress towards implementation.

Section 3: Q/A through dialogue with viewers.

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EJ IWG Public Engagement Form

Purpose of this Form

To help the EJ IWG provide a uniform approach to the outreach activities of the various EJ IWG subcommittees in FY 2016.

To gather information to develop an EJ IWG webinar series on the second Thursday of each month to support a community of practice around EJ topics, tools and resources.

Relevant Background from the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration for FY 2016 - 2018

Goal I.: Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

FY 16 Priority: Through traditional and electronic communication methods, select EJ IWG Committees intend to conduct trainings, webinars, or presentations on EJ IWG focus areas to inform, engage, and provide community residents and stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback.

[redacted]

The Public Participation Committee (PPC) is requesting information from the EJ IWG Committees on their public engagement/outreach activities (i.e. webinars, webpages, trainings, public meetings) planned for FY 16 (through September 30, 2016).

The PPC will provide assistance to the committees as needed and help publicize the activities through traditional communication channels and social media, as appropriate.

[redacted]

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EJ IWG Public Engagement Form

WEBINARS

If your committee is planning to sponsor a webinar(s), please provide the following information:

1. Purpose/Need for the Webinar(s):
2. Brief Summary of information to be shared during the Webinar(s):
3. Target Audience:
4. Target Timeframe:
5. Frequency:
6. Do you need assistance with hosting the webinar(s)?
   If yes, please explain the type of assistance requested.

WEBPAGE

If your committee is planning to create a webpage that will be contained on the EJ IWG's website, please provide the point of contact and the PPC will follow-up to request additional information and offer guidelines.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

If your committee is planning a public meeting, please provide the point of contact and the PPC will follow-up to request additional information and logistics for the meeting.

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

If your committee is planning a training workshop, please provide the point of contact and the PPC will follow-up to request additional information and assist with publicizing the workshop.

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EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration FY 16-18 Goals

The EJ IWG developed this Framework, which builds on decades of environmental justice work, to focus the collective efforts of the federal agencies on four goals for years 2016, 2017, and 2018:

I. **Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.**
   - Enhance community outreach to provide greater public access to federal information, resources, and trainings;
   - Increase public access to and understanding of data, mapping, and assessment tools to address environmental justice issues; and
   - Maximize opportunities for federal agency leadership to consider stakeholder feedback.

II. **Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues.**
   - Enhance community capacity building by sharing lessons learned, promising practices, and resources;
   - Identify and leverage federal resources to address environmental challenges and build sustainable community infrastructure; and
   - Foster federal interagency collaboration on a regional, state, tribal, and local level through various outreach efforts and other activities.

III. **Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities.**
   - Increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and goals to get feedback that assists the federal family in implementation;
   - Identify opportunities to highlight interagency community solutions to help advance implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance; and
   - Improve implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance by creating appropriate benchmarks.

IV. **Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities.**
   - Improve technical assistance to overburdened communities by leveraging programs such as the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP);
   - Encourage enhanced training from federal agencies to academic institutions, particularly minority serving academic institutions and tribal colleges and universities, in areas such as grant writing and access to federal resources organized by community issues, rather than federal agency; and
   - Develop internship opportunities for college students in overburdened communities to enhance the knowledge base of the communities and to educate college students on the conditions in overburdened communities.

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INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REVITALIZATION PROJECTS (2003)

In 2003, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Justice announced the selection of fifteen Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (IWG) Revitalization Projects. These projects seek to showcase collaborative interagency and multi-stakeholder partnerships in the area of environmental justice and community revitalization. These partnerships involve two or more federal agencies working in cooperation with state and local governments, tribal governments, community-based organizations, academia, business and industry, and/or non-governmental organizations. The intent of these projects is to examine lessons for the development of collaborative models that ensure problem-solving and sustainable solutions to a range of environmental, public health, social and economic issues associated with environmental justice.

The Office of Environmental Justice is committed to developing tools for constructive engagement and collaborative problem-solving. The development of collaborative models represents a significant contribution to the environmental justice dialogue. The IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Projects are living examples of local partnerships seeking to implement such a model. Some key elements of such an environmental justice collaborative model include the following:

Issue identification, community vision, and strategic planning;
Community and stakeholder capacity building;
Consensus building and dispute resolution;
Multi-stakeholder partnerships;
Facilitative and supportive role of government at all levels;
Implementation; and
Evaluation and dissemination of lessons learned.

The IWG is composed of representatives from federal agencies and White House offices identified in Executive Order 12898. ("Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations", February 11, 1994) The IWG's primary goal is to work with each federal agency to integrate environmental justice within its programs, policies, and activities. An important strategy to promote such integration is greater interagency cooperation and coordination within the context of multi-stakeholder collaborative partnerships. Interagency coordination and cooperation is needed to effectively identify available federal government-wide resources which are available to meet environmental justice opportunities presented by the stakeholders. In 2000, the IWG sponsored an initial round of fifteen IWG demonstration projects. Due to the success of these projects, a coherent collaborative model to address environmental justice emerged. The IWG decided to undertake a second round of such projects, to be designated IWG Environmental Justice Revitalization Projects.

Two reports which documented the development of an environmental justice collaborative model are the IWG Status Report entitled *Environmental Justice Collaborative Model: A Framework to Ensure Local Problem-Solving* (EPA300-R-02-001, February 2002, www.epa.gov/compliance/environmental justice) and *Towards an Environmental Justice Collaborative Model: An Evaluation of the Use of Partnerships to Address Environmental Justice Issues in Communities* (EPA/100-R-03-001 and

EPA/100-R-03-002, January 2003, www.epa.gov/evaluate). For more information, please contact Danny Gogal of EPA's Office of Environmental Justice at 202-564-2576 (gogal.danny@epa.gov).

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF IWG ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

Chelsea Creek Restoration Project
Chelsea and East Boston, Massachusetts

In 1997, a coalition named the Chelsea Creek Action Group (CCAG) was formed around a dream that the Chelsea Creek was something more than the polluted industrial waterway that it has been for at least a century. By building community capacity to effect change and seeking environmental justice, the Chelsea Creek Restoration Project (CCRP) intends to transform the neglected, polluted Chelsea Creek into an environmental, recreational, and economic resource for Chelsea's communities as well as the region. Specific efforts include community involvement in the Municipal Harbor Planning Process, sustainable redevelopment of the Hess Oil Terminal site, and development of open spaces in Chelsea. CCRP will provide a regional model for community-based, multi-stakeholder programs to research, restore and protect urban natural resources.

Revitalization of the Magic Marker Brownfields Site
Trenton, New Jersey

To reclaim the former Magic Marker site and revitalize the neighborhood, the City of Trenton, Isles–a local Community Development Corporation, and the New Jersey Institute of Technology have been engaging residents in capacity building workshops and facilitating the informed involvement of residents in the clean-up and redevelopment planning process. Over the next few years, the City plans to clean the site, build medium density housing and develop a linear park on the site. This redevelopment will be complemented by a proposed elementary school adjacent to the site and a proposed retail complex targeted for the site directly across the street from the Magic Marker site.

Empowering Communities to Secure Drinking Water in Rural Puerto Rico
Puerto Rico

In 1993 approximately 20 institutions and government agencies, under the initial guidance of US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Partnership for Pure Water (PPW), and the Center for Education, Conservation & Research (CECIA-UIPR), formed an alliance to aid 250 of the low income communities in rural areas of Puerto Rico. This project will provide training and support for communities to comply with applicable regulations and to develop water infrastructure throughout Puerto Rico, focusing initially in the three municipalities of Patillas, Caguas and San Germán.

Utilizing Compliance Assistance to Achieve Community Revitalization in Park Heights
Baltimore, Maryland

An innovative approach to compliance assistance for the low-income inner-city Park Heights neighborhood of Baltimore, Maryland has created the partnerships and the vision for community revitalization efforts. The Park Reist Corridor Coalition (PRCC), has been working to provide auto body and repair shops in Park Heights with compliance assistance to ensure compliance with

environmental laws and to encourage environmentally sound practices. The present focus on auto body and repair shops will serve as a catalyst for much needed economic development, environmental protection, and sustainable development activities.

Vision 2020: For the Children of Anniston–Children's Health Environmental Justice Project
Anniston, Alabama

In a city historically plagued by industrial contamination and military waste and its associated controversies, a healing vision of health for children has arisen. *Vision 2020* seeks to address the health and developmental problems of children growing up in the midst of decades of environmental contamination, most notably lead and PCBs. The initiative seeks to provide Anniston with a world class education, screening, early detection, and treatment program to identify and treat health and developmental disorders at the earliest stage possible.

Glades Area Environmental Justice Training Collaborative
Belle, Florida

Federal public health and environmental agencies are assisting a partnership, led by Active Citizens Together Improving Our Neighborhoods, Inc. (ACTION) and Florida Atlantic University-Center for Urban Redevelopment and Empowerment (FAU-CURE), to provide environmental justice training and capacity building for residents of the Glades Area in the Florida Everglades. The project seeks to create an informed citizenry, armed with the information and skills necessary to be a meaningful part of the decision-making process. The initial focus of this project will be drinking water quality issues and community health concerns.

The Sustainable Redevelopment and Revitalization of Princeville
Princeville, North Carolina

In the wake of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Floyd in 1999, the residents of the historic town of Princeville, North Carolina made a pivotal decision to rebuild rather than abandon the first city of the United States founded by former slaves. What emerged is a bold new plan not only to rebuild the town but to make it better than before. This project seeks to ensure coordinated federal support to assist Princeville, North Carolina to achieve its vision of sustainable recovery, redevelopment, and revitalization.

The Arcade-Westside Area Revitalization Project: A Community-Based Collaboration
Rock Hill, South Carolina

The Rock Hill Council of Neighborhoods, which represents 18 neighborhood associations in the City of Rock Hill, South Carolina, has resolved to engage in community revitalization to address the environmental justice concerns and remediate the devastating effects of the loss of the textile industry. Projects already underway include renovation of two abandoned textile mills into a senior citizens housing and activity center, and creation of affordable housing and business space. This partnership is now poised to aggressively seek federal assistance to fulfil the community's multi-faceted vision of a revitalized urban core.

Waukegan Cleanup and Revitalization Plan
Waukegan, Illinois

Recent experience throughout the Nation has shown that by properly linking environmental cleanup to community revitalization goals, environmental remediation projects can be a vital catalyst for unleashing tremendous environmental, economic and social benefits. An emerging case-in-point is Waukegan, Illinois, an industrial "rustbelt" city on the shores of Lake Michigan in northeast Illinois. The Waukegan community is planning and seeking ways to implement a city revitalization plan that will include a new waterfront, community sports complex, and recreational land uses.

Project ReGeneration: Building Partnerships for Livability and Sustainability in the Greater Kelly Area
San Antonio, Texas

The overall goal of *Project ReGeneration* is to increase efforts to identify, mobilize, and make use of federal, state, and local resources to benefit the environmentally and economically distressed communities affected by the Kelly Air Force Base conversion activities. The project will focus on identifying ways of ensuring constructive dialogue and building effective partnerships between community-based organizations, relevant federal, state, and local agencies, and other stakeholders.

Development of a Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Park: A Tribal Lands Conservation Partnership
Eagle Butte, South Dakota

A partnership including the National Wildlife Federation, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in South Dakota, the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeks to create a Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Park. Completion of a planning document to guide the park's creation is the immediate goal of the effort. Ultimately, the CRST Park will increase tribal capacity in the management of tribal lands and support tribal self-determination. EPA Region 8 will also support the project by providing input on the guide as to any regulatory permitting activities that may be necessary.

Northeast Denver Environmental Initiative
Denver, Colorado

While it is clear that the communities of northeast Denver experience a disproportionate amount of environmental and public health risks, it is also clear that there is a broad range of groups that are working together to improve these communities. The Northeast Denver Environmental Initiative (NDEI) is poised to develop a comprehensive environmental plan to substantially improve the quality of life of northeast Denver citizens. To arrive at the plan, EPA will use a collaborative decision making model that puts the community in the forefront when identifying issues and setting priorities and provides a mechanism for government, industry, non-profits and community to work together to develop interventions. Northeast Denver will serve as a living laboratory for collaborative multi-stakeholder multi-media pollution reduction and prevention strategies.

Tribal Wind Power – A Viable Strategy for Community Revitalization and Capacity
Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota

The Intertribal Council on Utility Policy (ICOUP), a confederation of federally recognized tribes in the Northern Great Plains, has completed the unprecedented installation of a 750 kW wind turbine to be owned and operated by the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. In partnership with federal agencies, ICOUP seeks to demonstrate that the development of wind energy can be a viable strategy to provide for future economic, cultural and community revitalization through the development of sustainable homeland tribal economies. By promoting renewable energy generation to federal and private markets within

and beyond the region, the project also helps meet the Nation's need for renewable, clean and environmentally safe energy sources.

Effective Solid Waste Management for the Native Village of Selawik
Selawik, Alaska

This project addresses the critical and ongoing solid and hazardous waste sanitation problems in the Native Village of Selawik, Alaska. Institutionally, the project is bringing stakeholders into closer partnership, and strengthening recently formed valuable cross-stakeholder relationships to reduce the human health threats. The project lays the groundwork, and is a necessary step, for future planned revitalization projects.

Enhancing Tribal Consultation to Protect Cultural and Historic Resources
Colorado, Louisiana, and New Mexico

Through an innovative program to enhance the government-to-government relationship, this project will assist federal agencies in identifying those federally recognized tribes to be consulted regarding historic properties of tribal religious and cultural significance. The project will develop a management tool for preventing impacts to tribal traditional and cultural properties. Such a tool will utilize a dedicated interactive Web server, which when designed, built, and deployed will include information that has been verified with the participants prior to going on line or having any public access. The tribes who will be the first to benefit from this project reside in the states of Colorado, Louisiana and New Mexico.

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EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration

Fiscal Years 2016 - 2018

Working together towards collaborative and innovative solutions

MARCH 2016

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INTRODUCTION

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and CEQ Managing Director Christy Goldfus

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) plays a central role in creating healthy and sustainable communities by bringing together the federal family to address critical environmental justice issues. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines environmental justice as: *The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people-regardless of race, color, national origin, or income-with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.*

The EJ IWG provides leadership, guidance, and support to federal agencies by:

- Coordinating a focused and concerted effort by federal agencies to directly address the environmental, social, economic, and public health burdens in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities;
- Implementing policies that have measurable impacts on environmental justice;
- Focusing federal agency resources and technical assistance to address disproportionately high and adverse health or environmental effects; and
- Developing partnerships with colleges, universities, and other organizations outside of the federal government to facilitate long-term support for, and improvement in, overburdened communities.

The EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration (Framework) outlines goals for the next three years that advance greater federal agency collaboration to improve quality - of- life and support economic opportunities in overburdened[1] and under-resourced communities. Increased coordination and cooperation among federal agencies will promote holistic community-based solutions to environmental justice issues and ensure that the public has meaningful opportunities for participation in the decision-making process.

Successful community engagement meets communities "where they are" by employing approaches to outreach and communication that they value and find effective. The EJ IWG listening sessions held across the country between 2011 and 2015 generated numerous public comments that influenced the development of the draft Framework. The draft also underwent a public comment period and the EJ IWG reviewed and considered all of the comments received to develop this final Framework document. The Framework builds upon the earlier work of the EJ IWG and outlines activities, priorities, and resources to strengthen a comprehensive federal approach to improve the health and sustainability of those communities that need the most assistance. As the EJ IWG and its committees implement the Framework, the input received during the public comment period will continue to be incorporated, as appropriate, and the EJ IWG will work to ensure that its community engagement efforts are successful.

[1] https://compliancegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/211430208-What-is-the-definition-of-overburdened-community-that-is-relevant-for-EPA-Actions-and-Promising-Practices-

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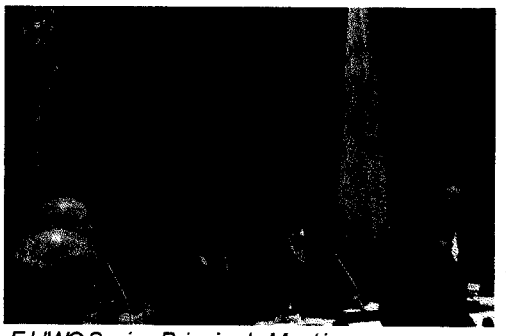
BACKGROUND:
Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

The EJ IWG facilitates the active involvement of all federal agencies to implement Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," (Order)[2]. The Order states that federal agencies must identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.

Established by the Order, the EJ IWG provides a forum for federal agencies collectively to advance environmental justice principles. The EJ IWG works as a federal family to assist communities in building the capacity to promote and implement innovative and comprehensive solutions that address environmental justice issues.

The EJ IWG is chaired by the EPA Administrator and includes federal agencies and White House offices. The EJ IWG has standing committees and other committees established as necessary to carry out responsibilities outlined by the Order. The EJ IWG consists of senior leadership representatives, senior staff representatives, and other persons designated by a federal agency. Additional information on the EJ IWG governance structure and a list of agencies can be found in Appendix A of this document.

In 2011, the EJ IWG agencies took a landmark step to support environmental justice by signing a Memorandum of Understanding[3] on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (MOU) and adopting a Charter. The MOU serves as a formal agreement among federal agencies to recommit to addressing environmental justice through a more collaborative, comprehensive, and efficient process. The Charter, revised in late 2014,[4] outlines the EJ IWG governance structure which includes the following four standing (permanent) committees:



EJ IWG Senior Principals Meeting

- Public Participation
- Regional Interagency Working Groups
- Strategy and Implementation Progress Report
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act

[2]Executive Order No. 12898, 59 F.R. 7629 (1994): https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/executive-orders/1994.html#12898

[3] Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (2011): https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-02/documents/clinton_memo_12898.pdf

[4] Charter for Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/charter-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice

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In addition, consistent with the Presidential Memorandum[5] issued with the Order, and based on public recommendations, every three years the EJ IWG determines if there are additional focus areas for federal agencies to consider and address.

Mustafa S. Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice

During years 2016 - 2018, the EJ IWG will maintain committees to address the following five focus areas:

- Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples
- Rural Communities
- Impacts from Climate Change
- Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement)
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Additional information on these committees is found in Appendix A.

[5] Presidential Memorandum for Executive Order on Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, 1994: http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/executive-orders/1994.html#12898

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EJ IWG FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION GOALS

The EJ IWG developed this Framework, which builds on decades of environmental justice work, to focus the collective efforts of the federal agencies on four goals for years 2016, 2017, and 2018:

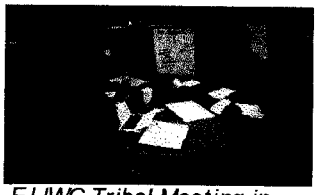
DOJ ENRD Assistant Attorney General John C. Cruden

I. Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities;
II. Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues;
III. Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities; and
IV. Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities.

Outlined below are a few ways the EJ IWG committees will work to achieve the goals over the next three years.

I. Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities

- Enhance community outreach to provide greater public access to federal information, resources, and trainings;
- Increase public access to and understanding of data, mapping, and assessment tools to address environmental justice issues; and
- Maximize opportunities for federal agency leadership to consider stakeholder feedback.



EJ IWG Tribal Meeting in Bismark, North Dakota

II. Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues

GSA Administrator, Denise Turner Roth

- Enhance community capacity building by sharing lessons learned, promising practices, and resources;
- Identify and leverage federal resources to address environmental challenges and build sustainable community infrastructure; and
- Foster federal interagency collaboration on a regional, state, tribal, and local level through various outreach efforts and other activities.

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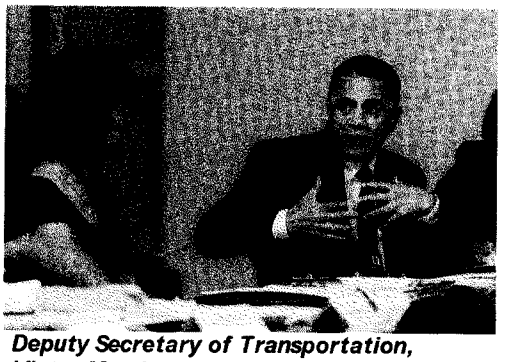
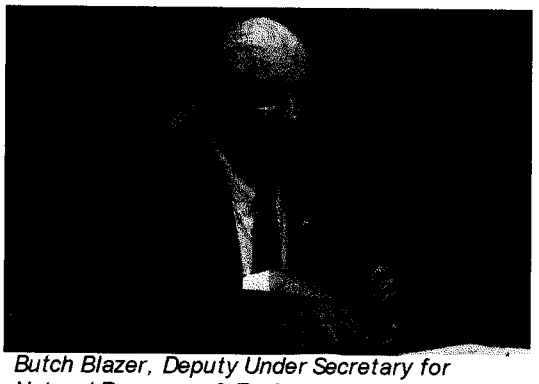
III. Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities

- Increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and goals to get feedback that assists the federal family in implementation;
- Identify opportunities to highlight interagency community solutions to help advance implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance; and
- Improve implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance by creating appropriate benchmarks.



Deputy Secretary of Transportation, Victor Mendez

IV. Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities



Butch Blazer, Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources & Environment

- Improve technical assistance to overburdened communities by leveraging programs such as the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP);
- Encourage enhanced training from federal agencies to academic institutions, particularly minority serving academic institutions and tribal colleges and universities, in areas such as grant writing and access to federal resources organized by community issues, rather than federal agency; and
- Develop internship opportunities for college students in overburdened communities to enhance the knowledge base of the communities and to educate college students on the conditions in overburdened communities.

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APPENDIX A: GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

EJ IWG Federal Agencies

- ☐ Environmental Protection Agency (Chair)
- ☐ Department of Agriculture
- ☐ Department of Commerce
- ☐ Department of Defense
- ☐ Department of Education
- ☐ Department of Energy
- ☐ Department of Health and Human Services
- ☐ Department of Homeland Security
- ☐ Department of Housing and Urban Development
- ☐ Department of Interior
- ☐ Department of Justice
- ☐ Department of Labor
- ☐ Department of Transportation
- ☐ Department of Veterans Affairs
- ☐ General Services Administration
- ☐ Small Business Administration
- ☐ White House Office: Council on Environmental Quality

The EJ IWG responsibilities and authority to act on environmental justice issues are established by Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," with two accompanying documents: 1) the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 and 2) the Charter for the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. Both documents are available at:

http://www3.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency/resources.html

The chart below outlines the committee structure and focus areas for the EJ IWG. The Charter created the Permanent committees listed in green. Consistent with the MOU, at least every three years, the EJ IWG will, based in part on public recommendations identified in annual progress reports, identify important areas for federal agencies to consider and address, as appropriate, in environmental justice strategies, annual implementation progress reports, and other efforts.

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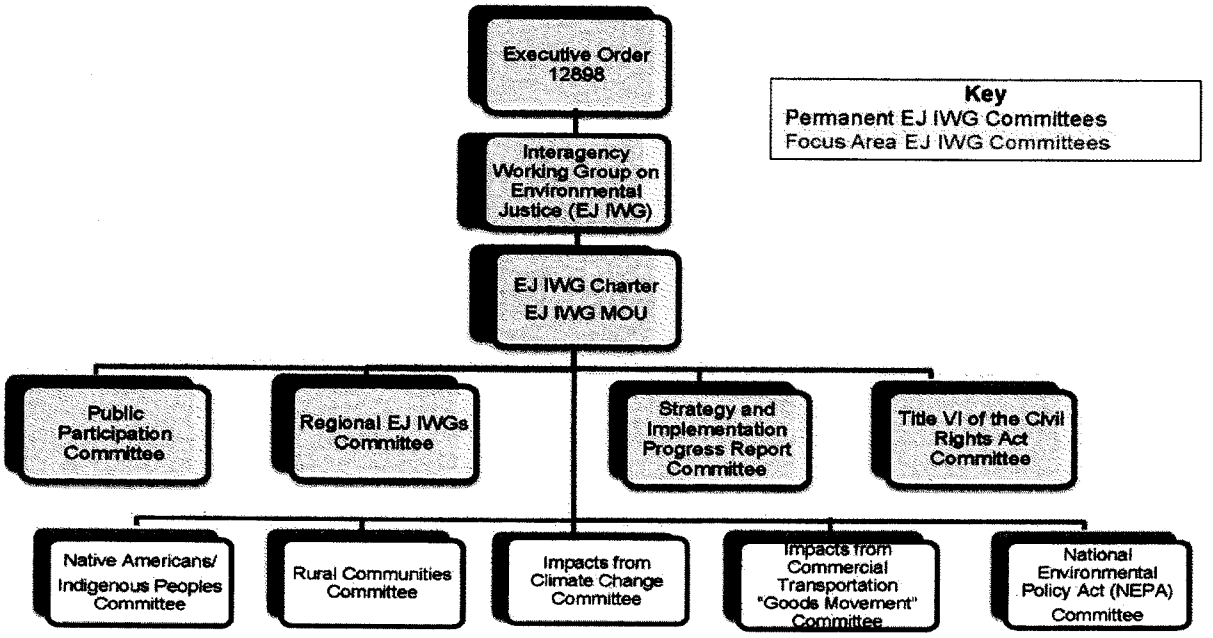
APPENDIX A: GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE (CONT'D)

EJ IWG Governance Structure 2016 - 2018



December 2015

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EJ IWG STANDING COMMITTEES
(PERMANENT, Displayed in green on the Governance Chart)

COMMITTEE NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE
Public Participation	Increases transparency, language accessible outreach and addresses technological barriers. Develops listening sessions and opportunities for public input. Facilitates collaboration and public participation with federal agencies and external stakeholders. Utilizes traditional means of communication and social media to build participation. Helps coordinate responses to public input.
Regional Interagency Working Groups	Provides targeted and coordinated technical assistance; develops relationships between federal field and regional staff; and develops best practices for prioritizing environmental justice concerns. Develops community resource materials. Strengthens education, training, and/or engagement on environmental justice among local and state agencies.
Strategy and Implementation Progress Report	Serves as a resource for federal agencies as they review, update, or develop their environmental justice strategy, and the annual implementation progress reports. Works with agencies to help coordinate programs, policies, and activities. Coordinates EJ IWG Senior Leadership meetings. Manages implementation of the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration and standard operating procedures.
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act	Serves as a resource to help agencies connect their civil rights enforcement responsibilities with their other efforts to achieve environmental justice.

EJ IWG AD HOC COMMITTEES
(AD HOC, Displayed in light blue on the Governance Chart)

COMMITTEE NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE
Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples	Facilitates effective coordination and collaboration of federal agencies in identifying and addressing issues of environmental justice that are of concern to federally recognized tribes, indigenous peoples (including state recognized tribes, tribal members, indigenous community-based organizations, Native Hawaiians, Alaska Natives, American Indians), and others living in Indian country.
Rural Communities	Supports efforts to: ensure collaboration between federal agencies and rural environmental justice communities, develop economic opportunities so rural overburdened communities are self-sustaining and economically thriving, and coordinate federal agency investments to further holistic community-based solutions that reduce environmental justice issues.

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EJ IWG AD HOC COMMITTEES

(AD HOC, Displayed in light blue on the Governance Chart)

COMMITTEE NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE
Impacts from Climate Change	Supports collaboration across federal agencies and with communities with environmental justice concerns around climate change-related issues including facilitating consideration of vulnerable populations in agency climate adaptation activities; providing information, services, and data to help make communities more resilient; providing relevant tools, systems, and policies to communities and businesses to mitigate impacts on natural resources and human health due to climate change; and ensuring two-way communication around climate-change related issues. Implements the Educate, Motivate and Innovate (EMI) Project.
Impacts from Commercial Transportation "Goods Movement"	Serves as a resource to coordinate with other federal agencies on reducing environmental and health effects of commercial transportation and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement") that impact low-income, minority and tribal populations (overburdened communities). Ensures that overburdened communities have greater opportunities to access benefits from federal efforts related to goods movement.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Improves effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice principles in the NEPA process by sharing promising practices and lessons learned developed by federal departments and agencies.

APPENDIX B: 2016 PRIORITIES

The Framework spans a three-year timeframe. The 2016 priorities are a snapshot of the activities planned for implementation by the end of October 2016. The EJ IWG will produce an annual EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Progress Report and increase opportunities for public input and engagement with the EJ IWG.

Collaboration

- Identify, highlight, and replicate, where possible, successful community-based models that leverage federal investments, technical assistance, and community-based resources; use the EJ IWG website and other appropriate methods to share these success stories with stakeholders.
- Increase collaboration and leveraging of resources for capacity building, economic investments, and research (e.g., climate, traditional cultural resources) in rural communities.
- Improve the effective, efficient, and consistent consideration of environmental justice issues in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by promoting the use of Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews.
- Promote awareness of and solutions to community-based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement (commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure) in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement.

Community Resources

- Issue and post on the EJ IWG home page a memorandum to federal funding recipients on how Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, applies to federally funded activities that have an impact on the environment and human health; use other appropriate methods to share the information provided in the memorandum with communities.
- Update and post on the EJ IWG home page a Community-Based Federal Environmental Justice Resource Guide and Directory and make the document available in multiple languages; use other appropriate methods to share the resource guide and directory information with communities.
- Post on the EJ IWG home page an Annual Framework Progress Report and the annual agency Environmental Justice Implementation Progress Reports; use other appropriate methods to share the information in these reports with communities.

External Communications and Outreach

- Through traditional and electronic communication methods, select EJ IWG Committees intend to conduct trainings, webinars, or presentations on EJ IWG focus areas to inform, engage, and provide community residents and stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback.
- The Public Participation Committee (PPC) will identify opportunities to increase transparency and address the linguistic, cultural, and technological barriers that exist between federal agencies and overburdened communities.
- The PPC will focus on prioritizing in-person outreach efforts through community visits and public dialogue sessions that solicit feedback from residents directly experiencing environmental impacts. The PPC will also explore opportunities to add state and local government engagement dialogue sessions as part of existing agency community outreach efforts.

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APPENDIX C: ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE FRAMEWORK

The EJ IWG will post annual progress reports (i.e., 2016, 2017, and 2018) on the EJ IWG website (https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg) to share its progress in implementing the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration. In addition, each federal agency will include relevant Framework highlights in their annual Environmental Justice Implementation Progress Reports posted in accordance with the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding[6] on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898.

[6] Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (2011): http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/executive-orders/1994.html#12898

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SEND COMMENTS TO **EJSTRATEGY@EPA.GOV**

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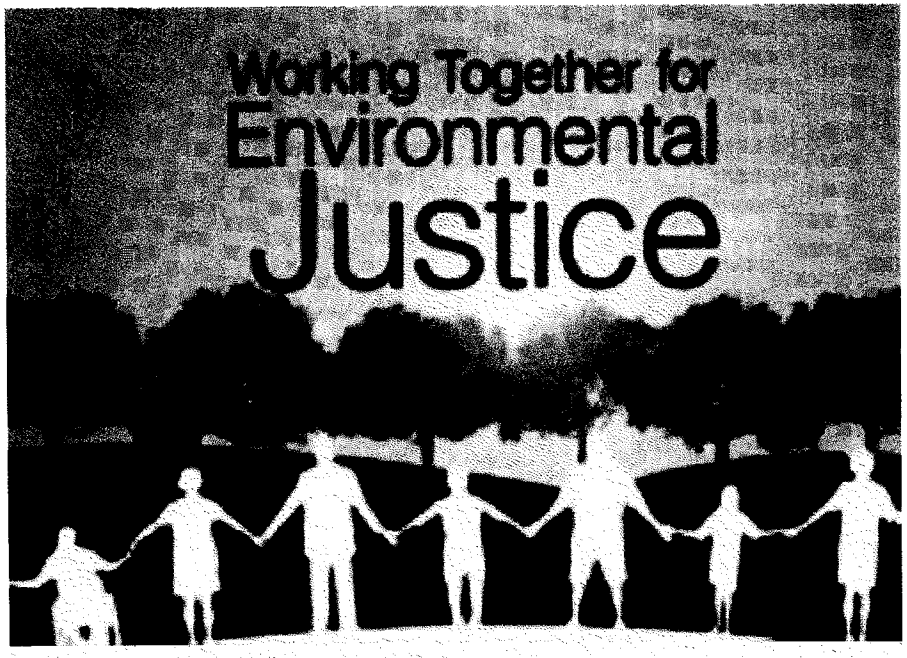
Draft Action Agenda Framework
FY 2016 - 2018



September 2015 Webinars

›inar Purpose

:afa Santiago Ali, Assistant Associate Administrator and Senior Advisor
: Administrator for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

;ha Minter, Associate Director Office of Environmental Justice and
›nmental Justice Program Manager

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d to Executive Order 12898 on Environmental

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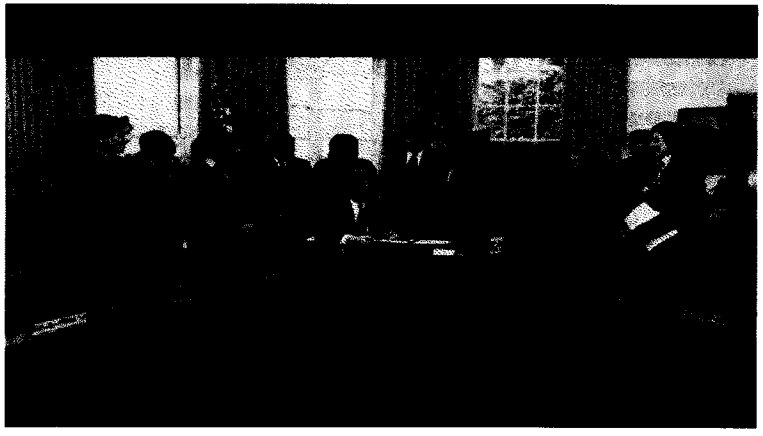

o describes the momentum that led to the
nent of the environmental justice movement
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blished in 1994 by E.O. 12898, Federal Actions to Address
onmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

ng other things, serves as Federal Clearing house for information,
nce, action and targeted federal interagency collaboration to promote
onmental justice

EPA Administrator serves as the Chairperson and convener of the
G

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l Protection Agency (Chair)
f Agriculture
f Commerce
f Defense
f Education
f Energy
f Health and Human Services
f Homeland Security

- ❑Department of Housing and Urban Development
- ❑Department of the Interior
- ❑Department of Justice
- ❑Department of Labor
- ❑Department of Transportation
- ❑Department of Veteran's Affairs
- ❑General Service Administration
- ❑Small Business Administration
- ❑White House Offices

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G Memorandum of Understanding (August 2011)

:lared continued importance of addressing EJ considerations in agency grams, policies, and activities

ıtified focus areas

ɔhasized public input

ɔpted Charter to establish structure and procedures

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VG Charter (Revised Nov. 2014)

signated Senior Leadership/Senior Staff Representatives

tituted posting of EJ Strategies and Annual Progress Reports

ablished Permanent (Standing) Committees

Public Participation

Regional EJ IWGs

Strategy and Implementation Progress Reports

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

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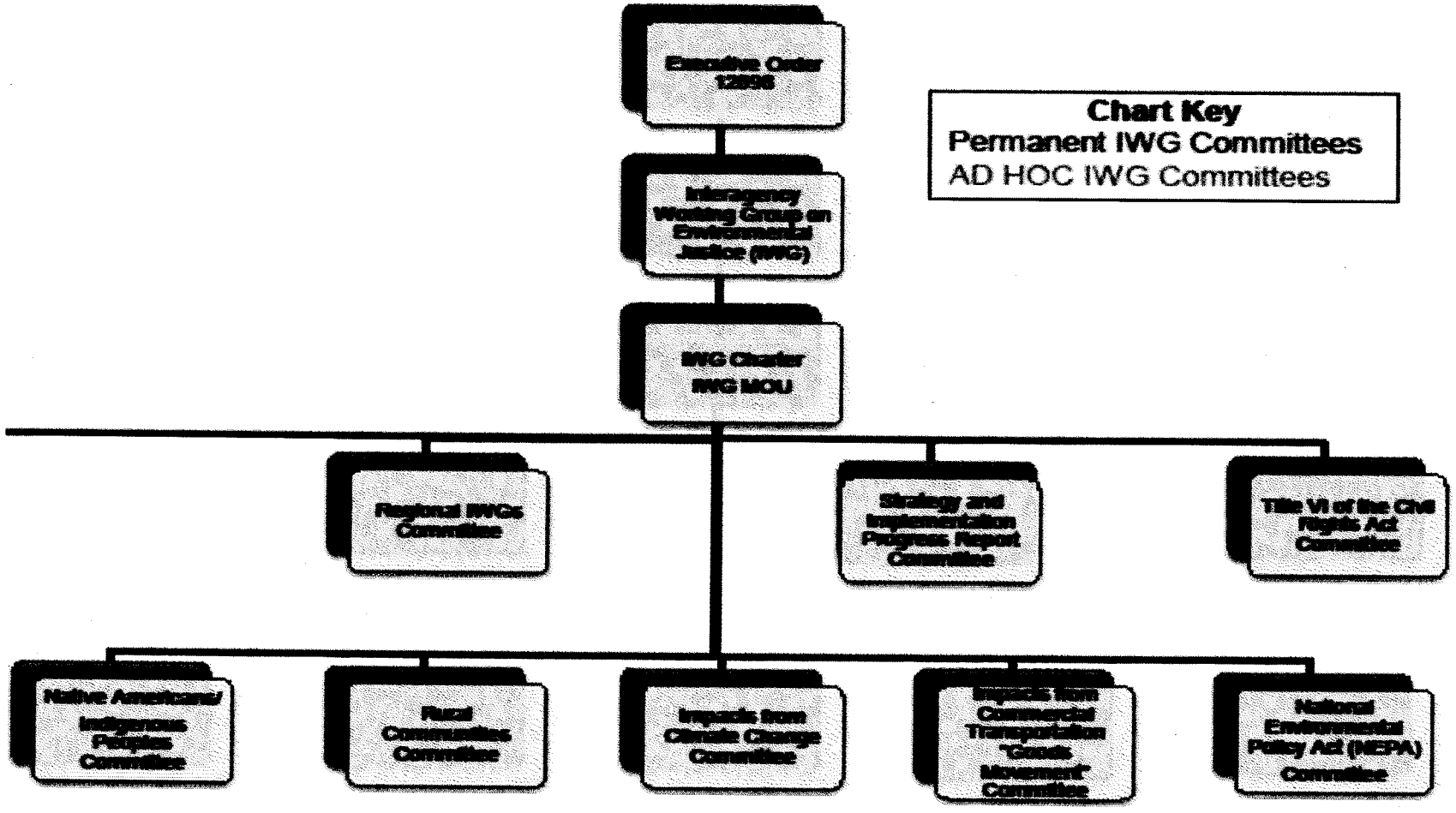
EJ IWG Governance Chart FY 2016 - 2018



August 20, 2015

l EJ IWGs

leeting for Tribes and Indigenous Communities (Bismark, North Dakota)

Underserved Communities Partnership Program (CUPP)

EJ IWG Charter

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J IWG will focus the collective efforts of the federal agencies on three
gic goals for fiscal years 2016-2018:

ance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and
nomic opportunities in overburdened communities;

ance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to solve
ronmental justice issues; and

ance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice
siderations in agency programs, policies, and activities.

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ł 1: Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, y-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities. ties may include:

ıhance community outreach to provide greater public access to federal formation, resources and trainings;

crease public access to and understanding of data, mapping and sessment tools to address environmental justice issues; and

aximize opportunities for federal agency leadership to consider akeholder feedback.

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2: Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based ns to solve environmental justice issues. Activities may include:

ance community capacity building through sharing of lessons learned, mising practices, and resources;

ntify and leverage federal resources to address environmental llenges and build sustainable community infrastructure; and

ter federal interagency collaboration on a regional, state, tribal, and l level.

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 # 3: Advance interagency strategies to identify and address ·onmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities. 'ities may include:

ıcrease community awareness of federal agency environmental justice rategies and goals to get feedback that assists the federal family in ıplementation;

dentify opportunities to highlight interagency community solutions to elp advance implementation of federal EJ policies and guidance; and

nprove implementation of environmental justice policy and guidance.

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cal Year 2016 Priorities

Collaboration

Community Resources

Communications and Outreach

ıl Progress Report for the Action Agenda Framework

e EJ IWG will post annual progress reports (i.e., 2016, 2017, and 2018) the EJ IWG webpage (www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency), provide a concise report on progress during the previous fiscal year in plementing the Action Agenda.

addition, each federal agency will include relevant Action Agenda ghlights within their annual Environmental Justice Progress Reports sted in accordance with the MOU.

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nents to ejstrategy@epa.gov

dialogue sessions are available upon request by contacting Marsha Minter – sha@epa.gov

nformation about the Framework visit
v.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency

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conferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

State of the EJ IWG Discussion

2:10 **Mustafa Santiago Ali- Opening Remarks**
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

2:25 Principals Meeting Follow-up/Ask questions of the Sr. Staff reps

1. What do you see as the remaining challenges/opportunities to advance EJ?
2. How would you address the above using your EJ Strategy, the EJ IWG, or other relevant tools?
3. What steps should the EJ IWG take in 2016 to facilitate those efforts in the next Administration? Do you see a need for the EJ IWG to provide agencies with language that could be used in their transition planning documents?

- Moving Forward: Better engagement with the public and our target communities, aiming to have regular blog posts to help us engage with the press, also bringing in EJ leaders to our meetings to have open discussions about important issues. Mustafa would like to see if there is an opportunity for an annual meeting with EJ stakeholders to update them on our activities and get feedback.

- How do we plan to engage with various agencies at the regional level? The working group is not EPAs working group but we should consider it to be all of us working together. We would love to see agencies convening and pulling together working groups at the regional level because this is where the EJ work is happening. FHWA has divisions in every state and can bring staff from division offices to participate.

- EPA R9: from the regional perspective, have a lean operation so try to come together on specific issues. If there are other federal agencies that want to take a leadership rôle in convening the federal family

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- Suzi Ruhl: there are ways to consider whether or not to have a formal engagement vs an informal engagement.

- Jeanine Finley: the RIWG committee is working on 1 pagers that are summarizing lessons learned from regional IWG activities.

- Place-Based Projects- The EJ IWG would like to move toward working on placed-based projects if the members are in agreement. If we want to build a narrative around EJ we need to build a suite of great examples and best practices. Mustafa will be leading in bringing in philanthropy, academia and business into this conversation. We are going to be thinking very diligently about how to do this and putting a strong EJ paradigm in place. We want to think through and come up with a strategy that will work for the federal family.

- Stan: the Good Movement Committee is looking at the same issues in getting involved in the Near-Port Pilot Project. Which is very much in line with the priority of establishing place-based projects.

- Suzi: Do we have plans for how to develop a list of potential projects? We are excited to have the committees provide a list of projects, we need to look at communities identifying projects and look at what work is already going on across the federal family.

- Expanding committee participation is also another priority.

- We are trying to figure out ways to keep senior staff in the loop on what the EJ IWG is doing to supplement what EJ IWG members are doing to keep leadership up to date in the.

- Looking to create and Interagency Agreement: we are hoping to create a funding stream for the IWG which has been around for 20+ years to help support a number of things the IWG is doing. What will work best for small/medium/large departments? We are pursuing how we can do this, structurally.

- Next Principals meeting will happen during Earth Week. It should be a good time since the new administration will be in place and that week will give us a good opportunity to emphasize what is going on with the EJ IWG.

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- What are the opportunities for Youth or Education focused Sub-committee? As we think about developing activities around how to address the needs of youth and enabling them to be more engaged.

2:40 NEJAC Public Meeting/ EJ IWG Panel
Karen L. Martin
Program Manager National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

- NEJAC Public meeting will be on Oct 12-13th. The meeting will be used as an opportunity to reflect on accomplishments, challenges and what opportunities lie ahead. Meeting starts at 9am and in-person public comment period starts at 6pm. Registration is open until Oct 5th. The EJ IWG has a panel (90 min total), the presentation will be 45min and 45min for questions, and the NEJAC is very interested in a larger engagement with the IWG. The public comment period will begin right after the IWG panel. We would like to have other agencies there because in the past a lot of reactions and comments apply to multiple agency programs.

- One pager on the IWG is due on Oct 4th- Narrative of accomplishments, challenges. Whatever the IWG would like to share/highlight is fine. This will be a handout for attendees of that meeting.

- Mustafa would like to make sure we have strong representation at this meeting. We will be exploring opportunities to engage more with other FACAs and Advisory Bodies in the future.

2:55 FY 17 Priorities

- EJ annual reports will be due in February.

- Marsha will send out a template to committee co-chairs to report on the FY 16 committee activities in the next few weeks. That info will be compiled into an EJ IWG annual report which will be shared with everyone before the annual reports are finalized.

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- Principals Meeting Summary was sent out on Monday, thank you to Jim Potter for writing the blog.

- October 25th-26th- Crystal City: National Funding and Resources Summit to Revitalize Vulnerable Communities.

3:20 Agency Announcements

- Climate Equity Roadmap document from CEQ, to raise awareness in the about the equity issues in climate and resiliency. There may be an opportunity to share this document at the NEJAC meeting.

- Is there anything to report regarding consultations with indigenous communities regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline? *Cynthia Ferguson (DOJ) will follow up with info.*

- Rural Committee: Brownfields to Healthfields+ was launched last week in central Appalachia, with representatives from DOT, HUD, USDA, HHS, ARC and others in attendance. Community organizations were able to participate in panels and bring their issues to make connections.

- Educate Motivate, Innovate- paid/stipend looking for internship opportunities.

Other Announcements:

- EPA webinar for EJ Communities and Tribes on how to engage in the Title V Clean Air Act Petitions Process Rulemaking, Oct 4th 1pm-2pm https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/titlev-petitions

- Smart City Air Challenge- EPA offers 80,000 to communities to develop air sensor data best practices- open until Oct 28th. For more info: https://www.challenge.gov/challenge/smart-city-air-challenge/

- Working Together to Reduce Toxic Releases, TRI National Training Conference. Washington DC Oct 19-21st For more info: https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/2016-tri-national-training-conference?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)%20on%20the%20Toxics%20Release%20Inventory%20(TRI)%20and%20Environmental%20Conditions%20in%20Communities.%20Register%20now%20(http

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s://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/2016-tri-national-training-conference?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#3

- Request for Nominations for new Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals. Deadline Oct 11th for more info: https://www.epa.gov/csac

- EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series:
  From Home to School and Back Again: Safe and Healthy Environments for Children. October 13th 1pm-2:30pm
  To register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/from-home-to-school-and-back-again-safe-and-healthy-environments-for-children-tickets-27580157995

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children (?)
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities (?)

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Cat Goughnour, Right to Root
- Glen Harris, Center for Social Inclusion in NYC
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
October 20, 2016 (new meeting date)
November 17, 2016 (date changed due to holiday) (DOI host)
December 15, 2016 (date change due to holiday)

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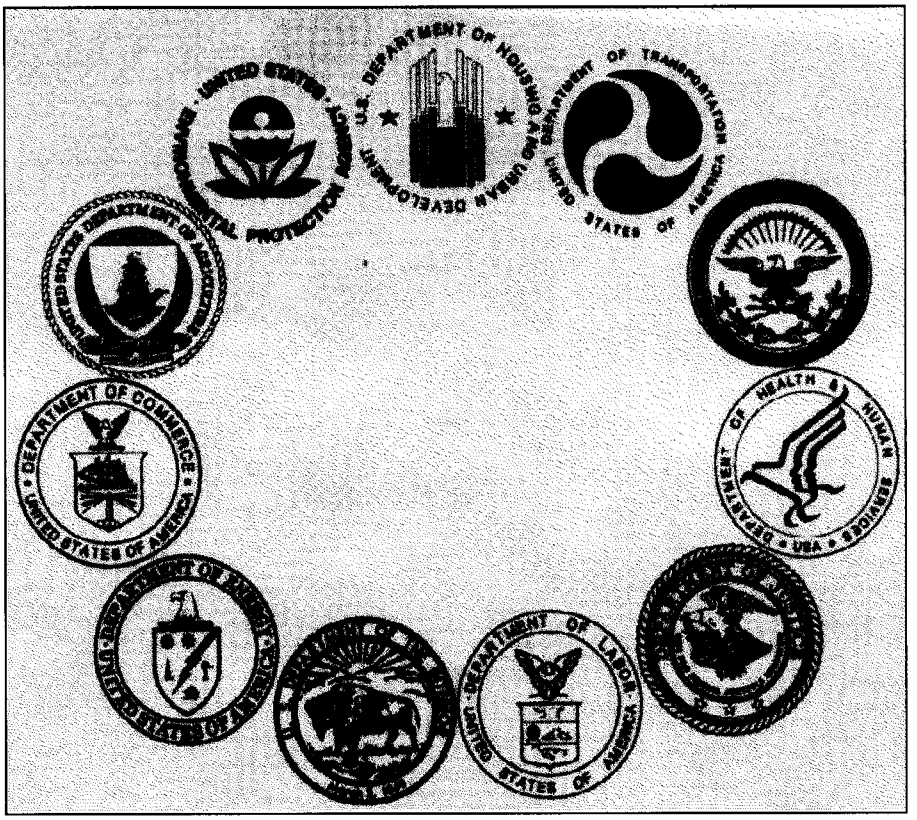
United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

STATUS REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE MODEL: A Framework to Ensure Local Problem-Solving

Developed by
Federal Interagency Working Group
On Environmental Justice



United States Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Environmental Justice

Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (2201A

EPA 300-R-02-001
February 2002
www.epa.gov/compliance/environmentaljustice

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Inside Cover

STATUS REPORT

on the

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COLLABORATIVE MODEL: A FRAMEWORK TO ENSURE LOCAL PROBLEM-SOLVING

Developed by
Federal Interagency Working Group
On Environmental Justice

Office of Environmental Justice
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC 20460

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Preface

In May, 2000, the 11 federal agencies comprising the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (IWG) developed and issued an Interagency Environmental Justice Action Agenda (Action Agenda). The goals of the Action Agenda are as follows:

(1) to promote greater coordination and cooperation among federal agencies;
(2) to make government more accessible and responsive to communities;
(3) to initiate environmental justice demonstration projects to develop integrated place-based models for addressing community quality-of-life issues; and
(4) to ensure integration of environmental justice in policies, programs and activities of federal agencies.

The underlying premise of the Action Agenda is that a collaborative model is an effective method for comprehensively and proactively addressing the interrelated environmental, public health, economic, and social concerns collectively known as environmental justice issues. The IWG, in partnership with various stakeholders (i.e., state, tribal, and local government agencies; community organizations; industry representatives; and others) established 15 demonstration projects to test this underlying premise.

This interim status report presents a "work-in-progress" as it:

(1) summarizes the "lessons learned" from the ongoing projects;
(2) identifies the elements of success;
(3) examines the emerging outline of a coherent collaborative problem-solving model; and
(4) describes efforts to evaluate the model and specific demonstration projects.

These activities are intended to lay the groundwork for a second round of IWG demonstration projects being identified for 2002.

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The collaborative efforts described in this report have as a theme the federal government's responsibility for assuring that all Americans live in high quality environments. This theme follows a key principle of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, in which Congress wrote that it is the continuing responsibility of the federal government to assure that all Americans live in "safe, healthful and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings." This Congressional mandate is also clearly reflected and referenced in EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman's August 9, 2001 memorandum regarding the Agency's continuing commitment to environmental justice. Administrator Whitman stated that: "Environmental justice is achieved when everyone, regardless of race, culture, or income, enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards **and** equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work." As Chair of the IWG, Administrator Whitman stated that the Office of Environmental Justice is dedicated to ensuring that mandate is fulfilled within the Agency and supporting the efforts of other federal agencies that comprise the IWG to pursue the same mandate.

Most importantly, the IWG demonstration projects and the collaborative model have received enthusiastic and widespread endorsement from all stakeholder groups. For example, according to the National Environmental Policy Commission's *Report to the Congressional Black Caucus and Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Environmental Justice Braintrust* (September 28, 2001, Washington, DC), "The IWG demonstration projects are particularly significant. They point to the potential to problem-solve across stakeholder groups in a constructive, collaborative manner, building relationships, avoiding duplicated efforts, and leveraging instead of wasting resources." The IWG's work last year on the demonstration projects has forged an important new integrated prototype for federal agencies and stakeholders in the area of creative, collaborative, and constructive problem-solving.

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Summary: The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (IWG) is supporting and evaluating 15 demonstration projects to investigate and demonstrate whether collaborative, integrated problem-solving can succeed in building partnerships and local capacity to resolve local environmental justice problems. Each project is unique because conditions and capacities varied widely. This Status Report provides information on the implementation of these projects and outlines the characteristics common to successful models with the goal of promoting widespread replication.

Introduction: This report summarizes the lessons learned from the implementation of the Interagency Environmental Justice Action Agenda (Action Agenda)[1] during the past year. The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (IWG),[2] designed the Action Agenda to create dynamic and proactive partnerships among community-based organizations, business and industry, non-governmental organizations, and government at all levels to help communities address local environmental justice issues.

Fifteen demonstration projects comprise the core of the Action Agenda. Lessons learned from these demonstration projects will be used by concerned stakeholders to help promote and support the development of collaborative integrated problem-solving mechanisms. The IWG projects designed these mechanisms to comprehensively address the range of interrelated environmental, public health, economic, and social concerns that collectively are known as environmental justice issues.[3] When EPA announced the Action Agenda on May 24, 2000, stakeholders in the

[1] The "Integrated Federal Interagency Environmental Justice Action Agenda" was developed by the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice and published by EPA, EPA document #300-R-00-008, November 2000.
[2] The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice was mandated by Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," issued February 11, 1994, 59 Fed. Reg. 7629. The IWG is chaired by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
[3] EPA defines environmental justice as "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, culture, education, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. *Fair treatment* means that no group of people, including racial, ethnic or socioeconomic group should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local or tribal programs and policies. *Meaningful involvement* means that: (1) potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health; (2) the public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decisions; (3) the concerns of all participants involved will be considered in the decision-making process; and (4) the decision-makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected." *EPA Guide to Assessing and Addressing Allegations of Environmental Injustice*, (Working Draft, January 16, 2001).

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environmental justice dialogue had a limited understanding of a systematic and holistic model for engaging in collaborative problem-solving.[4] As a result of implementing the Action Agenda,

Figure 1. Implementation of Environmental Justice at federal agencies

a coherent model is beginning to emerge. Therefore, a primary purpose of this report is to document the elements of this emerging collaborative model so that partners can share the approach and promote its widespread replication.

The Action Agenda demonstration projects follow the strategy of collaborative and constructive problem-solving advocated by the EPA Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ). Each

[4] While no systematic understanding of a collaborative model existed, the concept was not new. For example, the National Advisory Council on Environmental Policy and Technology developed the Integrative Environmental Justice Model Demonstration Approach in 1993. Additionally, the City of Clearwater, Florida, in 1996, began developing a model environmental justice strategic plan for brownfields redevelopment.

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demonstration project involves coordination among two or more federal agencies acting in partnership with an array of local stakeholders, such as: community-based organizations; industry; civic and faith-based groups; academic institutions; state, local, and tribal governments; and philanthropic organizations. The goal of these demonstration projects is improved quality-of-life for residents in communities of concern by enhancing the capacity of local parties to work together for shared goals. The IWG intends the demonstration projects to: (1) promote federal support of solutions that begin in the community and remain in the community; (2) link federal, state, local, and tribal local government with comprehensive community-based planning processes; (3) coordinate activities of multiple government and private entities to use resources more efficiently; (4) develop a template for integrated and holistic local solutions to environmental justice issues; and (5) serve as a platform for advocating and demonstrating innovation in government at all levels.

The demonstration projects and their associated partnerships are voluntary. The diverse underlying interests of the many parties involved (e.g., resolution of longstanding disputes, serving as a good corporate citizen, and improving environmental quality) create a sufficient basis and motivation for collaborative problem-solving. From a federal perspective, these demonstration projects encourage better leveraging of existing federal resources through improved coordination among agencies, and increased community and other stakeholder participation.

To date, these 15 demonstration projects have accomplished a wide range of successes, including the following:

- Establishing strong working partnerships of more than 150 organizations and 11 federal agencies;
- Securing commitments of more than $15 million in public and private funding to address issues ranging from children's health to economic revitalization;
- Augmenting existing brownfields redevelopment initiatives to fully meet quality-of-life and economic development needs in diverse communities;
- Using innovative approaches to foster local capacity- and partnership-building through

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reliance upon community and faith-based organizations, development of community-based planning and vision, and leveraging of existing resources;

- C Using alternative dispute resolution and consensus building to address, as appropriate, cases of conflict or potential conflict;
- C Addressing children's health concerns in six minority, low-income and tribal communities; and
- C Identifying some key elements of a systematic model for holistic, integrated, and collaborative problem-solving.

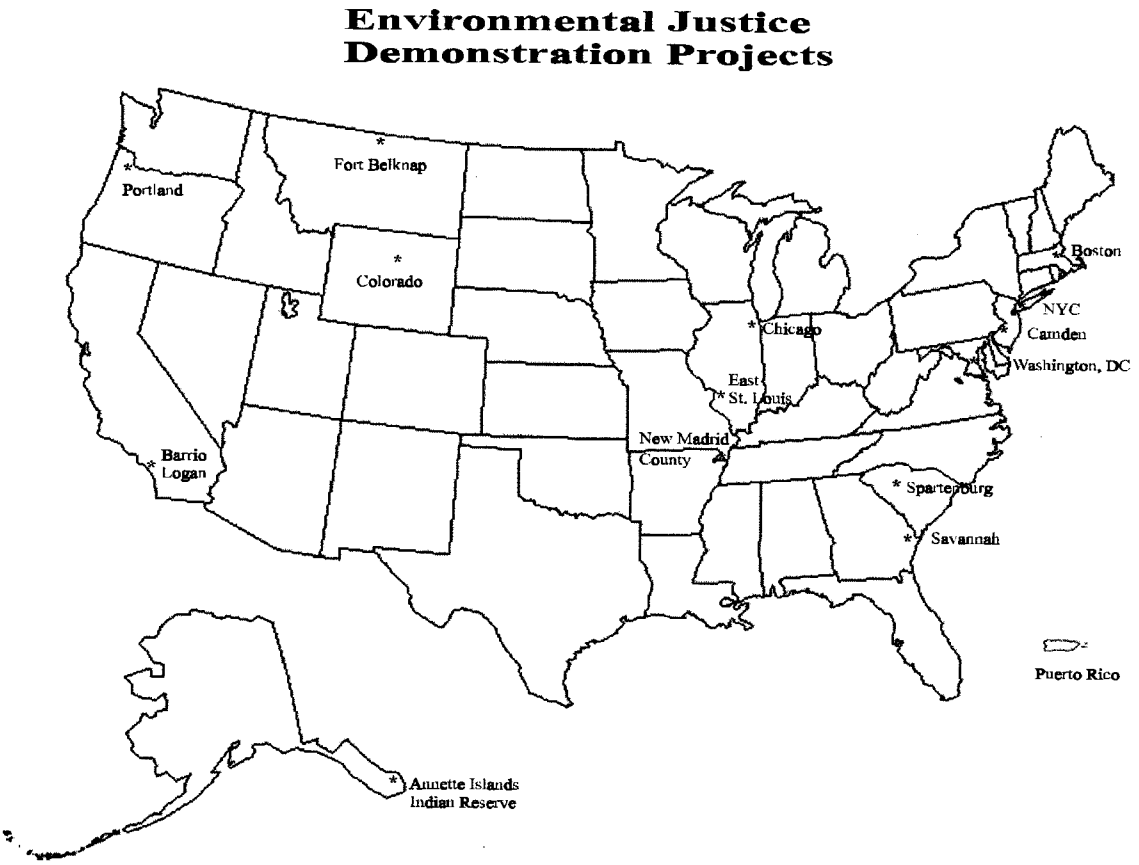

Figure 2. Locations of Demonstration Projects

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Background: Executive Order 12898 created the IWG. The Executive Order delineates the IWG agency responsibilities as follows: "To the extent practicable and permitted by law, and consistent with the principles set forth in the report on the National Performance Review, each federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations...."Additionally, the Executive Order calls for the IWG to "develop interagency model projects on environmental justice that evidence cooperation among agencies." On May 24, 2000, EPA announced that a group of diverse organizations, confronting protracted environmental justice problems, committed themselves to working toward solutions through participation in one of 15 national environmental justice demonstration projects.

Figure 3. Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice: Participating Agencies

- Defense
- Energy
- Health & Human Services
- Housing & Urban Development
- Labor
- Transportation
- Interior
- Justice
- Commerce
- Agriculture
- EPA

Defining the Need: The demonstration projects were needed by communities with environmental justice issues to provide models of collaborative integrated problem-solving that can result in long-term improvements in the quality-of-life. The IWG sponsored the demonstration projects to establish processes that can better target, utilize, and leverage existing resources. Better interagency coordination is critical to improving the capacity for addressing, at the local level, the range of interrelated environmental, public health, economic, and social concerns that typically constitute environmental justice issues. Too often, environmental justice issues reach the federal government in the form of seemingly intractable, multifaceted, and multi-layered disputes. By the time environmental justice issues become recognized as such by the federal government, they tend to: (1) cut across agency jurisdictions or areas of expertise; (2) involve many stakeholders holding mutually inconsistent perspectives about the nature of the issues confronting them; and (3) involve parties having longstanding, adversarial relationships.

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While parties may occasionally resolve their disputes in a win-win manner, through collaborative and cooperative processes, they do not sufficiently document these "success stories" or sufficiently disseminate them for others to benefit from their experience. Traditionally, courts or administrative tribunals decide the cases which become visible, and one side seems to prevail at the other's expense. While recognizing that all communities and situations are different, and that collaborative processes are not always appropriate, stakeholders do not typically explore proactive, collaborative pathways to resolution.

Towards a Solution: The IWG has focused on three activities to foster the emergence of a coherent collaborative problem-solving model: (1) nurture and promote local demonstration projects; (2) promote a national dialogue on collaborative models; and (3) identify the elements of success for developing a coherent collaborative model.

- **Nurture and promote local demonstration projects:** The IWG demonstration projects foster proactive, collaborative efforts that bring agencies, at all levels of government, together with diverse stakeholders in impacted communities. Together at the same table for the first time, in some cases, participants: (1) better understand each other's perspectives; (2) identify mutual interests and priorities; and (3) with this boarder and shared view, mobilize existing resources (i.e., social, human, and financial) for the purpose of creating win-win solutions.

- **Promote national dialogue on building collaborative models:** The IWG is promoting a national dialogue on building collaborative models to achieve environmental justice goals. This dialogue is intended to foster a consensus among all stakeholder groups around the appropriate use of a

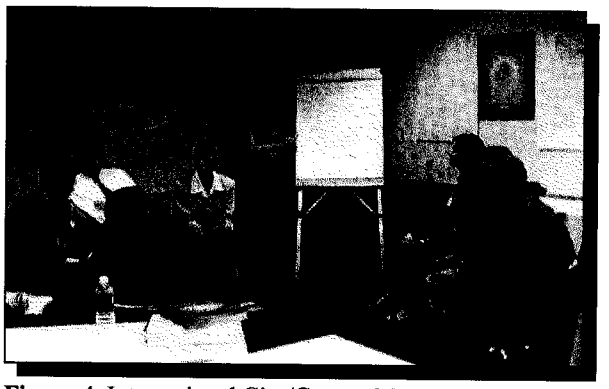

Figure 4. International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Forum on Building Collaborative Models to Achieve Environmental Justice

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collaborative model. Another goal is to inform all stakeholder groups, particularly those confronting environmental justice issues, about opportunities to utilize a collaborative model. IWG members have conducted meetings and briefings for community, business, industry, faith-based groups, and state, local, and tribal government partners, and other stakeholders. This sharing of information and lessons learned has helped to identify potential new partnerships and build interest in applying a collaborative model.[5]

- **Identify elements of success for developing a coherent collaborative model:** The IWG, through the efforts of the EPA Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, is undertaking an evaluation for the IWG collaborative model. This evaluation is intended to: (1) identify and study critical elements that contribute to the success of the collaborative problem-solving model in each project; and (2) analyze the effectiveness of the collaborative problem-solving model and its constituent elements to optimize performance in the future.

These activities have been instrumental in creating a common understanding of collaborative models to achieve environmental justice across the gamut of stakeholders. It is important to create a deeper understanding of the mechanisms involved and to help diverse stakeholders in impacted communities to understand the value and benefits of this voluntary and cooperative approach. Without a common understanding of the appropriate use and value of these models, stakeholders will lack the knowledge they need to overcome historical mistrust and adversarial relationships.

An Emerging Collaborative Model: The purpose of this section of the report is twofold: (1) to identify the basic elements common to all the collaborative models which are emerging from the demonstration projects; and (2) to describe the evaluation of the collaborative model. The IWG

[5] The American Indian and Alaska Native Environmental Justice Roundtable (Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 3-4, 2000) assembled a representative group of American Indians, Alaska Natives, environmental protection experts, legal scholars, ethicists, tribal elders, religious leaders, cultural specialists, policy experts, and others from around the country to identify and address the issues associated with environmental justice in Indian Country.

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intends that this two-pronged strategy produce a template that a community-based organization, academic institution, business or industry, or government, or any other group can utilize as a collaborative problem-solving model.

Elements of Success of Collaborative Model:[6] The basic elements common to all the collaborative models can be grouped into five categories:

- Issue Identification and Leadership Formation;
- Capacity- and Partnership-Building;
- Strategic Planning and Vision;
- Implementation; and
- Identification and Replication of Best Practices.

The model is dynamic, cyclical, and iterative. Because it is dynamic, several elements may take place concurrently and recurrently. In addition, new ideas will emerge and new parties will join in as efforts gain momentum.

Issue Identification and Leadership Formation: Long-standing concerns in the impacted community tend to surface from the efforts of one individual or a small group of individuals who are particularly active in the community. These concerns can include "substantive issues" such as high asthma rates, children suffering lead poisoning, undesirable land uses, proximity of residences to noxious facilities, lack of

Three individual rural townships in agricultural New Madrid County, Missouri approached federal agencies about lead exposure, drinking water quality, and pesticide hazards that pose risks to children's health. Upon hearing of each other's concerns, the townships determined that their concerns were related and they developed a partnership to leverage resources and benefits of their individual and collective knowledge. This process of learning that they confronted similar problems led to the establishment of the New Madrid County Tri-Community Child Health Champion Project. [Issue Identification and Leadership Formation]

[6] The elements identified for the environmental justice collaborative model are based upon the experience to date of the demonstration projects as well as the literature in the field of community development and community building. These range from Singer, Molly, *Righting the Wrong: A Model Plan for Environmental Justice in Brownfields Redevelopment* (Washington, DC: International City/County Management Association, 2001) to the *Community Collaborative Wellness Tool* (Washington, DC: Together We Can, 1998). The latter tool provides for five stages, i.e., 1. Getting Together, 2. Building Trust and Ownership, 3. Strategic Planning, 4. Taking Action, and 5. Deepening and Broadening the Work.

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parks and recreational areas, and lack of employment opportunities. These concerns also can include "process issues" such as the need to strengthen public participation, leadership, improved education of stakeholders, and trust among stakeholder groups to work together. Depending on the ability of diverse stakeholders in a community to respond collectively ("social capital"[7]), and the importance, clarity, and complexity of the concerns articulated, community organizations and other stakeholders may need assistance to arrive at a common understanding of these concerns. When these concerns have matured into a salient issue, or a set of issues, the parties typically elicit the support of a set of initial partners, make an assessment of whether or not conditions are ripe for collaboration, and crystallize an initial vision of the nature of the issue and how to address it.

While Latinos in the United States are disproportionately impacted by asthma, the rates of asthma of Latinos of Puerto Rican descent are greater than Latinos of Cuban or Mexican descent. In an effort to better understand this phenomenon, the EPA, U.S. Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA), Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, and Mt. Sinai Medical Center convened an action-oriented conference in New York. This was followed by a meeting in Puerto Rico that was cosponsored by EPA, HRSA, the Puerto Rico Department of Health, and the Asthma Coalition of Puerto Rico. These two meetings were attended by over 1000 people and led to the formation of a comprehensive strategy by the Asthma Coalition of Puerto Rico to combat this serious illness. [Issue Identification and Leadership Formation]

Elements to Foster Issue Identification and Leadership Formation:

- Build upon existing leadership and expertise in the impacted communities;
- Conduct local education and outreach efforts, fact-finding and assessments;
- Involve residents early in identifying concerns and crystallizing issue;
- Identify early on potential partners from all stakeholder groups;

[7] The term "social capital" was used by Jane Jacobs in her book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (New York: Random House, 1961) and was popularized by Harvard sociologist Robert D. Putnam in his book, *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993). Putnam defines social capital as the "features of social organization such as networks, norms, and social trust that facilitate coordination and cooperation for mutual benefit." The World Bank refers to social capital as "not just the sum of the institutions which underpin a society—it is the glue that holds them together."

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- Build upon a strong understanding of community history and practices; and
- Assess whether or not conditions are ripe for collaboration.

Capacity- and Partnership-Building: Capacity- and partnership-building allow stakeholders to work cooperatively on issues of mutual concern and to identify and more effectively mobilize the resources needed. Capacity-building needs differ, depending on stakeholders and issues. Capacity is the ability of an individual or organization to undertake an effort and achieve it effectively. For example, while community groups may need support to work effectively with government agencies, industry-based stakeholders may require training or assistance to work effectively with communities. Well-structured partnerships assemble the needed capacity to resolve issues. Partnerships involving multiple stakeholder groups, with different strengths and abilities, enable the participants to match the right tool or ability to the appropriate task.

A facilitator assisted 20 diverse organizations—both public and private—in Barrio Logan, a low-income Latino community in San Diego, California to design a formal partnership agreement. Barrio Logan has been plagued by substandard housing, incompatible land uses, air pollution, overcrowded schools, lack of adequate health care and social services, and high unemployment rates. As an organized partnership, the organizations are poised to access and collectively utilize the resources and skills of all the partners. The partners have decided to support designation of the community as a pilot "Urban Village", an initiative which would bring a major infusion of City of San Diego planning and infrastructure resources to the community. In addition, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is working with the City of San Diego to apply for a one million dollar grant on lead hazard controls for Barrio Logan. [Capacity- and Partnership-Building]

Elements to Foster Capacity- and Partnership-Building:

- Build upon existing organizational capacity in the impacted communities;
- Establish dialogue leading to possible partnerships with all relevant stakeholders/parties, including community, business, and government;
- Secure commitments from multiple, appropriate federal, state, local, and tribal agencies and seek to ensure adequate government coordination, internally, as well

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as with non-government parties;

- C Foster capacity through training, mentoring, technical assistance, or resource support;
- C Provide consensus-oriented facilitation services, where necessary;
- C Design processes, both formal and informal, to help ensure fair treatment and meaningful participation of all stakeholders;
- C Develop processes that help ensure community education and capacity building in the future; and
- C Establish processes that allow for inclusion of new partners as they emerge.

Strategic Planning and Vision: A fundamental premise of the collaborative model is to link government, at all levels, with comprehensive, community-based planning processes. The IWG defines "community-based planning" as a process that enables a community to identify its assets, aspirations, needs, and limitations with sufficient clarity to then apply and leverage its resources (e.g., technical, organizational, and financial) consistent with one plan to make meaningful and quantifiable progress toward achieving the plan's stated goals.

Re-Genesis, a community-based organization, worked with its 1400 members to create a comprehensive vision for cleaning up and revitalizing their communities of Arkwright and Forest Park in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Re-Genesis mobilized all parties to address the environmental and health issues, initially through cleanup efforts and more recently through revitalization plans. Benefits envisioned include housing, technology and job-training centers, a greenway, and a health clinic. The local government, Chamber of Commerce, and federal elected officials are working with Harold Mitchell, President of Re-Genesis, to turn this vision into reality. Recently, Re-Genesis and a local chemical facility entered into a formal facilitation process to resolve their differing visions for future land use in the area. [Strategic Planning and Vision]

Elements to Foster Strategic Planning and Vision:

- C Facilitate articulation of, and build upon, community vision of its aspirations;
- C Determine community assets (e.g., technical, financial, social, cultural, natural resources) and deficits (e.g., environmental conditions, infrastructure,

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unemployment);

- C Utilize different tools for incorporating comprehensive community planning into project (e.g., Geographic Information Systems, planning charettes);
- C Identify, target and leverage assets from all sources (e.g., community, government, industry, academia); and
- C Reinforce community values while building human and social capital and entering implementation phase.

Executive Director Mary Nelson's motto for Bethel New Life, a faith-based community development corporation, is "turning environmental liabilities into community assets and opportunities." Having identified contaminated properties in the abandoned industrial neighborhood of West Garfield in Chicago, Illinois, she is leading the effort to bring innovative, energy efficient, environmentally friendly technology to the development of a major mixed-use development. The project will be located at a major transit stop that will provide the surrounding community with convenient access to the local rail line. This effort will provide the community with a child development center, medical clinic, bank, drug store, and other commercial spaces. [Strategic Planning and Vision]

Implementation: Realizing a vision to address identified issues requires well-defined objectives, timelines and action plans. All partners must articulate and follow through commitments, even voluntary commitments, for the project to: (1) address the identified issues thoroughly; (2) strengthen and maintain partnerships; and (3) realize the shared goals.

Elements to Foster Implementation:

- C Develop strategies tailored to communities' assets and

The Metlakatla Indian Community Master Plan envisions the cleanup, restoration, and reuse of the Metlakatla Peninsula in southeastern Alaska. To implement this master plan, Tribal Environmental Coordinator Jeff Benson's task was to investigate the extent of environmental pollution. Starting out with his pickup truck as the tribe's environmental office, Benson and environmental engineer Callie Ridolfi identified and mapped 87 contaminated sites requiring cleanup at several formerly used defense facilities and a government operated airfield. They found extensive soil contamination around some of the fuel storage sites, the existence of open dumps, and contamination at building sites at these facilities. Their efforts resulted in federal designation of the Metlakatla Indian Community as a National Brownfields Showcase Community. [Implementation]

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deficits;

- C Design projects to meet the strength of partnerships, resources and the capacity of the partners;
- C Produce clearly defined, well thought-out action plans;
- C Identify, nurture, and promote collaborations with win/win scenarios;
- C Identify and build upon small successes;
- C Ensure clear commitments on the part of all partners.
- C Ensure resolution of conflicts or potential conflicts through use of alternative dispute resolution;
- C Cluster and order tasks to promote efficient use of time and resources;
- C Develop methodology to measure and evaluate the impact on community and stakeholder conditions as projects are undertaken;
- C Add to and strengthen partnerships as new issues and relationships are understood; and
- C Build community and organizational capacity through implementation to facilitate next phase.

Community-based organizations in heavily congested New York City neighborhoods are suffering from poor air quality resulting in high rates of respiratory illnesses. These organizations are working with city, state and federal agencies to have government vehicles converted to use of cleaner fuels in their neighborhoods. This has resulted in a commitment by the US Postal Service of $1.93 million to purchase 55 electric and natural gas vehicles. The project partners have successfully leveraged the benefits of pollution reduction by placing the clean fuel vehicles where they are needed most. [Implementation]

Identification and Replication of Best Practices: Key to deepening and sustaining the work is the ability to sum up progress in quantitative, qualitative, institutional, and social terms and to incorporate lessons learned into a continuous process. Lessons learned need to be shared not only with the project community, but also with other communities and stakeholders so that best practices can be replicated broadly.

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As a result of the knowledge gained from the initial East St. Louis demonstration project, the scope of the project has expanded beyond lead testing and abatement to developing a partnership with area Brownfields efforts. East St. Louis was selected to be a National Brownfields Showcase Community. The natural synergies between the environmental justice and brownfields issues has led to a multi-pronged strategy around improved health, economic development and overall quality of life. [Identification and Replication of Best Practices]

Elements to Foster Identification and Replication of Best Practices:

- Clearly define measures of success of project objectives, process, outputs, institutional effects, and quality-of-life results;
- Understand and evaluate, from different stakeholder perspectives, indicators used to measure success;
- Develop a "template" for successful collaborative models, based on experience in specific community;
- Develop mechanisms to integrate the lessons into future efforts as new issues and challenges are identified; and
- Share, publish, and disseminate experiences and lessons learned.

Evaluation of Environmental Justice Collaborative Model: The EPA Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation (OPEI) is conducting an evaluation of the IWG environmental justice collaborative model. The evaluation will be based upon case studies of selected demonstration projects. The evaluation will:

(1) identify and study critical elements that contribute to the success of the collaborative problem-solving model in each project; and

(2) analyze the effectiveness of the collaborative problem-solving model and its constituent elements to optimize performance in the future.

This evaluation will provide information to create more effective and efficient applications of a collaborative model in the future. As illustrated below, OPEI will analyze each project using the

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following project "logic," in terms of: (1) objectives; (2) process; (3) outputs; (4) institutional effects; and (5) environmental and other outcomes.[8]

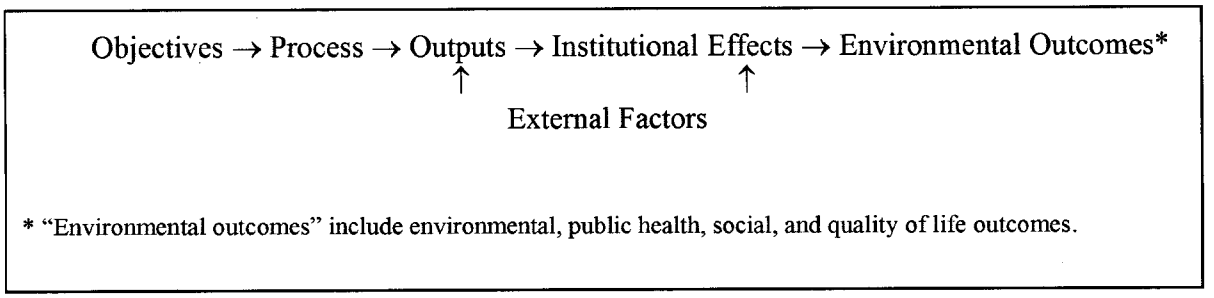

Figure 5. Collaborative Model Evaluation Process

The following tables provide examples of how the above project logic will be applied.

	Objectives	Process	Outputs	Institutional Effects	Environmental and Other Outcomes
Measures	Build capacity of residents to address EJ issues by conducting lead screening and abatement in distressed community.	Federal partners will work with local government, health care and educational institutions, and neighborhood organizations to achieve objectives.	Identify areas of high risk for lead exposure in East St. Louis, conduct community education, abate lead in soil, and identify opportunities for beneficial reuse of land.	Greater cooperation will emerge between all stakeholders.	Youth protected from environmental contaminants.
Key Questions	Are the project objectives clear to all participants?	Was a process in place to allow for effective coordination?	Did the project perform its stated objectives?	Did greater cooperation emerge among all stakeholders?	What percentage of youth was protected from lead as a result of the project?

Figure 6. Identifying Measures and Key Questions Using a Project Logic for the East St. Louis Demonstration Project

[8] By "environmental outcomes", we are referring to "environment" in the broader sense, including environmental, public health, social, and quality of life outcomes.

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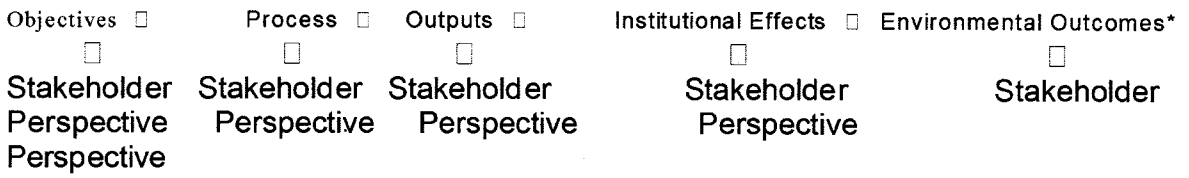
To arrive at truly win-win scenarios for all stakeholders, evaluation will have to take into account the greatly varied perspectives held by the stakeholders involved in any project.

Through analysis at each phase, the projects will be evaluated to determine how the stakeholders' goals are being met. This can be illustrated asfollows:



* "Environmental outcomes" indude environmental, public health, social,and quality of lifeoutcomes.

Figure 7. Understanding Stakeholder Perspectives

	Objectives	Process	Outputs	Institutional Effects	Environmental and Other Outcomes
Measures	Build capacity of residents to address EJ issues by conducting lead screening and abatement in distressed community.	Federal partners will work with local government, health care and educational institutions, and neighborhood organizations to achieve objectives.	Identify areas of high risk for lead exposure in East St. Louis, conduct community education, abate lead in soil, and identify opportunities for beneficial reuse of land.	Greater cooperation will emerge between all stakeholders.	Youth protected from environmental contaminants.
Key Questions	How satisfied are stakeholders with the project objectives? Are these the right objectives?	How satisfied are participants with the coordination between stakeholders?	How satisfied are stakeholders with the project activity? Are these the right activities?	What was the effect of multi-stakeholder collaboration?	Are the outcomes sufficient to address the underlying issues?

Figure 8. Understanding Stakeholder Perspectives in the East St. Louis EJ Project

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OPEI will produce a report based upon case studies of selected projects by early 2002. Lessons learned will be used to better design, implement, evaluate, and promote future collaborative problem-solving efforts.

Conclusion: The desire and commitment of the more than 150 parties and 11 federal agencies to participate in the national environmental justice demonstration projects underscores the potential to create a problem-solving methodology capable of addressing environmental justice issues. While we are cognizant that not all environmental justice issues are good candidates for collaborative processes, progress to date has shown that in a short period of time the demonstration projects have achieved measurably improved conditions through locally organized cooperative efforts. Although the circumstances of each project and the issues to be addressed are different, the shared elements used to achieve progress in meeting goals suggests that an underlying, replicable model for integrated, collaborative problem-solving can be identified.

Indeed, the set of environmental, economic, public health and social concerns known as environmental justice issues are perhaps some of the most complex challenges to the nation. More than two decades of experience has shown that no one group can achieve its goals alone because in most cases the success of one stakeholder group is dependent on the success of others. It, therefore, gives all stakeholders in the environmental justice dialogue great hope that the vision of a collaborative problem-solving process has progressed to the point where successful partnerships are mapping their contours. This will go a long way toward making the potential for collaborative and constructive problem-solving a reality for all communities.

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APPENDIX I

FEDERAL INTERAGENCY WORKGROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE KEY CONTACTS

AGENCY	NAME	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
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DOD	Len Richeson Environmental Protection Specialist, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense Department of Defense	703/604-0518 Fax:703/607-4237	len.richeson@osd.mil
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DOI	Willie R. Taylor Director Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance Department of Interior	202/208-3891 Fax: 202/208-6970	willie_taylor@ios.doi.gov
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APPENDIX I

FEDERAL INTERAGENCY WORKGROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE KEY CONTACTS

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Re-Genesis: Cleanup and Revitalization through Collaborative Partnerships, Arkwright and Forest Park Community

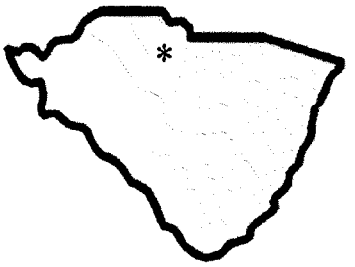
Spartanburg, South Carolina ***Lead Agency: Environmental Protection Agency***

The project has enabled Re-Genesis, a community-based organization in the Arkwright/Forest Park area of Spartanburg, South Carolina, to establish a broad and dynamic public-private partnership to foster identification, inventory, assessment, cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated sites. The project committee, which is chaired by Re-Genesis, the City of Spartanburg and the County of Spartanburg, consists of many federal agencies, business and industry, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, and elected officials. It is engaged in a process of stakeholder education, structured dialogues, and planning charettes to create short- and long-term development strategies.

The City of Spartanburg, South Carolina has a population of 43,687. Approximately 53 percent of the population is white and 46 percent is African American. The target area —Arkwright/Forest Park on the south side of the city—has a 96 percent African American population. The target community is within a one-quarter-mile radius of two Superfund sites. Other local areas of concern include an abandoned textile mill, an operating chemical plant, two dumps, and several suspected illegal disposal areas. These properties have brought concerns about public safety, blight, health, and the environment for some time. The area has not enjoyed any substantial commercial development for years, and the vast majority of normal retail needs are not within close proximity.

Re-Genesis, an active, community-based group with 1,400 members, has taken the lead in establishing partnerships to address local environmental and health issues as well as revitalization. Numerous community meetings and forums have been conducted. Although these partnerships focused initially on cleanup issues (two abandoned toxic sites have been environmentally assessed since 1998 and one site has undergone a $1 million voluntary cleanup), current plans represent renewed hopes for revitalization. Proposed revitalization will include housing, technology and job-training centers, and a health clinic. The county has received a $20,000 EPA environmental justice grant, a $100,000 EPA Superfund Redevelopment Initiative grant, and an EPA Brownfields Pilot Grant. The community also has received financial assistance support through the efforts of Senator Ernest Hollings' office. In addition, Representative Jim DeMint has expressed interest in providing support. The Ford Foundation is planning to support to local leadership development and evaluation efforts. Through a collaborative effort, the groups will be able to

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



The City of Spartanburg, South Carolina has a population of 43,687. Approximately 53% of the population is white and 46% is African American. The target area, Arkwright/Forest Park on the south side of the city, has a 96% African American population.

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avoid redundancy and maximize the use of private monies and public grant dollars to best help this environmental justice community.

Intended Project Benefits

- Creation of housing, a technology center, a regional health clinic, and a job training center.
- Education of stakeholders in the fundamentals and impacts of brownfields cleanup and redevelopment.
- Development of greater understanding and trust among diverse stakeholders to result in more effective targeting and leveraging of resources.
- Building of local commitment and partnerships for beneficial community redevelopment.
- Education of the partnership on sustainable reuse tools and cleanup funding mechanisms.
- Lay the foundation for re-examining future development and growth.
- Facilitation of job training efforts.
- Continuation of the development of recommendations for a revitalization process through structured dialogues and facilitated charettes.

Project Milestones

- Establish broad based public-private partnership established, chaired by Re-Genesis, City of Spartanburg, and County of Spartanburg.
- Begin cleanup of two Superfund sites and other contaminated industrial properties.
- Create, using planning charettes, a well articulated community vision of redevelopment and revitalization, to include housing, technology & job-training center, greenway development, and health clinic.
- Commitment to providing assistance in addressing transportation, housing, health, and energy concerns from federal agencies, including: Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Transportation; Department of Housing and Urban Development; National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences; Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; and Department of Energy.
- Plan facilitated conflict resolution with industrial firms.
- Secure commitments of more than $1 million in federal-private funding, including the Ford Foundation.

Lessons Learned

This project demonstrates the importance of dynamic local leaders who have the talent, willingness and perseverance to build collaborative relationships with all parties to engage in constructive problem-solving. Because of this, the local community–in partnership with local city and county officials–has developed a well articulated vision of holistic community revitalization. Providing support for and nurture of such local leaders is a critical component for successful development of collaborative models to address environmental justice issues. Part of that support is providing a framework around which such leaders can operate. For example, the IWG demonstration project provides a vehicle for bringing together needed governmental agencies at all levels, business and industry, non-governmental organizations and other local leaders around the common goal of bettering the environment, economy, and quality of life of the Arkwright/Forest Park communities. The work of Re-Genesis has now been recognized by many, including an EPA Environmental Merit Award.

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Partners

Re-Genesis; City of Spartanburg; County of Spartanburg (Community and Economic Development Division, Transportation Planning); First Federal Bank; First South Bank; South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control; South Carolina Economic Development Administration; Spartanburg

Development Council; University of South Carolina; Vigindustries/International Minerals and Chemical Corporation; Wachovia Bank, Senator Ernest Hollings; Representative Jim DeMint Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Transportation; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of Energy; National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences; Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

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Protecting Community Health and Reducing Toxic Air Exposure through Collaborative Partnerships in Barrio Logan

San Diego, California *Lead Agency: Environmental Protection Agency*

The project seeks to identify, mobilize and coordinate federal, state, local and community resources to improve air quality, and community and public health–especially children's health–in the Barrio Logan community of San Diego, California. As a result of a facilitated partnership agreement process, twenty community, business, academic and governmental organizations formally agreed to form a partnership. These organizations agreed on three goals: (1) Reduce exposure of residents to air pollution, (2) Reduce incompatible land uses in Barrio Logan and Logan Heights, and (3) Improve children's health by improving the ambient environment, as well as reducing exposure of children to health risks within the home, schools, and the community. The project partners have agreed that their efforts will be action-oriented and focus on solving problems.

The residents of Barrio Logan in San Diego, California are 85% Latino and 40% of households there have incomes below the state's poverty level. The community borders an industrial area on San Diego Bay and is considered to have some of the worst air pollution in San Diego County. Barrio Logan is plagued by substandard housing, overcrowded schools, inadequate health care and social services, and high unemployment. Criss-crossed by two major freeways, this community receives several million pounds of toxic air pollutants each year from numerous waste storage facilities, large shipyards, naval installations, and small industries situated next to homes. The high incidence of diagnosed and probable asthma (20% in Barrio Logan compared to a national average of 7%) and other respiratory illnesses in children here may be related to poor air quality. The respiratory health hazard index projected from the EPA Cumulative Exposure Project for the area is up to 200 times higher than acceptable standards.

The project partners include the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Air Resources Board (CARB), California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Mercado Tenants Association, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, University of Southern California (USC), American Lung Association (ALA), San Diego Unified School District, Inner City Business Association (ICBA), Southwest Marine, Inc., Logan Heights Family Health Center, San Diego Housing Commission, Port of San Diego, and National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (NASSCO).

The project builds upon the many year efforts of local residents and the Environmental Health Coalition to bring attention to and address the above three issues.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?

The community of Barrio Logan and the surrounding areas have a population that is 85% Latino. Forty percent of these residents are living below the State's poverty level. The community borders an industrialized portion of the San Diego Bay area and is considered to be one of the most polluted communities in the county.

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Many working collaborations have emerged, such as the partnership between EHC and USC to conduct clinical studies to substantiate anecdotal accounts of the high rate of asthma in Barrio Logan. More recent activities by CARB around air monitoring and children's health provided an important new dimension to these efforts. Air monitoring data is being provided to the community from a CARB air sampling station positioned at a local middle school. CARB plans to duplicate this effort in other low-income, minority communities in California. New organizations to the partnership, such as ICBA, the City of San Diego's Planning and Review Section and HUD represent opportunities in Barrio Logan for pollution prevention, source reduction of hazardous waste, lead testing and abatement, and better land use practices.

Intended Project Benefits

- Building of community capacity and skills to understand environmental impacts on their health and how to effectively deal with local, state, and federal authorities to change their communities and environment.
- Encouragement of local, state, and federal authorities to more aggressively inspect, regulate, and enforce environmental laws in the large shipyards and small businesses that are located right next to residential areas.
- Identification of major pollutant sources in Barrio Logan and help the community/local authorities reduce or eliminate these sources. For instance, Barrio Logan is working with all industries in the area to implement pollution prevention strategies and/or relocation to industrial zones. Also, trucks should be rerouted from going through the Barrio Logan community to prevent diesel, dust and other particulate exposure to residents.
- Showing a reduction in school absenteeism and clinical visits for asthmatic children living in Barrio Logan.
- Identification of a process to allow local communities to have a meaningful voice in selecting their community for the city's redevelopment effort.

Project Milestones

- Facilitation (i.e., the process of using a facilitator) has resulted in formal partnership agreement between 20 organizations.
- Designation of Barrio Logan as model in new Neighborhood Assessment Program by California Air Resources Board (CARB) .
- Selection of Barrio Logan as one of six monitoring locations for the Children's Health Protection study areas made by CARB.
- Continuation of the four-year study by the Environmental Health Coalition/USC/Logan Family Clinic partnership to develop community asthma and air quality profile under an NIEHS Environmental Justice Grant.
- Identification of ways to address transportation issues related to poor air quality has been agreed to y Cal Tran.
- Continuation of the "Open Airways and Tools for Schools" asthma education program by American Lung Association.
- Continuation of the mobilization of resources through the project include: NIEHS four-year grant to EHC, USC and Logan Heights Family Health Center ($600,000), CARB Neighborhood Assessment Project ($500,000 to date), EPA Open Airways and Tools for Schools ($100,000), ICBA ($200,000).

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- Completion of a website for the project.
- Application for $1 million grant on lead hazards control for Barrio Logan is made by the City, with assistance from HUD.
- Preparation for a Pollution Prevention Workshop for all Barrio Logan autobody repair shops by CalEPA working with ICBA.
- Consideration of Barrio Logan for the Mayor's new Urban Village program.

Lessons Learned

A well conducted facilitation process can result in enormous benefits. In the case of Barrio Logan, it was capable of creating a "win-win" scenario by combining a community-driven process with the many interests and resources of other parties–both private and public. This is not necessarily easy and requires a highly skilled facilitator who has a keen grasp of the community, the parties involved, and the issues. A formal partnership agreement has been developed, which can serve as a model for other areas. As a result of the facilitation, the organizations agreed to a collective process that includes a range of commitments ranging from sharing data and information, identify existing and additional resources, to resolving conflicts in a positive and constructive way. They made a commitment to think creatively about how to make a difference in the health and well-being of the Barrio Logan community.

Having created a framework that is well informed by community concerns, this partnership is well positioned to more effectively target, complement, mobilize, leverage and utilize organizational capacities and resources that the Barrio Logan community sorely needs. Moreover, it has brought to the table new partners and resources of which many had heretofore been unaware. These include the Inner City Business Association and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. HUD recently announced that it was working with the City of San Diego, Environmental Health Coalition and MAAC to apply for the Lead Hazard Control Grant program, which could bring up to $1 million to aid in reducing and/or eliminating lead-contaminated dust and soil in private homes in Barrio Logan.

Partners

Environmental Health Coalition (EHC), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Air Resources Board (CARB), California Department of Transportation (CAlTrans), National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Mercado Tenants Association, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, University of Southern California (USC), American Lung Association (ALA), San Diego Unified School District, Inner City Business Association (ICBA), Southwest Marine, Inc., Logan Heights Family Health Center, San Diego Housing Commission, Port of San Diego, National Steel and Shipbuilding Company(NASSCO), Southwest Marine, Inc., and others.

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Metlakatla Indian Community
Unified Interagency Environmental Management Task Force

Annette Island, Alaska ***Lead Agency: Department of Defense***

This project has resulted in the formation of a partnership of federal, tribal and local government agencies and organizations to address areas of contamination and to develop and implement the Metlakatla Indian Community (MIC) Master Plan. The Master Plan will address land use, areas of contamination and future development of the Metlakatla Peninsula. The Annette Islands Indian Reserve is located in southeast Alaska, approximately 20 miles south of Ketchikan. This reserve has been the home of the MIC since 1887, and is the only Indian reserve in Alaska. The U.S. government currently holds this land in trust for the tribe.

Government activities on this land began in 1940 with the lease of 12,783 acres to the Department of War for building a World War II defense base; establishing a minor U.S. Navy base; establishing a major U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) base; creating a U.S. Air Force ballistic missile early warning system complex; and installing a U.S. Army radar/communication system. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) assumed 4,880 acres of lease property and ownership of most of the facilities after 1949, and operated Annette Island Airport until the nearby Ketchikan International Airport displaced it in 1973. The USCG continued to use the Annette airport until relocating to Sitka in 1977. The government stored a combined total of more than one million gallons of fuel at several sites on the island. Today, extensive soil contamination exists around some of these fuel storage sites. The existence of numerous open dumps, formerly used by federal agencies, pose an environmental and community health risk. In addition, lead, asbestos, and oils containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) have been found at building sites formerly leased by the government where abandoned government vehicles, airplane parts, drums, and other wastes now sit. To date, five federal agencies (Department of Defense, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Aviation Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Coast Guard) have been involved in investigation and cleanup of contamination on the Reserve.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?

The Annette Islands Indian Reserve is located in southeast Alaska, approximately 20 miles south of Ketchikan. This reserve has been the home of the MIC since 1887 and is the only Indian reserve in Alaska. The U.S. Government currently holds this land in trust for the tribe.

Intended Project Benefits

- Establishment of collaborative relationships between tribal and federal officials.

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- Development and implementation of a Master Plan for cleanup, restoration, and reuse of the Metlakatla Peninsula.
- Mitigation of environmental impacts in support of the Metlakatla Indian Community Master Plan.
- Protection of the customary and traditional use of food resources.
- Building of tribal capacity to manage and conduct environmental programs.
- Availability of federal technical assistance as needed.
- Promotion of economic growth through the tourism and commercial fishing industries.

Project Milestones

- Establishment of collaborative relationships between tribal and federal officials.
- Securing active participation of all federal agencies with cleanup liability in the task force.
- Collaboration of MIC and federal agencies to clearly define the Tribe's vision for their community and find cooperative approaches to conduct cleanup activities among the federal agencies.
- Setting of common operating principles for this collaboration has been established, including emphasis on communications and support of local capacity building in form of local hiring and training where appropriate.
- Commitment of $2.5 million in FY2001 for site assessment work by DoD.
- C Coordination and establishment of IPA positions to MIC for the Environmental Justice Demonstration Project and the recently designated Brownfields Showcase Community grant.

Lessons Learned

Participants view the building of a cooperative relationship among federal agencies and the MIC tribal government to be a strength of the project. The tribe will benefit through the ultimate cleanup of their lands, and will take an active part in the cleanup activities, resulting in new jobs in the community. Federal agencies will make greater cleanup progress because they will know better the concerns and priorities of the tribe, and can resolve response issues within the context of an interagency task force. Close coordination is the most essential element for success. This however takes a great deal of time and effort to achieve. Working with a geographically remote Tribe in Alaska requires great diligence and sensitivity to cultural, historical and legal issues. When projects such as this one are put together without a long-term commitment, and the active participation of all parties, coordination suffers. An important milestone is establishment of a set of common operating principles for this collaboration. It becomes harder to mobilize efforts and existing resources needed by the tribe.

Partners

Metlakatla Indian Community, US Department of Defense (Army Corp of Engineers), US Department of Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs), US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Transportation (Federal Aviation Administration, US Coast Guard).

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Protecting Children's Health and Reducing Lead Exposure through Collaborative Partnerships

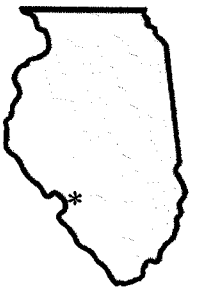
East St. Louis, Illinois ***Lead Agency: Environmental Protection Agency***

Community groups, local hospitals, federal, state and local agencies in East St. Louis and St. Clair County are collaborating to implement a comprehensive strategy to improve children's health by reducing lead poisoning. The project is addressing both lead based paint hazards and uncontrolled lead releases to surface soil. Removal actions, where necessary, will promote opportunities for redevelopment in neighborhoods and eliminate illegal dumping.

The St. Clair County region of Illinois is an area that is littered with idled smelters, junkyards, and defunct industry. It has numerous abandoned, contaminated lots that serve as play areas for the communities' youth and as illegal dumping havens. This project targets East St. Louis and other communities in St. Clair County, Illinois, including Brooklyn, Alorton, Centerville, and Washington Park. Air pollution has been a major problem due to the fact that St. Louis Metropolitan Area exceeds EPA's limit on the amount of smog in the air. In addition, when children living in East St. Louis were tested for lead poisoning, there were four times as many children with lead poisoning than in the surrounding communities, and the rate of lead poisoning was four times higher than the national average.

Another recurring and severe problem in the region is flooding. The drainage systems currently in place were originally constructed to drain agricultural land, not to convey runoff from stormwater in residential and urbanizing areas. The region has a combined sewer and stormwater system that is deteriorating. Impermeable surfaces (e.g., roads and parking lots) have increased the volume of water running into streams and rivers, and pollution from lead, oil, gasoline, and other products on these surfaces is carried directly into local water bodies. As wetlands and forested areas are paved, flooding continues to become even more severe.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



Sixty-five percent of the population of East St. Louis. Illinois is low-income compare to the State average of 27% and 98.6% is minority, while the State average is 25%. The surrounding communities (Brooklyn, Alorton, Centerville, and Washington Park) have similar demographics.

Sixty-five percent of the population of East St. Louis is low-income compared with a state average of 27 percent, and 98.6 percent of the population is minority compared to a state average of 25 percent. The surrounding communities (Brooklyn, Alorton, Centerville, and Washington Park) have similar demographics.

Intended Project Benefits

- Improvement of children's health by reducing lead poisoning through comprehensive strategy.

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- Characterization of blood lead levels in infants, pre-school, children in K-8 grades and pregnant mothers.
- Availability of appropriate medical care service referrals for cases of high lead blood content.
- Determination of lead-based paint hazards and need for remediation throughout the county.
- Assessment of uncontrolled lead releases to surface soils in residential and school yards and parks.
- Performance of housing rehabilitation along with landscaping efforts and weatherization.
- Completion of site assessments on abandoned lots and follow-up with removal actions and demolition activities when necessary.
- Assistance in building community capacity to recognize lead hazards and ways to reduce the threats to children's health as well as avenues to better communication and environmental decision-making.
- Promotion of a healthy environment for the environmental justice community by offering a greater avenue for residents to become more involved in environmental issues in their community.
- Carrying out of public meetings, availability sessions, outreach parties; distribution of a quarterly newsletter; and participation in neighborhood and church meetings.

Project Milestones

- Leveraging of more than $4 million in funding support from several federal agencies, including HUD, EPA, USACE, and USDA.
- Screening of over 3,000 children ages 0-12 for blood lead.
- Initiation of sampling and mapping of areas with lead in soil along with lead blood data correlations.
- Production of educational materials such as video, newsletter, Collaborative brochure and children's coloring book.
- Development of a comprehensive communications strategy for outreach and education.
- Expansion of activities to include towns surrounding East St. Louis.
- Training of rehabilitation contractors, trained as lead supervisors.
- Awarding of $200,000 EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant to a local community college.
- Awarding of a Superfund Job Training Initiative to the Sauget Superfund site, located right outside of East St. Louis. Over 20 East St. Louis residents will receive the training.
- Awarding of a $50,000 grant to local non-profit by USDA, to conduct phytoremediation.
- Designation of East St. Louis as Brownfields Showcase Community.
- Awarding of a $250,000 Planning Assistance grant to East St. Louis by USACE, to assist with brownfields efforts. The City matched the amount with another $250,000.
- Awarding of a $50,000 grant by EPA Region 5, to St. Clair County, to address lead contaminated abandoned buildings in Washington Park.
- Awarding of a $15,000 and $25,000 grant, by EPA Region 5, to St. Clair County's Lead Hazard Control for a Comprehensive Lead Outreach and Education Campaign.
- Planning of a study by Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville Institute for Urban Research, to examine the causes and effects of lead poisoning with particular emphasis

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on educational achievement, diagnosis of learning disabilities and other physical and mental illness.

- Garnering of support from State (Illinois EPA), as a vital and proactive partner.

Lessons Learned

An especially well organized project, with a strong partnership emanating from its partners among federal, state and local government, local health care institutions, schools and neighborhood organization, this project has gone beyond lead screening and abatement as its primary activity to developing a partnership with area Brownfields efforts. Lead is a major contaminant in brownfields in East St. Louis area. This demonstrates the natural synergies between the environmental justice and brownfields issues and the natural evolution toward holistic multi-pronged strategies geared towards improvements in quality of life. The project has now evolved into two major working groups, one focused on health and communication concerns and the other focused on lead remediation and brownfields. Strong leadership has been provided by a leadership core to ensure strategic planning, coordination and constant communication among project partners. Thought is now being given to developing new leadership so that the effort can be truly self-sustaining. One barrier to this is the fact that all partners are so busy carrying their respective areas of responsibility and there is no local entity or position that sees itself as performing this vital facilitation and coordination role for all facets of the ongoing and newly developing projects.

Partners

St. Mary's Hospital Corporate Health Center, Neighbors United for Progress, St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department, E. Side Local Health District, East-West Gateway Coordinating Council, East St. Louis Community Development Block Grant Office, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, US Dept. of Agriculture / Natural Resources Conservation Service, Southwestern Illinois Resource Conservation and Development, Neighborhood Law Office, Neighborhood Technical Assistance Center, St. Clair County Health Dept., St. Louis Community College, Southern Illinois University of Illinois at Edwardsville, and East St. Louis School District 189.

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New Madrid County Tri-Community Child Health Champion Campaign

New Madrid County, Missouri *Lead Agency: Environmental Protection Agency*

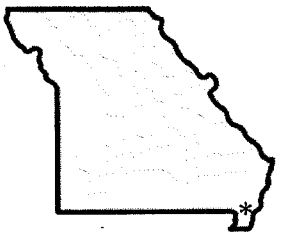
An EPA-USDA partnership works with state and local agencies to address three areas that impact children's health: lead, asthma/allergies, and water quality. The projects came about when three rural towns in New Madrid County, Missouri, saw the potential benefits of working together. A subsequent request to federal and state agencies for assistance resulted in this project. While community education and capacity building is an ongoing part of this project, efforts will include proactive actions such as planting trees to decrease dust contaminants and improving stormwater drainage.

EPA Region 7 and the Natural Resource Conservation Service Midwest Region have fostered partnerships based on their commitment to ensure that all communities receive the benefits of their programs and that no portion of the population be disproportionately impacted in a negative way by their policies, programs, and procedures. The first area in which these two organizations concentrated their efforts was in three small towns located in the bootheel of Missouri. The project began by identifying environmental hazards that might place community members (with an emphasis on children) at a health risk. Data were also collected to evaluate whether there was disproportionate risk in these three communities compared to the rest of the state to consider environmental justice.

The resulting New Madrid County Tri-Community (NMCTC) Child Health Champion Campaign is a community-led initiative with a variety of local and regional partners. Community development, leadership, and capacity-building skills are integral parts of this project and essential to the sustainability of any efforts undertaken. Data collection, communication, and coordination by all of the partners resulted in the completion of an Action Plan in 1999. Implementation of this plan is expected to take place beginning in 2000 and continuing through 2001.

The City of Lilbourn, City of Howardville, and Village of North Lilbourn are rural agricultural communities located in the bootheel region of Missouri, approximately 175 miles south of St. Louis. These towns do not have the types of businesses or industry established that might make them sustainable, and they are characterized by gross poverty and substandard housing conditions. This project will benefit the community by providing a safer environment for children, greater community awareness regarding health hazard prevention, and a greater capacity to address needs and concerns on a local level.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



The City of Lilbourn, City of Howardville, and Village of North Lilbourn are rural agricultural communities located in the "bootheal" region of Missouri. They are about 175 miles south of St. Louis. These towns do not have the types of businesses or industry established that might make them sustainable and they are characterized by gross poverty and substandard housing conditions. This project will benefit the communities by providing a safer environment for children, greater community awareness regarding health hazard prevention, and a greater capacity to address needs and concerns on a local level.

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Intended Project Benefits

- Screening/testing of children in the target communities for lead poisoning;
- Providing appropriate medical care service referrals for cases of high lead blood content;
- Providing education and awareness regarding the environmental health hazards of chemical products, tobacco smoke, home insect allergens, and field and agricultural dust;
- Planting evergreens, and long-lived trees and shrubs in areas around schools and children's playgrounds to decrease dust contaminants;
- Providing educational materials and training workshops concerning safe drinking water, stagnant water, water sampling and also the signs/symptoms of the ill health effects due to contaminated water;
- Building capacity in the community to recognize environmental hazards and ways to reduce those threats in drinking water, stormwater drainage, and stagnant water;
- Improving stormwater drainage in the targeted communities;
- Taking drinking water samples and constructing a template for a drinking water consumer confidence report; and
- Facilitating the participation of community members in technical training provided by the state.

Project Milestones

- Completion of blood lead testing of children in all three townships involved.
- Conduct of education of twelve community peer facilitators
- Conduct of education of approximately 2,000 adults and 800 children.
- Creation of new community focus on asthma, allergies and prevention of lead in children.
- Application of innovative strategies such as planting of trees to cut down on pesticide laden dust.
- Initiation of North Lilbourn Recycling Project to receive donations of recycled products.
- Initiation of energy conservation and home weatherization project involving ten community participants and services of local carpenter as trainer.
- Initiation of farmers' cooperative involving 21 participants and contract with grocery store.
- Initiation of Federal Transit Authority Jobs Access Project involving donation of two vans to transport local citizens to and from work.
- Initiation of Drinking Water Compliance Assistance Project resulting in $250,000 to dig new well to assure safe drinking water.

Lessons Learned

The project came about as the result of members of three communities approached EPA regarding their individual problems. Their learning that combining efforts will yield better results is a major positive development in of itself. The main strengths of this project are the partnerships between the organizations on the interagency agreement (GRAND, EPA, NRCS), the commitment of the local communities, and the locally-lead philosophy which has been applied. The primary partnering organizations exhibited their commitment to working together by overcoming the stresses which occur when an enforcement oriented regulatory agency, a compliance assistance agency, and a local problem-solving organization come together. While many significant individual accomplishments can be listed, the greatest accomplishment has

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been mobilizing a group of community residents to raise questions about their environment, teaching a set of transferrable leadership and organizations skills, and instilling community pride. Having the community involved in identifying priorities, developing a work plan, and carrying this out has led to important long term benefits. For example, the project has grown from a single project to a full blown initiative, which includes a recycling, energy conservation and weatherization, a farmers' cooperative, a job access transportation project, and drinking water compliance activities.

Partners

Bootheel Lead Nurses, Delta Area Economic Development Corporation, US Department of Agriculture/Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), US Environmental Protection Agency Region 7, Great Rivers Alliance of Natural Resource Districts, Headstart, Lincoln University Cooperative Extension, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Department of Public Health, New Madrid County Health Department, NMCTC Community Team.

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New York City Alternative Fuel Vehicle Summit

New York, New York *Lead Agency: Department of Energy*

A partnership of federal agencies, local officials, and community organizations will conduct a series of meetings culminating in an Alternative Fuel Vehicle Summit. The project goal is to accelerate the conversion of vehicular fleets operating in NYC metropolitan area to cleaner fuels by having communities help in targeting where such conversions will result in significant public health gains. This is intended to result in better air quality for heavily congested environmental justice neighborhoods.

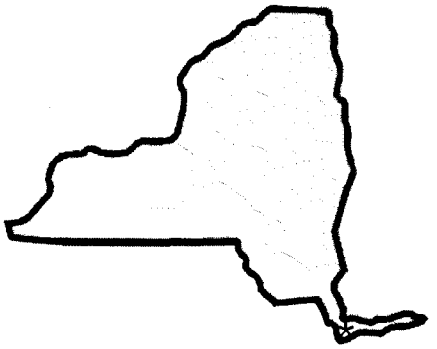
As a member of the White House Interagency Task Force on Environmental Justice Issues in New York City, the Department of Energy (DOE) met in Spring of 1999 with the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, DOE agreed to lead the efforts of the federal government and community representatives in organizing an alternative fuels summit, focusing on accelerating the conversion to cleaner fuels of fleets operating in the New York City metropolitan area. During the Summer of 1999, DOE formed a planning committee of partners to determine the content of the summit on alternative fuels.

The existence of a planning committee on this issue has allowed the city to talk to community groups about current projects on alternative fuels and has given the community groups the opportunity to express their concerns about poor air quality and the need to do more. The planning committee has given the federal participating agencies the ability to help influence the bus purchasing plans of the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

The communities involved with this project are located in heavily congested environmental justice neighborhoods areas of Manhattan, the Bronx, and Brooklyn which have been affected by high concentrations of diesel burning vehicular traffic. The planning committee recommended holding a design charette to gather additional neighborhood and local and state government input on the issue of alternative fuels. Following that meeting, the planning committee put together an action plan for 2000 and 2001 based on input from participants and included the following tasks:

Intended Project Benefits

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



The communities involved with this project are located in heavily congested environmental justice neighborhoods of Manhattan, the Bronx, and Brooklyn, New York City. There neighborhoods have been affected by high volumes of diesel burning vehicular traffic.

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- Hosting of neighborhood meetings to encourage local heavy-duty fleets to switch to alternative fuels.
- Sponsorship of a city workshop on alternative fuel school buses.
- Sponsorship of an airport meeting to encourage more fleets to use alternative fuels.
- Assistance with an alternative fuels workshop for local governments.
- Hosting of an alternative fuels summit to showcase successes and build on this work to lead to greater penetration of alternative fuel vehicles in heavy-duty niche markets located in designated environmental justice neighborhoods.
- Identification of heavy-duty transportation fleets and appropriate contacts in order to get their participation in planned meetings.

Project Milestones

- Commitment of $1.93 million by USPS for purchase of 55 vehicles to electric and natural gas vehicles.
- Identification of vehicular fleets by communities for possible fuel conversion projects.
- Involvement of community-based organizations, citywide, in all planning meetings and design charettes.
- Establishment of an outreach effort to NYC to participate in DOE Clean Cities Program.

Lessons Learned

The collaboration of community-based organizations, business organizations, and government agencies has provided vehicular fleets with a more comprehensive and compelling argument for fuel conversion. Whereas past workshops by government agencies have focused solely on available technologies and economic incentives, the approach taken through this collaborative effort also stresses the public health benefits of fuel conversion and how cleaner fuels will make businesses better neighbors to the communities where they do business. In addition, local community based organizations have brought an immense wealth of information about the issues concerns their neighborhoods. This has included knowledge about how local businesses could benefit from pollution reduction efforts.

Partners

New York City Environmental Justice Alliance, The Point, West Harlem Environmental Action, UPROSE, NYC Department of Transportation, NYS Environmental Business Assoc., Congressman Serrano's Office,.New York City Department of Transportation, US Department of Energy, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Interior, General Service Administration, US Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration), US Postal Service.

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Addressing Asthma in Puerto Rico-A Multifaceted Partnership for Results

Puerto Rico ***Lead Federal Agencies: Department of Health and Human Services and Environmental Protection Agency***

A partnership of federal agencies, local health departments, community groups, foundations and universities have actively been seeking effective methodologies to comprehensively address the high prevalence of childhood asthma in Puerto Rico. The goal has been to focus attention on this issue in order to maximize asthma prevention as well as comprehensively address children suffering from asthma.

Asthma is the leading chronic disease in childhood and is a major cause of school absence and functional limitation. The apparent high frequency and severity of asthma among Puerto Ricans in the United States and Puerto Rico is of concern.

Because of the prevalence of the disease, the geographic distance of Puerto Rico to many of the resources and language differences from the mainland, it was decided by the community in Puerto Rico and the mainland that special attention needs to be paid to this issue.

In order to do that and to gain input on the issue a two part step was taken. First an asthma summit for Region 2 (covering New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands) was organized by the US Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA) in partnership with the US Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), the US Environmental Protection Agency, Mt. Sinai Medical Center and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

US EPA hosted a special pre-summit meeting that focused on the specific issues covering Puerto Rico. This was accomplished by listening and interacting to the presentations of the Puerto Rican delegation attending the summit in New York. This provided a special focus on the issue as well as an interesting and productive mix of people working on childhood asthma issues who normally did not have an opportunity to interact with one another.

The summit resulted in two actions. One was a specific action plan and the other was a follow up large community meeting in San Juan. In October, 2000, the community meeting in Puerto Rico resulted in approximately 700 people coming together to comment upon the draft action plan that was proposed by the Asthma Coalition of Puerto Rico as well as to network, share ideas and develop new partnerships.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?

The main population that this effort is intended to address is children in Puerto Rico. In the United States, Latinos are disproportionately impacted by asthma. Although within the Latino population there are variations in asthma rates depending on an individual's heritage. A study conducted by the Puerto Rico Department of Health (in collaboration with HHS/CDC and HHS/ATSDR) found that asthma was fairly prevalent among children in Puerto Rico.

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Intended Project Benefits

- Development of a comprehensive approach to treating and preventing asthma in Puerto Rico.
- Establishment of mechanisms to improve health care for asthmatic children in Puerto Rico.
- Establishment of outlets for focusing attention on the issue.
- Development of sources for providing additional resources for the island.
- Development of new partnerships.
- Establishment of an improved monitoring system.
- Facilitation of bringing together approximately 700 people in Puerto Rico to discuss the issue.

Project Milestones

- Holding of the First Regional Asthma Summit in New York, with over 400 people attending.
- Holding of a one day pre-summit meeting with the Puerto Rican delegation concerning asthma on the island.
- Holding of a follow up meeting in San Juan where over 700 community people participated.
- Development of a comprehensive asthma action plan by the Asthma Coalition of Puerto Rico.
- Investment of $1.5 million, by Robert Wood Johnson as one of eight national pilots, in one of the poorest neighborhoods in San Juan to invest
- Conduct of an epidemiologic study by The Centers for Disease Control in conjunction with the Puerto Rico Health Department.
- Initiation of environmental assessment monitoring, by EPA, in two low income clinics in Puerto Rico in order to determine which environmental interventions provide the best assistance.
- Tailoring of its Indoor Air Tools for School program, , by EPA, to meet the specific climatic needs of Puerto Rico and will produce this material in Spanish so it is readily accessible.

Lessons Learned

Many different people and groups were ready to constructively contribute to the effort, because the issue was significant and widespread. Effective intervention can take place because there is a wide mix of people and groups including the medical community, parents of asthmatic children, community groups and the schools. Because the community itself developed the action plan, the sense of ownership lies in the community and building upon an agreed to federal strategy helped to focus attention and resources. Two issues to be dealt with are: the difficulty of coordinating large groups with no resources dedicated to the effort; and the change of administration means new partners need to be brought into the coalition and some other partners move on to new positions.

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Partners

US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Health and Human Services (Health Resources Service Administration, Health Care Financing Administration, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Centers for Disease Control), Mt. Sinai Medical Center, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, San Jorge Hospital, Rand Corporation, Puerto Rico Health Department, Puerto Rico Education Department, University of Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico Head Start, Puerto Rican Lung Association and numerous other community groups.

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Bridges to Friendship: Nurturing Environmental Justice in Southeast and Southwest Washington

Washington, DC *Lead Agency: Department of Defense*

Bridges to Friendship is a diverse partnership of community stakeholders working together to achieve inclusive community revitalization. It was founded on the premise that non-governmental organizations, private enterprise, the District of Columbia and federal government agencies can better their performance by identifying and connecting existing resources and expertise. The partnership's structure acts as a neutral vessel in which those pooled resources and expertise come together, evolve, and focus on common and identifiable goals.

The primary product of Bridges to Friendship is the process of building organizational bridges and fostering their use—identifying and organizing the sharing of resources and serving as a broker, catalyst or implementer to reach common goals. Bridges to Friendship is essentially the implementation of an agreement to work together. The work of delivering services and products remains to a great extent with the various partner programs otherwise created, chartered or mandated to do that work. This is in keeping with, and helps to reinforce, the concept of better using existing resources.

While Bridges to Friendship is an innovative and comprehensive effort of diverse organizations all working toward the common goal of revitalizing the community, there are many goals and benefits particular to each of the partners and levels. The partnership is pursing these goals through four focus areas, 1) Community Outreach, 2) Youth Outreach, 3) Job Training and Career Development, and 4) Business Development and Involvement.

Environmental justice, capacity building, government improvement and community redevelopment are driving forces behind the project since it began in response to community concerns related to the Anacostia River, federal cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated sites, and the resulting redevelopment of the community. Much of the value added by the partnership comes through capacity building, such as linking youth outreach and job training resources to providers at all levels to create employment opportunities for area residents.

The Bridges to Friendship area of concern includes Southeast and Southwest Washington, D.C., where the Washington Navy Yard is located. This area includes communities dominated by public and low-income housing and is predominantly African American.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?

The Bridges to Friendship area includes Southeast and Southwest Washington, D.C., where the Washington Navy Yard is located. This area includes communities dominated by public and low-income housing and is predominantly African American.

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Intended Project Benefits

- Increases in the variety, quality, and quantity of job training and career development opportunities for local residents.
- Greater availability of quality educational, employment, and recreational opportunities for youth living in the target area.
- Support for the creation and/or growth of quality businesses operating in Southeast and Southwest Washington, D.C.
- Assurance that the community's vision and needs are incorporated into Bridges to Friendship goals and area planning efforts (e.g., development, housing, etc.).
- Award to DC of a $32 million Youth opportunity Grant funds from DOL, because the partnership represented a functional system to link resources, programs and people in DC.
- In support of the Envirojobs project, DOL brought in, under the Interagency Personnel Act, a person to lead the project and in addition has hired 3 interns and converted two of them to permanent status.

Project Milestones

- Completion of two rounds of environmental job training this year by Alice Hamilton Occupational Health Center. Twenty-two of thirty individuals trained this year are now employed in environmentally related jobs (over 140 have been trained, with over 72% hiring and retention rate, since the inception of Bridges to Friendship).
- Completion of the work force development manual, "Pathways to Your Future," by the Youth Outreach Workgroup. The manual is designed to prepare young people for the workforce. The workgroup will use the manual to deliver seminars and career awareness opportunities to public housing residents and other community groups.
- New job opportunities have resulted from the continued partnership with Navy and Navy contractors (25 hires, and 15 internships), DOL (2 interns), Alice Hamilton Occupational Health Center and National Park Service.
- Launch, by Bridges to Friendship of the "Columbia Rising" series of community dialogues. The first series is providing an open discussion to address issues and to garner commitments for actions related to redevelopment and displacement.
- Establishment of a process, by Naval District Washington Human Resources Office (HROW) working with the DC Department of Employment Services (DOES), to identify, from the DOES database, candidates as a resource pool for 20 job openings in FY 2001.

Lessons Learned

One of the project's fundamental tenets was, and remains, that the opportunities, resources and expertise needed to address community issues already exist, but in a disjointed, stove-piped or competitive environment. The partners committed to a community-wide collaborative effort and we have followed through. Bridges to Friendship developed a neutral vessel to create opportunities for all of the partners to share resources, expertise and access to decision-makers. Partners who have chosen to make use of the vessel validate this approach as a better way to do business. One of the key lessons is that such a choice, the decision to actively participate, lies with the partner and makes the partnership "real" for that partner.

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This approach has, in effect, helped to mend the fabric of the community. The project has helped to change the way this community functions, the way the federal government works, at least in this community, and participants have changed their methods and behaviors as well. We have bridged diverse cultures of organizations, government, business and citizens so that we better understand one another and better understand ourselves in way that we could not have without working at partnership. In addition to the original "external" objectives, the project sought to develop Bridges to Friendship as an entity and learn from that development. We have learned that the key components of our successes are commitment, capacity, and community champions. Key barriers have presented themselves as issues of trust, capacity, organizational cultures, politics and personality.

Partners
Action to Rehabilitate Community Housing (ARCH), Alice Hamilton Occupational Health Center, Covenant House Washington, Ellen Wilson Redevelopment LLC, Friendship House Association, Anacostia Economic Development Corporation (AEDC), Earth Conservation Corps. (ECC), Environmentors, Inc., STRIVE DC, Woman Friday, Women Like Us, Volt Services Group, DC Department of Employment Services (DOES), United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (inactive), United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) United States Department of Labor (DOL) United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), United States General Services Administration (GSA), United States Navy, Naval District Washington (NDW)

Pledged Partners
Alexandria Seaport Foundation, Building Bridges Across the River, South Washington / West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative, William C. Smith Construction, Woman Friday, Inc., The Low Impact Development Center Inc., S.T.E.P.U.P. Foundation, Sustainable DC, Sustainable Washington Alliance, D.C. Environmental Health Administration, D.C. Office of Planning, US Department of Transportation, US Department of Energy, US Department of Justice, US National Capitol Planning Commission

Designations
Bridges to Friendship was formalized (July 9, 1998) to orchestrate community, private sector, DC and federal agency activities to leverage the redevelopment of the Washington Navy Yard into comprehensive sustainable revitalization of SE/SW DC; the partnership was designated by the Navy as a vehicle to respond to the concerns of the Restoration Advisory Board (community representatives); Bridges to Friendship was cited as contributor and model in the 1998 DC "Citizens Plan for Prosperity in the 21st Century"; Bridges to Friendship was designated a National Demonstration Project of the Federal Interagency Environmental Justice Workgroup in 2000; and designated as a US Department of Labor Envirojobs pilot project in 2000.

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Bethel New Life Power Park Assessment

Chicago, Illinois *Lead Agency: Department of Energy*

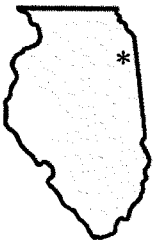
Federal partners will work to assist Bethel New Life, a faith-based community development corporation located in the West Garfield section of Chicago, Illinois, to fulfill its vision of turning the neighborhood's environmental liabilities into assets. The project will conduct a feasibility study to determine the opportunities for incorporating energy-efficient technologies. Bethel New Life's objective is to use the existing rail system links and convert a devastated abandoned industrial area into a revitalized economic center that provides much needed housing, jobs, commercial, and industrial redevelopment.

Bethel New Life, a faith-based community development corporation in Chicago, Illinois, is seeking to demonstrate the significant benefits that green development and distributed energy resources can provide in addressing the need for economic redevelopment and critical infrastructure issues, such as electricity reliability, air quality, and transportation. By working with the Department of Energy (DOE) and federal, state, local, and private and nonprofit partners, Bethel New Life hopes to develop an area in the West Garfield Park community of Chicago along Lake Street and Lake Pulaski into a "power park."

A feasibility study for the proposed project will examine the incorporation of distributed energy resources (including on-site power generation) and whether development as a power park would address summer air cooling needs without further taxing the city's power grid or generation capacity. The project might also enable better opportunities for using renewable resources while comprehensively addressing the energy needs of the target area.

The target community—the West Garfield Park section of Chicago—is a mostly African-American community (98 percent) with 40 percent of the residents living on incomes below the poverty level. The proposed mixed-use development would provide this community with a convenient location for resources such as a child development center, a medical clinic, a bank, a drug store, and other commercial spaces. The community also anticipates the availability of Welfare to Work training and employment through building and landscaping contractors at the site.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



The target community, the West Garfield section of Chicago, is a mostly African American (98%) community with 40% of the residents living below the poverty level. The proposed mixed-use development would provide this community with a convenient location for resources (e.g., child development center, medical clinic, bank, drug store, and other commercial spaces). The community also anticipates the availability of "welfare to work" training and employment, through building and landscaping contractors at the site.

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Intended Project Benefits

- Assessment of the energy opportunities that could enable the design and construction of a mixed-used development in the target area.
- Demonstration of energy-efficiency and environmental benefits of PEM fuel cells used in building applications.
- Completion of a feasibility study to look at how the Bethel New Life property could benefit from its development as a "power park" (in the long term, this study could be used to attract government grants and private development money for investment in this site).
- Redevelopment of the area to include a commercial center at a major transit stop that will provide the surrounding community with comfortable access to the local rail line.

Project Milestones

- Utilization of innovative technology and new urbanist design principles in design of transit oriented commercial center.
- Movement of work on a transit oriented commercial center from planning to readiness for construction in Spring 2001.
- Inclusion in the building of 80 child day care center, health center, pharmacy, employment services, and three franchise businesses.
- Integration of community residents in planning for this project.
- Commitments for significant funding and partnerships have been secured with City of Chicago Department of Environment, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development/City of Chicago Empowerment Zone, Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Development, and Chicago Transit Authority

Lessons Learned

While this represents an extraordinary opportunity for leveraging resources and technology to create a visionary model development in a distressed community, the full implementation of this vision will probably not take place. For example, the hoped for goal of incorporating cutting edge energy efficient and environmentally friendly fuel cells may not be achieved because of difficulties in securing commitments from federal agencies. To help overcome the persistent and time consuming problems in getting commitments from federal agencies to make these project work, Bethel New Life has suggested that clear lead agency with local presence and staff time allocation (such as an Interagency Personnel Assignment) would be helpful to moving projects along. In addition, attempting to do energy efficient environmentally cutting edge technology development means sometimes needing waivers, specific funding and approvals that take time and stall the development. However, it is important to attempt these efforts to demonstrate the application of new technologies towards healthier, sustainable urban communities.

Partners

Argonne National Laboratory, Bethel New Life, Inc., City of Chicago Department of Environment, Commonwealth Edison, US Department of Energy, Farr Associates, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, Illinois Energy Office, Institute of Gas Technology, Mantaky Realty Group, Mosaic Energy.

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Camden–City of Children Partnering for a Better Future

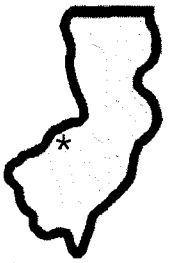
Camden, New Jersey *Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development*

Federal partners are working with local educational institutions in the distressed City of Camden, which has a high population of children, to build the capacity of residents, particularly youth, to address environmental justice issues by improving educational, economic development, and health care opportunities. Activities include (1) Asthma and Lead Poisoning Outreach, (2) Student Air Congress, (3) Rutgers University Masters Degree Program in Environmental Studies, and (4) Youth Corp Training.

The Camden project has been designed to ensure that the health of city's children in safeguarded for throughout all stages of their development. Manufacturing and related land use account for one-third of Camden's nine square miles, and brownfields constitute more than half of all industrial sites in the city. Abandoned industrial sites contain chemicals, transformers, and other contaminants that pose significant threats to human health. Through partnerships established as a result of this effort, however, school-age children are being targeted for the Asthma and Lead Poisoning Outreach and EMPACT program, high school dropouts have been targeted for Youth Corps Training, and the Partnership for Environmental Technology Education has been directed at college students. Additionally, opportunities exist for graduate students through the Rutgers Camden Campus's environmental sciences master's degree program.

Camden is the fifth poorest city in the United States and has been characterized as the most devastated city in America. One out of every three residents of Camden is living below the poverty line, the unemployment rate is 36 percent, and the city has a predominantly minority population. Almost one-third of the city's population (31,000 of the total 87,500) is children.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



Camden is the fifth poorest city in the United States and has been characterized as the most devastated city in America. In Camden: one out of every three residents is living below the poverty line; the unemployment rate is 36%; the population is mostly made up of minorities; and one-third of the population is children.

Intended Project Benefits

- Identification of areas of high risk for lead exposure and asthma triggers (through GIS mapping).
- Increasing of public awareness of dangers of asthma triggers and sources of lead and build the capacity of the community to reduce asthma triggers and lead sources.
- Development of mechanisms to facilitate the provision of healthy home environments for all community members, especially for children at risk from lead poisoning and asthma.
- Establishment of effective government, private, and community partnerships for environmental assessment and planning.

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- Monitoring of the completion of all site assessments, make preliminary assessment and site investigation reports readily available, and prioritize Camden's brownfields for redevelopment.
- Identification, compilation, and dissemination of information on lead issues for inner city New Jersey schools in partnership with government agencies and universities.
- Facilitation of recommendations for policy that effectively protect children from lead and asthma hazards.
- Establishment of a master's degree program in environmental studies by work with EPA Region 2, EPA Region 3, and Rutgers University in Camden.

Project Milestones

- Initiation of GIS mapping for areas of high lead exposures and asthma triggers.
- Dedication of the Lead Exploratorium (20 foot recreational vehicle equipped to teach preschool and grade school children about lead poisoning) in Summer 2000.
- Sponsorship of 57 Camden students for a summer youth environmental education program and create jobs for youths by offering a 150-hour brownfields assessment and cleanup job training program.
- Securing of $253,551 from EPA Office of Children's Health Protection.
- Improvements in screening and follow-up care for children at risk of exposure to lead and asthma-inducing allergens and train mothers of children with lead poisoning or asthma on abatement and control strategies.
- Initiation of an inventory of brownfields using a geographic information system in order to provide "one-stop shopping" for community groups and developers on site conditions and reuse potential.
- Bring of the National Science Foundation program to Camden schools, where students are doing environmental assessments in community.
- C Development of a complaint referral system for housing complaints the by County Health Department .

Lessons Learned

In Camden, evidence of need is so great that there is heightened awareness and willingness to cooperate. As a result, conditions for the project to succeed are there. However, collaboration among the diverse partners have proven successful due to leadership provided by one individual. A great challenge for this project is developing a strategy to transfer this leadership so that the project is sustainable. The specific local agencies involved–specifically, the Office of Economic Opportunities–do have a comprehensive model in place. However, there needs to be strategies which can leverage support from the parent federal agencies so that collaboration can be fostered in an ongoing manner.

Partners

Rutgers University, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-School of Osteopathic Medicine, County of Camden Environmental Health Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Health and Human Services (Health Resources and Services Administration-HRSA), Center for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Labor, Housing and Urban Development.

Easing Troubled Waters: Ensuring Safe Drinking Water Sources in Migrant Farm Worker Communities in Colorado

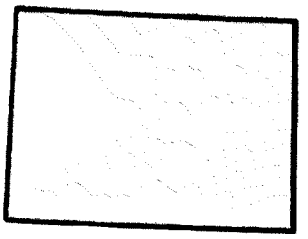
State of Colorado *Lead Agency: Environmental Protection Agency*

A new partnership has been created among environmental and community groups, educational institutions, and government agencies to identify the location and assess the safety of drinking water sources for Colorado migrant farm worker camps. The network created by these partnerships will be used to more effectively deliver human health and environmental services in the future.

Although many health problems found in the general population also affect migrant farm workers, in many cases the frequency or intensity of the problem is greater within the migrant population than in the population at large. Migrant farm workers in the United States represent a diverse group of people. About 85 percent are from minority groups—Hispanics (65 percent), African Americans, Jamaicans, Haitians, Laotians, and Thais. While contributions made by migrant farm workers are essential to the U.S. economy, an estimated 61 percent of farm workers live in poverty. Additionally, migrant farm workers are often found to be living with a number of health problems related to their working environments, yet fewer than 20 percent are served by accessible health care centers.

A 1997 report issued by the U.S. Department of Labor(DOL) found that more than 300,000 workers a year are poisoned by pesticides. A variety of contaminants may affect drinking water sources in these areas, including organophosphates and other pesticides from agricultural runoff, chemicals from nearby industrial facilities, and lead and biological contaminants resulting from structural sources such as defective plumbing and sewer lines. In addition to the direct exposure facing workers, children may also be affected. They come into contact with pesticides through residue from their parents' clothing, dust tracked into their homes, contaminated soil in areas where they play, food brought directly from the fields to the table, and contaminated well water.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



This project will address the drinking water concerns of migrant farm workers in various parts of Colorado.

Intended Project Benefits

- Development of geographic information system (GIS) maps of migrant farm worker camps and water sources.
- Assessment of available water quality data for these camps.
- Conducing of additional water testing for identified sites.
- Recommendations for changes to federal policies regarding testing of migrant worker water sources as a result of data analysis and interagency/worker dialogue.

- Development of an interagency and community plan to address communication and education needs.
- Development of a database to track issues such as migrant farm worker camp locations, water source location and types of contamination, and the number of workers at specific sites to ensure the provision of safe drinking water.
- Building of a sustainable support network to implement policy and communication changes.

Project Milestones

- Development of a database of relevant agency and organization contacts.
- Development of a database of migrant farm worker camp locations and water supply data.
- Development of preliminary GIS maps of migrant worker camps and water sources.
- Sampling of drinking water in selected camps for coliform, lead and pesticides.
- Development of protocols to address unsafe drinking water in migrant camps that receive water from a public water supply.
- Beginning of an educational effort with growers and contractors regarding SDWA requirement.

Lessons Learned

The project has learned that there is much common ground between various federal, state and community agencies and organizations, around which the project can center. Different areas of expertise and knowledge can be combined together to further project goals, and in fact expand upon the original goals. Finding ways of working together has resulted in different benefits, such as the fact that information being developed as a team has applicability to all of the project partners. The project has also discovered that developing a comprehensive statewide database for migrant farmworker camps and drinking water sources is a time-consuming process that must be accomplished over time. For example, additional information that is uncovered needs to be incorporated into the database. The benefits overall have far exceeds the costs. The project is also building sustainable networks to implement changes within this community. We have also realized that agricultural growers have a deep fear of governmental regulation as they have such a low profit margin, that any unexpected cost can put them out of business.

Partners

Plan de Salud del Valle (Salud Family Health Center), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Colorado Department of Labor, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado State University—High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety, Cooperative Extension Service, National Center for Farmworker Health.

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Appendix II

INDIVIDUAL INTERAGENCY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT REPORTS

Environmental Justice and Public Participation Through Technology: Defeating the Digital Divide and building Community Capacity

Savannah, Georgia & Fort Belknap, Montana ***Lead Agency: Department of Energy***

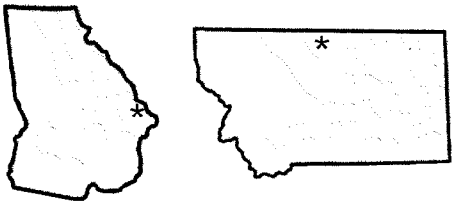
This partnership of federal, tribal, and local agencies, community organizations, and historically black colleges and universities is working to help communities gain access to information technology and gain capacity to participate in environmental decision making. Federal agencies will provide both computers and technical assistance to establish community technology centers. The project will target two communities: the first in Savannah, Georgia and the second at the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. These will serve as models for eventual replication by other communities and tribes. Along with federal agencies, Howard University will provide training and ongoing technical support.

In 1992, the EPA chartered the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee (FFERDC) to examine issues surrounding environmental cleanup at federal facilities. The committee made a series of recommendations that were designed to improve environmental cleanup decision making at federal facilities. One such recommendation stated that federal, state, tribal, and local governments need to make special efforts to consult with groups that have been commonly excluded from this process, such as minority, low-income, rural and inner-city residents, and Native American communities. The committee further stated that these groups need assistance to expand and develop their capacities where needed to participate in cleanup decision-making processes.

The development of community technology centers to provide access to computers and the Internet for these underrepresented groups is one way to empower them in environmental decision-making processes. These technology centers will enable the target communities to participate in information exchanges and policy-formation dialogues. The proposed community technology center three-year project will allow federal and non-federal partners to combine resources to develop model community technology centers in an environmental justice community and a Native American community that will have applicability across similar stakeholder communities.

The project will target two communities: the

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



The project will target two communities: the first in Savannah, Georgia and the second at Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in Montana. A partnership of federal, tribal, and local agencies, community organizations, and historically black colleges and universities will work to help these communities gain access to information technology and gain capacity to participate in environmental decision making. These activities will serve as models for eventual replication by other communities and tribes.

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first in Savannah, Georgia, and the second at the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in Montana. A partnership of federal, tribal, and local agencies, community organizations, and historically black colleges and universities will work to help these communities gain access to information technology and gain capacity to participate in environmental decision making. These activities will serve as models for eventual replication by other communities and tribes.

Intended Project Benefits

- Creation of community technology centers to give communities access to federal agencies and a wide range of environmental information on the Internet.
- Availability of training programs that include computer-based tools: toxic release data; chemical and risk assessment information; and community economics.
- Creation and implementation of youth development programs.
- Availability of economic development tools, entrepreneurship training, and other resources such as proposal writing and grant management to make the technology centers self-sufficient.
- Availability of continuous technical assistance from historically black colleges and universities and other sources via the Internet and e-mail.
- Identification of ways to evaluate experiences and identify ways to replicate project benefits for other communities.

Project Milestones

- Establishment of two partnerships between federal agencies, Howard University and (1)Citizens for Environmental Justice and City of Savannah, and (2) Fort Belknap Indian Community Council.
- Creation of community technology centers by providing excess federal agency computers.
- Making available training programs that focus on computer-based and Internet research, GIS and Landview 3 computer tools, access to information systems.
- Establishment of supervision of community use of training and tools.
- Development of a technical assistance Web site (TechNet) and listserve.
- Conducting of a research meeting with the targeted communities and others to discuss experiences, lessons learned, and implications for the future; and
- Conducting of a research project to evaluate the results and examine the implications for program modification and replication.

Lessons Learned

The project engages federal agencies, tribal and city governments, HBCUs and Tribal colleges, and non-profit organizations that do not commonly work together on projects. By creating these partnerships, the project is able to utilize resources to effectively and economically establish community technology centers. In addition, community excitement is generating other uses for the centers that will help build the overall educational, technical capacity of the communities. One barrier to be overcome is determining the proper process by which to donate surplus computer equipment. For example, every department has different paperwork and requirements and many personnel are unfamiliar with the process, thus creating confusion. The project concept however is broad enough to fit into just about any mission or programmatic goal that an

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agency may have. Through communication and coordination, the project was able to "cut and paste" this project to fit the goals and missions of participating agencies.

Partners

Citizens for Environmental Justice, City of Savannah, Fort Belknap Indian Community Council, Howard University Urban Environment Institute, DOE Office of Intergovernmental and Public Accountability, Environmental Protection Agency.

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Oregon Environmental Justice Initiative

Portland and Rural Communities, Oregon ***Lead Agency: Department of Justice***

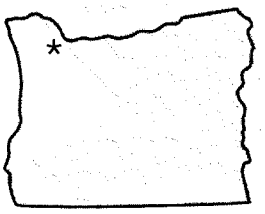
A partnership comprising federal, tribal, state, and local government and community partners will work to accomplish three community-identified needs in the State of Oregon that impact children's health: reduce lead exposure in urban areas, reduce pesticide exposure in rural areas, and eliminate illegal dumping on tribal lands. The initiative will include targeted inspections. It will also include community-based research, outreach, and education projects such as a mobile lab for blood lead testing; development of PC-based geographic information system profile of Oregon consisting of environmental and health databases; community-based environmental monitoring; two federal-tribal-state summits; and "Safe Food"—a farm worker, youth-designed research project to identify pesticide residues.

The Environmental Justice Initiative for the District of Oregon is a multi-year partnership comprising federal, tribal, state, and local government and community partners. Through the support of state government and community-based organizations, the Initiative has generated sustainable support to achieve a goal of the Children's Health Initiative: reducing the risk of lead paint exposure.

By helping communities educate themselves and establish relationships with agencies that can help them positively affect their environmental concerns, the federal partners hope to increase the lead-safe housing stock, increase testing for lead poisoning for at-risk children, and reduce pesticide exposure for farm workers and their children through state-led inspections and appropriate judicial force.

Although the Oregon Environmental Justice Initiative is focusing on the needs of children, farmworkers, and tribes in Portland and surrounding rural communities, the Initiative responds to several important national health-related concerns. This approach to problem-solving, using the tools of enforcement and community-based research and education, can be duplicated and emulated in other Regions.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



Although the Oregon Environmental Justice Initiative is focusing on the needs of children, farmworkers, and tribes in Portland and surrounding rural communities, it responds to several national health related concerns. This approach to problem-solving, using the tools of enforcement and community-based research and education, can be duplicated and emulated in other regions.

Intended Project Benefits

- Promotion of place-based partnerships with grassroots community groups, local, state, and tribal governments, business, unions, community service non-profit organizations; the academic community; and the media.
- Leveraging of federal resources to address three community-identified needs–reduction

of lead exposure in urban areas, reduction of pesticide exposure in rural areas, and elimination of illegal dumping on tribal lands.

Project Milestones

- Establishment of a framework for interagency, multimedia, collaborations with communities, with concrete measures of success.
- Creation of an Environmental Justice Working Group.
- Implementation of an enforcement strategy through targeted inspections in environmental justice communities to address lead, pesticides, and illegal dumping on tribal lands.
- Creation of a mobile lab for blood lead testing.
- Development of a PC-based geographic information system profile of Oregon that consists of environmental and health databases.
- Hosting of summits of local, state, and federal representatives with community presenters.
- Institution of community-based environmental monitoring.
- Implementation of the "Safe Food" project, which will assist in identifying pesticide residues in the home; measure levels of exposure to pesticides in food, water, and the immediate home environment; and assess ways to deliver culturally appropriate prevention strategies in order to increase pesticide avoidance behaviors and decrease levels of environmental exposure to pesticides.

Lessons Learned

Networking with community based organizations has resulted in adequate community capacity to engage in a meaningful way with the government. However this must be matched with equal level of funding and support for government staff. Perhaps surprisingly, the project managers' strength lies in the community contacts they have each developed over the past several years' of community capacity building conducted through community-based environmental protection initiatives spearheaded by EPA Region 10 and the Office of US Attorney.

Partners

U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon, US Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Albina Weed & Seed Project, CREATE, Environmental Justice Action Group (EJAG), Environmental Justice Work Group (EJWG), Governor's Environmental Justice Advisory Board (GEJAB), King Neighborhood Association, Multnomah County Health Department, Oregon Environmental Council, Oregon Legal Services, Oregon OSHA, Oregon State Health Division, Pinerose y Campesinos Unidoes del Noroesta (PCUN), City of Portland Water Bureau, Urban League of Portland.

INDIVIDUAL INTERAGENCY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT REPORTS

Greater Boston Urban Resources Partnership: Connecting Community and Environment

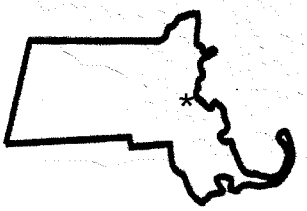
Boston, Massachusetts ***Lead Agency: Environmental Protection Agency***

The Greater Boston Resources Partnership (GB-URP), an ongoing partnership of 39 community-based organizations, universities, and federal, state, and local agencies, acts as a liaison between community-defined needs and available federal resources in order to respond to critical community issues. In this way it seeks to better utilize existing technical and financial resources. Federal agencies participating as members of GB-URP include the US Department of Agriculture and Environmental Protection Agency. These agencies utilize GB-URP to promote community-based planning and implementation of natural resource projects in selected under-served urban communities.

A key initiative of GB-URP focuses on the restoration of Chelsea Creek–the most polluted tributary to the Boston Harbor–by working with local residents to transform the area into a recreational, educational, and economic resource. In this way, it seeks to improve the environment and public health of predominantly minority and low-income populations. Leadership for restoration and revitalization of Chelsea Creek is being provided by three GB-URP community non-profit partners, i.e., Chelsea Human Services Collaborative, Chelsea Greenspace & Recreation Committee, and the Watershed Institute.

The main area of emphasis is Chelsea, Somerville and Boston. In 1999, Greater Boston's multiracial population totaled 574,283, accounting for 41 percent of Chelsea's and 24 percent of East Boston's populations. The unemployment rate in Chelsea is 12.1 percent, and it is 11 percent in East Boston. Nearly 51 percent of the residents of Roxbury live at or below the poverty level.

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?



The main areas of emphasis will be Chelsea, Somerville, and Boston, Mass. In 1999, Greater Boston's multiracial population totaled 574,283; making up 41% of Chelsea's and 24% of East Boston's populations. The unemployment rates in Chelsea and East Boston are 12.1 % and 11%. Nearly 51 % of the residents of Roxbury live at or below the poverty level.

Intended Project Benefits

- Encouragement of and creation of opportunities for meaningful community involvement, serve community needs, and provide community benefits.
- Establishment of mechanism for matching financial and technical resources with community needs.
- Fostering of cooperation among residents and government officials for the enhancement of the urban environment.
- Servicing of and involvement of low-income communities and minorities that have traditionally had little access to environmental resources in planning and decision making.

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- Development of a plan for long-term sustainability and improvements that addresses community environmental education and improvement needs.
- Partnering with the Chelsea Creek Action Group (CCAG) to work with local residents to build public awareness, promote public access, clean up contaminated land, and transform the Chelsea Creek into a recreational, educational, and economic resource for the communities and region.

Project Milestones

- Awarding of eleven projects to Greater Boston Urban Resources Partnership, with a total funding of $265,000.
- Granting of funding in amount of $38,500, provided by EPA.
- Beginning of work with Worcester Polytechnic Institute and community partners to create first-of-its kind interactive database of GB-URP funded environmental and public health projects in Greater Boston area.
- Hosting of a regional summit on asthma titled "Environmental Justice Children's Initiative," designed to develop a strategy for filling the gaps in current action on asthma and to emphasize prevention of exposure to known triggers in homes, schools, and the outside environments.
- Beginning of work with community partners, federal agencies, state and local agencies, local businesses, academia to conduct community-based comparative risk assessment for Chelsea Creek.

Lessons Learned

The Initiative demonstrates the value of federal agency partnerships to effectively deliver technical and financial assistance and other services to the public, and involves low-income and minority communities that have traditionally had limited access to environmental resources. The Project also demonstrates sustainability in recognition that many environmental issues may not be adequately addressed without the combined resources of federal, state, and local governments and the capacity building at the community level, in order to develop long term solutions from a "bottom up" approach. Improved communication between partners, environmental and public health fairs, and a broad array of educational resources targeted towards educating the community have resulted from these partnerships.

Partners

City of Boston, , US Department of Agriculture (Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service), US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement, Tufts University and the Watershed Institute.

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Environmental Justice in Indian Country: A Roundtable to Address Conceptual, Political and Statutory Issues

Albuquerque, New Mexico *Lead Agency: Department of Energy*

Federal agencies in collaboration with tribes, tribal organizations, and other interested parties conducted a roundtable to thoroughly discuss and identify means to address the broad range of tribal cultural, religious, economic, social, legal and other issues related to environmental justice in Indian country and among Alaska Natives. The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (IWG) made a commitment to ensure Native American and Alaska Native concerns were not overlooked and that tribal environmental justice issues were seriously considered. However, a major barrier towards moving forward was the lack of clarity on how to properly interpret and implement the principles of environmental justice, and adhere to the government to government working relationship and the federal-tribal trust responsibilities.

The "American Indian and Alaska Native Environmental Justice Roundtable" was convened on August 3-4, 200 in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) to address these concerns. Over 150 participants identified issues and recommended strategies to assist policy-makers in the development of a forward-thinking, comprehensive environmental policy that recognizes and fosters the unique relationship between environmental protection, human health, environmental justice, and economic development. It provided an opportunity for communications between federal officials, tribal elected officials, tribal community members, environmental protection experts, state and local officials, academia, business/industry, and grassroots organizations. Impetus for this roundtable came as a request during the July 1999 conference, "Environmental Justice: Strengthening the Bridge Between Economic Development and Sustainable Communities."

WHERE IS THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITY?

The Roundtable assembled a representative group of American Indians, Alaskan natives, environmental protection experts, legal scholars, ethicists, tribal elders, religious leaders, cultural specialists, policy experts, and others from around the nation to identify and address the issues associated with environmental justice in Indian Country.

Intended Project Benefits

- Greater communication, understanding and trust between and among federal agencies and tribal governments, tribal citizens, state governments and other groups.
- Recommendations for addressing five (5) core issues:
  - < Federal government's responsibilities for environmental justice in Indian country and among Alaska Natives.
  - < Tribal governments's responsibility for addressing environmental justice concerns.
  - < States' responsibilities for addressing environmental justice in Indian country.
  - < Implications of environmental justice for industrial development in Indian country.
  - < Collaboration of tribal, federal, and state governments to address human health and environmental justice.

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Project Milestones

- Production of a comprehensive report of the Roundtable with recommendations. (completed January 31, 2001).
- Continued review of the report to identify opportunities for interagency collaboration to enhance environmental justice in Indian country and among Alaska Natives, by the IWG American Indian and Alaska Natives Task Force.

Lessons Learned

Environmental Justice is a prevailing concern in Indian country and among Alaska Natives. As stated in the Executive Summary of the Roundtable report, "American Indian and Alaskan Natives value the environment differently than non-natives...(tribes) use and manage the environment holistically; everything is living and has a spirit. Thus many federal and state environmental laws and regulations...do not address the needs and concerns of (tribes). Land-based resources are the most important assets to tribes spiritually, culturally, and economically." The Roundtable participants defined environmental justice in terms of injustices. Many of these injustices are due to an inadequate understanding of the special legal relationship between the federal government and the federally-recognized tribes. The lack of understanding of tribal sovereignty, federal-trust responsibility, government-to-government relationship, treaty rights, and tribal citizenship continues to hinder the development and implementation of effective federal programs and activities for or of interest to tribes. Progress is being made, although limited, as more and more federal agencies work to develop "tribal policies" and "tribal consultation" strategies, and provide "Working Effectively with Tribal Governments" training for their managers and staffs. Similar steps are being taken by some states as well. Greater attention and support needs to be given to federal tribal programs and tribal environmental programs so environmental injustices can effectively be addressed. Through these efforts, the three forms of sovereign governments (federal, state and tribal) will be in a better position to more effectively provide for environmental protection, public health, and economic development for all communities in our Nation.

Partners

Department of Energy. Department of Health and Human Services (Indian Health Service, Administration for Native Americans), Department of Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Reclamation), Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Defense, Department of Agriculture, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Bonneville Power Administration, Council of Energy Resource Tribes, Medical University of South Carolina, Lockheed

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COMMUNITY-BASED WORK

(FINAL DRAFT: 04/14/16, version 2)

OBJECTIVE

Achieve meaningful and sustainable improvements in overburdened areas through the strategic deployment of Agency community-based and core programmatic resources in a cross-agency manner that helps to build the capacity of our community partners, while establishing community-based work as a routine means of achieving our mission.

EPA has a significant history of working closely with communities, beginning with the Superfund Involvement program in the 1980s and through the community-driven efforts such as the Watershed Protection Approach, and continuing in the '90s with the initiation of environmental justice and community-based participatory research grants and the launch of its Brownfields Program to clean up and restore contaminated sites to productive community use. The many powerful and inspiring results from this work support the need to ensure that EPA continues to focus this work on overburdened communities. The many lessons EPA has gained will inform how to engage communities in carrying out the mission of protecting health and the environment, while at the same time fostering partnerships to build healthier, more prosperous and sustainable places to live, work and play. EPA is seizing this opportunity to bring the expertise and knowledge to all parts of the Agency, as well as the federal partners, to community-based work. To advance these efforts to a new level, EPA will undertake the following strategies:

- Improve on-the-ground results by incorporating environmental justice and community-based work as a part of how EPA core regulatory programs achieve our mission of protecting public health and the environment;
- Expand the positive impact of EPA's community-based efforts by building stronger on-the-ground partnerships with communities and involving our federal partners and state, tribal and local governments, academia, business, philanthropy and other sectors; and
- Build the capacity of communities to take part in critical environmental and public health issues that impact them through the sharing of tools and other resources.

All areas of EJ 2020 will contribute to improving environmental and public health results for overburdened communities. This chapter focuses on EPA's community-based work, which is one aspect of those activities. EPA will support much of its community-based work by using and building on its existing efforts and programs, including the Community Resource Network (CRN)[1], EJ Coordinators, Superfund Community Involvement Coordinators, Brownfields Coordinators, and other efforts that work directly in and with communities.

PROGRAM AND REGIONAL LEADS:

Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM), Region 3, Region 10 will be ongoing leads for this implementation plan and will work collaboratively on this effort.

STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Strategy 1: Improve on-the-ground results by incorporating environmental justice and community-

[1] The CRN, established as a key component of the Agency's MVD cross-agency strategy, is an internal network that promotes the development and coordination of community-based resources and best practices across all EPA programs and regions. It seeks to provide EPA staff with the tools needed to work effectively work with and in communities. The CRN is developing a public facing portal to provide resources to communities.

based work as a part of how EPA core regulatory programs achieve our mission of protecting public health and the environment.

EPA will institutionalize environmental justice and community-based work throughout the Agency to achieve greater community-level collaboration, leveraging of resources and visible on-the-ground differences. In our regulatory work, EPA will be guided by the *EJ Legal Tools* document, which outlines the many ways in which EPA's authorizing statutes connect to environmental justice goals. EPA will promote lessons learned from the work in overburdened communities within EPA's strategic planning framework so as to successfully incorporate EJ into the core work of permitting, regulating chemical use, enforcement, environmental cleanup, and emergency response.

Action 1.1: Strengthen on-the-ground results in overburdened communities by applying best practices of our community based work.

EPA will build on and highlight the best practices from previous and ongoing work which has produced the most positive and meaningful results in overburdened communities. These practices will be promoted through an interactive on-line Community Practice site. The site will be actively managed and updated as internal and external feedback on other effective or more innovative practices are documented, developed and evaluated. Such practices range from ways to connect community-based efforts with technical assistance, training, and leveraging resources to opportunities for teaching and learning between EPA staff, communities and other governmental partners. Through this process, EPA will continue to incorporate best practices into regular day-to-day core program and regulatory work.

EPA will also promote the routine use of best practices by its core programs through our strategic planning framework. EPA will report on the results of this effort, and will include public feedback and an independent evaluation (similar to the external evaluation method used to evaluate the former EPA CARE program) of how well environmental justice and community-based work has been incorporated into the Agency's core programs. The Community Practice Compendium and other best practices will also be available to communities and other Federal Agencies in order to affirm and continue our commitment to Executive Order 12898.

Action 1.2: Strengthen the procedures and practices associated with collecting, following-up on and responding to citizen tips and complaints.

EPA will strengthen its procedures and practices associated with citizen tips and complaints and will elevate matters of critical public health concern. EPA will promote the use of existing citizens' concerns reporting systems (e.g., www.epa.gov/tips, regional tips and complaints hotlines, EJ hotline) in regional and headquarter offices, public meetings and other community involvement activities. EPA will develop and distribute outreach on such tools so communities know they exist and understand how to use them.

Action 1.3: EPA will collaborate to support community-based approaches.

EPA's national programs will maintain and support strategic community-based work. This work includes support for EPA's regulatory activities, such as enhanced outreach including resources for translation and interpretation where needed. Flexible National Program resources will continue to be prioritized to support EPA's community-based partnerships in Activity 2.1, through targeted technical assistance mechanisms, for example.

Strategy 2: Expand the positive impact of EPA's efforts by building stronger on-the-ground partnerships with communities and multiple partners to tackle some of our country's greatest community challenges.

When community-based organizations lead collaborative partnerships, they are better able to address the challenges they often face by partnering with a wide array of stakeholders. This strategy is intended to complement and promote the work of such community-driven collaborative partnerships and increase opportunities for meaningful community engagement, problem-solving and revitalization.

Action 2.1 Address environmental quality and human health challenges in America's most overburdened communities.

By better integrating community-based work into EPA's core programs, EPA will implement a community-based initiative in support of its mission of protecting human health and the environment. EPA will focus on vulnerable communities with some of the most difficult environmental and human health challenges. Using best practices, EPA will use the broader strategy to infuse the community-based approach throughout the Agency's work. First, the initiative will develop an open and transparent community-driven engagement process. Second, EPA will focus on extending its community-based approach, collaborating with local, state, tribal and federal partners. EPA will center on a community's identified goals, priorities, needs and challenges. These partnerships can start from already established community-driven collaborative efforts or help to establish such, with the goal of more effectively aligning resources and technical assistance to improve human health and the environment in these communities. EPA also understands and appreciates that local economic conditions correlate with local environmental and human health conditions, and that economically vibrant communities are healthier communities. Therefore, EPA will act as convener, and where appropriate, the initiative will support community revitalization in America's economically distressed cities and neighborhoods by partnering with federal agencies, states, and other entities that support sustainable economic development approaches.

Strategy 3: Build the capacity of communities to take part in critical environmental and public health issues that impact them through the sharing of tools and other resources.

Action 3.1: Strengthen awareness and utilization of EPA's and other federal agencies' grant and technical assistance programs.

EPA's program and regional offices will work with community-based grant, cooperative agreement and technical assistance programs such as the Technical Assistance Services for Communities, EJ grants, Urban Waters, Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities, and Brownfields to identify areas for increased outreach and training on EPA's grants and technical assistance programs. EPA will develop and update annually a guide of resources available to communities (e.g., financial, educational, informational, technical, etc.), which will include other Federal resources through the assistance of the EJ Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG).

Action 3.2: Support the establishment of a network of past and current recipients of EPA community-based grants through formal networking and information-sharing opportunities.

Through existing avenues, such as the EJ Small Grantee Workshop and the Brownfields Conference, EPA will offer workshops and sessions to bring together past and current recipients of the EJ, CARE (Community Action for a Renewed Environment), Urban Waters and other community-based grant programs. The purpose of each workshop will be to share inspirational accomplishments, promising practices and mutual learning from each EPA grantee, while also providing other Regional programs, federal, state and local partners, and to provide an opportunity to better understand their communities' challenges. These opportunities can serve as a regular forum for EPA personnel, community leaders and other partners (e.g. foundations) to gather for networking, strategic planning, cross-fertilization of ideas and training.

Action 3.3: Strengthen use of social media and other communications tools to promote the replication of real-life models of success and network building and the wider use of promising practices.
EPA will use social media and other online tools to promote real life stories of EJ stakeholders from across the country that educate, inspire, and offer lessons to improve community practice. These tools will include blogs and videos on the Environmental Justice in Action Blog, and webinars and trainings on key issues. Through existing networks, EPA will create a more interactive, innovative, collaborative tool to engage overburdened communities on existing resources and assistance.

Action 3.4: Promote youth engagement and the development of the next generation of leaders proficient in meeting EJ challenges.
EPA will put a special emphasis on engaging youth on the intersection of environmental justice and climate change. The EJ IWG will focus on developing the next generation of climate justice leaders and expanding partnerships with Minority Serving Institutions. EPA will work with the NEJAC to expand youth perspectives, including ways to address climate change impacts on overburdened and vulnerable communities. EPA will use programs like the Community University Partnership and others which connect EPA program resources with academic and community based organizations.

MEASURES

- Report the number of tip/complaints received, broken out by program and/or location through Regional and Headquarters websites.

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North Birmingham Update - April 2014

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

EPA's Guiding Principles:
- Use Sound Science
- Follow the rule of law in our decision-making
- Incorporate transparency into our actions

Fact Sheet hyperlinked by Program: Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division; Superfund Division; Integrated Project Planning Coalition; Water Protection Division; RCRA Division; Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability; Enforcement/Office of Environmental Accountability/NEPA

Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division
Beverly H. Banister, Director

Issue: Air Toxics Risk Assessment

Update: The North Birmingham air toxics risk assessment was presented to political leaders, neighborhood leaders, and the community during several meetings held on April 1 and 2 in the North Birmingham community. Information was presented by EPA, the Jefferson County Department of Health, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. EPA and JCDH staff communicated that the results of the risk assessment indicated that the potential cancer risks calculated for the four neighborhoods based on the year of air toxics data collected are within the range EPA considers acceptable, though at the upper end of that range. In response to the results, EPA and JCDH committed to ongoing enforcement of regulations and supporting community efforts to further reduce air toxics risks through nonregulatory approaches. EPA offered to attend future neighborhood meetings to further discuss the risk assessment results if necessary. EPA will also coordinate with JCDH concerning in the development of an air permits training workshops that will be offered to the North Birmingham community later this year in early summer.

Contact: Egide Louis

Issue: Toxics Release Inventory

Update: EPA HQ is developing a guide for assessing Pollution Prevention (P2) Opportunities Using the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI). EPA will communicate the results of this analysis when it is completed, which is expected to be in spring 2014. The analyses, in combination with the results of the air toxics risk assessment, are expected to help focus efforts to reduce pollution in the North Birmingham area

Contact: Ezequiel Velez

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Issue: Emergency Evacuation Plan

Update: A draft Community Response Plan has been developed with input from local responders in North Birmingham and Walter Coke in response to community concerns about emergency evacuations. The plan addresses railway crossing blockage in emergency situations. The plan is currently under review by Walter Coke and a meeting will be coordinated in the future to present the plan to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). EPA has requested that the community be allowed to review and comment on the plan prior to release and has committed to assisting the LEPC with outreach and distribution of the plan within the community. A draft Community Response Plan is being developed with input from local responders in North Birmingham and Walter Coke in response to community concerns about emergency evacuations. The plan is to address railway crossing blockage in emergency situations. The plan is currently being drafted and reviewed by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). EPA has requested that the community be allowed to review and comment on the plan prior to release and has committed to assisting the LEPC with outreach and distribution of the plan within the community. The LEPC stated on February 25, 2014 that they plan to have the draft ready for EPA review by March 28, 2014.

Contact: Erika White

Superfund Division ■
Franklin E. Hill, Director

Issue: Superfund Removal Activities

Update: The EPA's soil sampling activities were completed in June of 2013 and targeted home-garden sampling event in July 2013. EPA issued sample result letters, of their respective properties, to owners and tenants. The letter states that residents may contact the EPA Community Outreach Office at (205) 326-8640 if they have questions or concerns about the results. Enclosed with the letters are Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that offer further explanation about the sampling results and other outreach/health education materials about the site related contaminants.

Superfund Removal Program began Phase I of the soil removal activities in mid February 2014. Efforts are focused on the properties where the highest levels of contamination were identified during soil sampling. Phase I activities include removing or digging up the contaminated soils from the properties and replacing or backfilling with soil that was sampled and determined to be clean. EPA staff and contractors are stationed at the Old Carver High School, where a site office trailer, staging area for equipment, stock pile for contaminated soil and a stock pile of clean backfill soil has been established. The contaminated stockpiled soils will be sampled and sent to an approved landfill for disposal. Approximately 50 properties are slated for removal activities in Phase I. EPA expects to complete Phase I activities in the fall of 2014.

EPA is assessing the remaining properties which exceed the Removal Management Levels to determine the appropriate actions to be taken. During the December 2013 public meeting property owners who had not provided access were offered the opportunity to provide access to the EPA for initial soil sampling. EPA has gained access to an additional six (6) properties.

North Birmingham Update - April 2014

Contacts: Stephanie Brown, Greg Harper, Rick Jardine

Issue: Community Involvement

Update: Northern Birmingham Community Coalition (NBCC, Coalition)
As part of our regional Superfund Reuse Initiative, EPA Region 4 sponsored the formation of the Northern Birmingham Community Coalition (NBCC, Coalition) to plan for future revitalization of the communities of northern Birmingham (including the North Birmingham, Fairmont, Collegeville and Harriman Park neighborhoods) in tandem with an EPA led removal and clean-up process currently underway near the35th Ave. Superfund site. The Coalition includes neighborhood representatives as well as business, faith, academic and non-profit groups, community leaders and government agencies. The NBCC has been having monthly contractor facilitated meetings since March 2013, and over the past year has identified the following priorities for further exploration in this planning process:

- Increased access to health care and health facilities to improve health outcomes;
- Promote commercial revitalization with a particular focus on access to grocery stores and affordable, healthy food, and neighborhood-oriented shopping and Service stations;
- Improving housing conditions, with a particular focus on rehab of existing housing and stemming housing demolition.

The NBCC has drafted a Charter, selected Membership and resource partners and has held training and capacity building workshops, and a site visit to Spartanburg, SC. Data on existing conditions has been gathered and GIS maps for the neighborhoods has been developed highlighting a range of disparities. The end result will be that the NBCC will develop and present their action plan identifying their recommendations for revitalization to the wider community in August or September of 2014. The NBCC is working closely with the Greater Birmingham Regional Planning Commission to ensure that their Action Plan complements the City of Birmingham's Comprehensive Plan.

Contact: Stephanie Brown

Update: The Enforcement Team is continuing efforts to gather evidence and identify responsible parties with planned interviews during the week of April 27th in Birmingham, Alabama. These interviews will be conducted with individuals who have relevant information/knowledge about industry operations within and near the site boundary area. At present, the targeted individuals to be interviewed are former employees, residents and community leaders. If you have or know individuals who may have relevant information, you may contact us at 1-888-550-8406.

Contacts: Carolyn McCall, Jim Snow, Ray Strickland

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Water Protection Division
Jim Giattina, Director

Issue: Water Protection Division conducted inspections at Walter Coke, Inc and ABC Coke in 2012/2011

Update: The EPA issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to Walter Coke, Inc. on April 18, 2013 for operating under a Best Management Practice plan in expiration since 2010 and for failure to properly preserve samples at outfall 002. The NOV requires Walter Coke to provide an update to all unaddressed deficiencies identified in the September and December 2011 Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) reports. Additionally, a Letter of Concern (LOC) was issued to ABC Coke on May 10, 2013 for using incorrect methods to analyze some of its samples. The LOC also noted four unauthorized discharges draining to the stormwater treatment pond. ABC Coke is required to update the EPA by mid June on actions taken or planned to address all deficiencies identified in the LOC.

Contact: Denisse D. Diaz, Chief Clean Water Enforcement Branch

RCRA Division
G. Alan Farmer, Director

Issue: Onsite Cleanup at Walter Coke Facility

Update: The EPA, following an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC), is working with Walter Coke to addresses cleanup inside the fence line and contamination that is migrating off-site since the AOC was signed a year and a half ago.

The EPA recently reached its one year anniversary for the operational groundwater clean-up at the Former Chemical Plant area of the Walter Coke property. The purpose of this ongoing work was to eliminate the off-site release of contaminated groundwater and was installed by Walter Coke with EPA oversight. This system is pumping contaminated groundwater out of the ground, treating and disposing of this groundwater properly, and the objective is to "pull" the contaminated plume back onto the property, with eventual elimination of the plume. (*Note: There are no drinking water wells in the vicinity of this groundwater plume.) As part of this effort, a Vapor Intrusion Characterization was undertaken by Walter Coke at one residence across the street from Walter Coke on F.L. Shuttlesworth Drive, whereby soil gas, ambient air and crawlspace air sampling has been conducted since May 2013. This study has been in coordination with the property owner and as of March 2014, three quarterly samples have been collected. EPA is reviewing the results to date.

Most recently, the EPA is continuing to work closely with Walter Coke on finalizing a clean-up study for the Biological Treatment Facility area of the property (the first geographic area targeted). This study develops protective cleanup goals and evaluates cleanup options that can achieve these goals. The most effective cleanup option will be recommended. It is anticipated that this draft study will be approved as a "final draft" study by EPA in late Spring 2014. The public will be allowed to comment on the recommended cleanup presented in the "final draft" study for this first area of the facility.

Cleanup studies in other areas of the Walter Coke property are as follows:

* CMSs for SMAs #2 (Land Disposal Area), #3 (Coke Manufacturing Plant), and CMS for SMA #4 (Former Chemical Plant are under review by EPA.
* CMS for SMA #5 (Former Pig Iron Foundry) is due to EPA on 9/24/14.
* Continuous Community Engagement activities will be conducted by EPA throughout this clean-up process.

Contact: Meredith Anderson, anderson.meredith@epa.gov; 404-562-8608

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry ATSDR

Issue: ATSDR Soil Health Consultation

Update: The ATSDR soil health consultation was released February 19, 2013 for public comment. Under EPA oversight Walter Coke, Inc., collected soil samples at about 78 residential properties located in Collegeville, Harriman Park and Fairmont in 2005 and 2009. ATSDR studied the test results to see if arsenic and polycyclic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in soil could cause health problems in people.
The ATSDR suggests cleaning the properties in the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park communities that have the highest amount of arsenic and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in the soil. These residential properties are now part of the 35th Avenue Superfund Site. Cleaning up these properties will lower exposure to arsenic and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in the soil. ATSDR is evaluating community exposures to contaminants in the air. ATSDR will release an air health consultation report this year. The Jefferson County Department of Health and EPA collected air samples in the North Birmingham area in 2011 and 2012. ATSDR is studying the test results now to see if breathing air in this area could cause health problems in people.

Contact: Sue Casteel

Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability
Denise Tennessee, Acting Director

Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability
The OEJS is responsible for leading and coordinating the region's environmental justice and sustainability programs. The mission of EPA's Environmental Justice Program is to raise awareness of environmental justice issues; identify, assess, address and respond to inequitable environmental impacts; focus resources on areas shouldering a disproportionate share of environmental harm; and communicate to the public about opportunities to get involved in environmental decision-making. This mission aligns with the Agency's overall mission of promoting and enhancing sustainable and resilient communities. The Director of this office reports directly to the Regional Administrator and is responsible for overseeing the implementation of Region 4's environmental justice and sustainability activities and for providing outreach to the Region's environmental justice groups and communities, and other external stakeholders, including federal, state, and local agencies, industry, academia, etc OEJS plays a critical role in the implementation of Plan EJ2014 and the Interagency Working Group for Environmental Justice, as well as consultation activities throughout the region on technical issues in environmental justice communities.

OEJS will participate in the Regional Administrators' Partnership for Sustainable Communities Meeting on April 2014. Approximately 12 federal agencies in Region 4 will convene to discuss opportunities to continue collaboration underway through the Partnership for Sustainable Communities and to expand the partnership to include North Birmingham. The goal of the meeting is to partner; identify work priorities for the next two years and to embed the concept of working together and focusing general agency programs on helping communities achieve their priorities. The OEJS will follow up this meeting with hosting a Regional Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice in Atlanta to further discuss the needs of the North Birmingham Community. That meeting will be followed up with a tour of the area specifically for federal agency representatives who may be able to provide technical assistance and other resources to North Birmingham.

OEJS will provide support and leadership to activities associated with the North Birmingham Community Coalition. OEJS staff planned a visit to Spartanburg, SC for the Coalition to learn from other communities facing similar environmental challenges. The visit was successful and the two communities continue to collaborate. Additional capacity building efforts will continue in an effort to help the Coalition's activities to become sustainable.

OEJS has also been selected to receive Office of Research and Development RESES funding for a project titled: *Solution-Oriented Cumulative Risk and Near-Source Air Quality Assessments* in Five Communities with Multiple Stressors, Stakeholders, and Potential Impacts. This project will introduce the community to the ORD C-FERST tool and help them assess pollution risk. This project will run for a period of two years and implementation planning is just beginning.

OEJS provided information to the North Birmingham Community Coalition (Coalition) on the EPA Collaborative Problem Solving Request for Proposals, which closed on February 18, 2014. OEJS will also coordinate with the University of Alabama at Birmingham for the Coalition to access Public Health student interns to provide technical and administrative assistance to the Coalition as its develops its Action Plan.

Contact: Cynthia Peurifoy
Region 4 EJ Coordinator

Sheryl Good
Environmental Scientist

Office of Environmental Accountability
Scott Gordon, Deputy Director

Issue: FHWA and ALDOT Transportation Projects in Collegeville

Update: EPA is working with other federal and state partners department of transportation to ensure the

transportation project is designed to improve safety and mobility of the residents that cross at railroad tracts to enter and exit their residences, schools or communities. Environmental and community impacts are fully considered as part of the environmental decision-making process. Two road projects are underway in the immediate project area.

- Vehicular/Pedestrian Bridge on F.L. Shuttlesworth Drive from 27th Avenue North to 32nd Avenue North.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process is complete. This project was completed as a categorical exclusion and the Alabama Department of Transportation is currently finalizing bridge design and right-of-way. Construction is scheduled to begin in May /June 2014. The construction process may last approximately 18 months. This project is intended to address some of the ingress and egress challenges that face the community.

- Finley Boulevard Extension from SR-3 (US-31) to SR-79

The NEPA process in ongoing. An environmental assessment (EA) is currently underway. EPA awaiting completed draft document for review and comment. Design Hearing are tentatively scheduled for Spring/Summer 2014 and construction is tentatively scheduled for Summer, 2016.

Please note that EPA plans to meet with ALDOT on April 16th to discuss efforts in the area to address community needs as well as our federal and state partnerships.

Contact: Ntale Kajumba, NEPA
Sandra Bonner, ALDOT

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Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG)
Environmental Justice Transition and Lessons Learned
August 29, 2016
1 – 3pm
Location: EEOB 350

I. 1:00 **Greetings and Introductions: Mustafa Santiago Ali, EPA Sr. Advisor for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization**

II. 1:05 **Welcome: Christy Goldfuss, CEQ Managing Director**

III. 1:10 **Opening Remarks: Gina McCarthy, EPA Administrator**

IV. 1:20 **Community Voice: Transition and Lessons Learned, Vernice Miller- Travis, CEJSC Vice-Chair**

V. 1:40 **Roundtable Discussion: Lessons Learned Through EJ Strategy Implementation and Collaboration**

Moderator: Mustafa Ali

The dialogue will be framed by the following questions:

1. What do you see as the remaining challenges/opportunities to advance EJ?
2. How would you address the above using your EJ Strategy, the EJ IWG, or other relevant tools?
3. What steps should the EJ IWG take in 2016 to facilitate those efforts in the next Administration? Do you see a need for the EJ IWG to provide agencies with language that could be used in their transition planning documents?

The following three speakers will each provide a 5-7 minute briefing to start the Roundtable discussion.

GSA: Madeline Caliendo, the Associate Administrator for Civil Rights and Katy Kale, Chief of Staff
DOJ: Eve Hill, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division
DOE: Thomas Johnson Jr., Associate Deputy Manager, Savannah River Site

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VI. 2:40 **Special Acknowledgments/College Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP)**

- Environmental Justice Pioneer Award (In recognition of an individual's outstanding leadership, dedication and contributions to the field of environmental justice)
- Hazel M. Johnson Federal Agency Award (For outstanding achievement in advancing environmental justice)
- CUPP Memorandum of Understanding

VII. 2:55 **Closing Remarks/Next Steps**

Meeting Handouts

Arthur "Butch" Blazer Bio Sketch
CUPP MOU
EJ IWG Access & Awareness Webinar Series Fact Sheet
EJ IWG Fact sheet
Hazel M. Johnson Bio Sketch
National Funding and Technical Assistance Training Summit Fact Sheet

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From: Ferguson, Cynthia (ENRD)
Sent: Fri 6/9/2017 3:20:49 PM
Subject: EJ IWG FY16 Accomplishments Report - Final Draft
FY 16 IWG REPORT 5.31.pdf

Good morning EJ IWG Team,

As Marsha Minter mentioned at the last EJ IWG monthly meeting, we wanted to share with you the attached final draft of the **EJ IWG Fiscal Year 2016 Accomplishments Report** (an earlier draft was shared with you all on January 31, 2017). The report is now undergoing EPA's routine product review process, which is the last step before the document is posted on the EJ IWG public webpage. While EPA's review process is underway, if you notice any "show-stopper" corrections that need to be made in this final draft please forward them to **Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov) cc'ing Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov) by June 23rd**.

Thank you for your invaluable continued support of and participation in the EJ IWG.

Cynthia

Cynthia M. Ferguson
Senior Litigator

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Attachment: formatted Final Draft EJ IWG FY16 Accomplishments Report

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Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

Fiscal Year 2016 Progress Report

Working together towards collaborative & innovative solutions.

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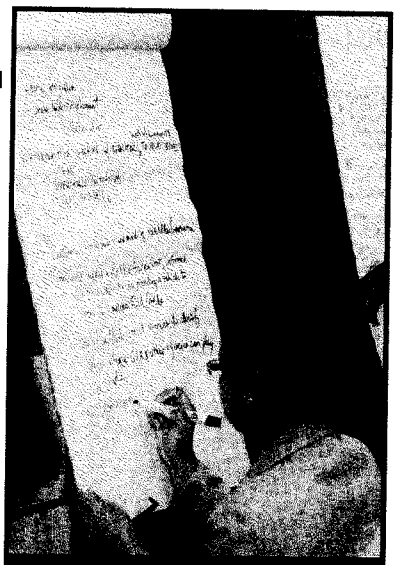
Executive Summary

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG), through the collaboration of 17 federal agencies and White House offices, imbues the federal government with the principals of environmental justice and assists overburdened and under-resourced communities implement comprehensive solutions to the environmental and human health challenges that impact them. The EJ IWG strives to ensure the federal government is:

- **accessible** to communities and other stakeholders working to address environmental justice concerns,
- **aware** of the environmental justice issues confronting communities in order to facilitate coordinated and collaborative
  federal assistance, and
- **accountable** – able to explain federal efforts to achieve environmental justice.



Chanya Liv, Public Health Program Specialist at HHS capturing next steps and follow up items for the EJ IWG.

To further enhance its collaborative efforts, the EJ IWG developed a Framework for Collaboration (Framework) outlining the goals of the working group for fiscal years (FY) 2016 through 2018. Consistent with its desire to be accountable and transparent to environmental justice stakeholders, the EJ IWG will provide annual Framework implementation progress reports. This, the EJ IWG's first report, summarizes its numerous accomplishments during FY 2016, a few of which are highlighted here:

- The EJ IWG successfully launched its Access and Awareness webinar series, bringing together over 700 people with various federal agencies and other subject matter experts to discuss resources and innovative ways to further environmental justice.
- The EJ IWG's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Committee issued the *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* report, which will help federal agencies advance strategies to efficiently identify and address environmental justice concerns. The report is a compilation of practices on how to effectively integrate environmental justice considerations into NEPA processes. The committee collaborated with a team of NEPA experts from ten departments, three agencies, and one White House office to develop this resource. The Committee also released a video featuring three agencies discussing the importance of NEPA and the value of the *Promising Practices* report in advancing environmental justice.
- The EJ IWG connected communities to resources to enhance multi-agency support of community-based solutions to environmental justice concerns. For example, the EJ IWG's Regional Interagency Workgroups (RIWG) brought together federal agencies and other local stakeholders to provide targeted and coordinated technical assistance to communities in the northeast (region 2) and southeast (region 4) regions.
  - The Region 2 RIWG is working with six communities to create partnerships for building a foundation to respond to local environmental justice issues.
  - The Region 4 RIWG is moving forward with the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project, a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental conditions and potential impacts in certain areas in and around Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama.
- The EJ IWG is using the Brownfields to Healthfields approach to focus on rural communities by fostering collaborations at the federal, state, and local levels that connect communities to resources that improve access to items such as food, housing, health and healthcare.
- The EJ IWG continued to support the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) by expanding federal agency participation and technical assistance to communities. The CUPP approach works to catalyze partnerships between local government, the local community and academic institutions to identify community needs and develop projects that will address those needs while federal agency partners provide technical assistance to these projects at no cost. The program facilitates public-private partnerships between universities, communities, the private sector, and nonprofit organizations. The CUPP is currently working with 61 academic institutions in 21 US states, including a new partnership with Oxford University in London, England. The program has assisted with 89 projects in approximately 46 communities and cities. Voluntary support from academic institution involved with this program has been valued at almost three million dollars to date; the direct impact of the projects on the communities is believed to be far greater. In total, CUPP projects have benefited communities and cities with a total population of over seven hundred thousand.

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Even with all of the EJ IWG's impressive progress in FY 2016, more work still lies ahead of us. During FY 2017, the EJ IWG will build upon its work to facilitate federal agency collaborations that assist overburdened and underresourced communities. The EJ IWG's priorities include, among other things, efforts to:

- Continue and expand communication and outreach to communities by hosting the Access and Awareness Webinar Series; by providing informational documents such as lessons learned, fact sheets, and resource information; by increasing the EJ IWG's online presence; and by evaluating additional communication tools.
- Implement additional strategies to eliminate barriers that arise from lack of access to digital communication by prioritizingin-person outreach efforts through community visits and public dialogue with the EJ IWG.
- Convene cross-agency meetings and work sessions at multiple levels of government to foster communication and collaboration on environmental justice program and activity implementation.
- Foster cross-agency coordination and communication regarding outreach, trainings and workshops, projects, technical assistance, and coordinated resources for communities and on a regional scale.
- Support agencies in the development of environmental justice policies, programs, or activities by providing technical support tools, and information.
- Create additional partnerships with federal agencies and academic institutions, including expanding the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) to include additional colleges and universities and federal agencies.
- Support the Educate, Motivate, Innovate (EMI) Initiative toexpand collaborations with minority-serving institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Hispanic serving institutions, and Asian American, Native American, and Pacific Islander serving institutions.

Creating Change Through Collaboration

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) is comprised of 17 federal agencies and White House offices working together to – advance environmental justice principles across the federal government, engage and support local communities in addressing environmental and human health impacts, and promote and implement comprehensive solutions to address environmental justice The EJ IWG provides leadership, guidance, and support to federal agencies by:

- Coordinating a focused and collaborative effort across the federal government to address the environmental, social, economic, and public health burdens in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities;
- Identifying and supporting policies that have measurable impacts on environmental justice;
- Focusing federal agency resources and technical assistance to address the challenges facing overburdened communities namely, disproportionately high and adverse health or environmental effects; and
- Developing partnerships with colleges, universities, and other organizations outside of the federal government to facilitate support for, and improvement in, overburdened communities.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines

Environmental Justice as:

The fair treatment and meaningful Involvement of all people-regardless of race, color, national origin, or income -with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

The EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration ("Framework") outlines the goals of the working group for FY 2016 through 2018, which will advance greater federal agency collaboration to meet the objectives outlined above. The Framework also includes information on the formation and governance structure of the EJ IWG.

FY 2016 was the first implementation year of the Framework for Collaboration. The EJ IWG is delighted to present some of its many FY 2016 accomplishments in this annual progress report. In addition to highlighting some outstanding environmental

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EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration

The EJ IWG developed the Framework builds on decades of environmental justice work and community engagement to strategically enhance the collective efforts of the federal agencies. Successful community engagement meets communities "where they are" by employing approaches that provide cross-agency tools and resources, which enable the public to address environmental injustice in their local communities. In addition to providing tools and resources, the Framework includes priorities that work to increase opportunities for public input and engagement with the EJ IWG. The following is a snapshot of accomplishments achieved under the Framework's four key goals collaboration, this report also features some of the incredible work of the individual partner agencies of the EJ IWG.

Goal 1: Enhance Communication and Coordination

Enhance communication and coordination to improve health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

In FY 2016, through web-based and in-person communication, the EJ IWG increased access and awareness about critical environmental justice activities that inform and provide stakeholders with resources and an opportunity to engage directly with the federal agencies that make up the working group. Highlights include:

Access and Awareness Webinar Series

- In August of 2016, the EJ IWG launched the Access and Awareness Webinar Series. Over 700 individuals registered for webinars that were produced in August and September. These webinars focused on highlighting federal programs that provide targeted resources to communities that are often impacted by environmental injustices. The webinar series has provided an opportunity for various agencies and subject matter experts to discuss different approaches, provide resources, share guidance, and highlight programs that help address environmental injustices across the county. Webinars included participants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI).

  Below is a description of the initial webinars in the series and a link to access webinar recordings:

  - **Federal Agencies Convening for Environmental Justice: Connecting Communities to Green Space, Healthcare and Jobs**
  - Introduction to the EJ IWG by highlighting three innovative federal projects from HHS, DOL, and DOI National Parks Service
  - **Increasing Awareness of Federal Grants and Resource Opportunities**
  - Overview of how to use Grants.gov to apply for federal funding, along with grant opportunities available for communities from EPA and USDA
  - Access and Awareness webinar recordings can be found on the EJ IWG webpage: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg

The Access and Awareness Webinar Series continued into FY 2017 and additional webinar recordings will be posted as they become available.

Accessible

Aware

Accountable

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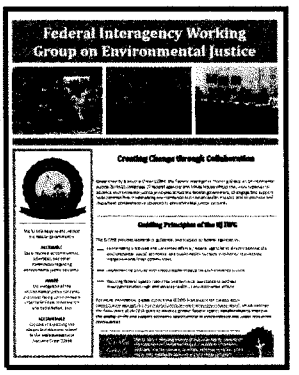
EJ IWG Fact Sheet Updated



- The EJ IWG updated its Factsheet in FY 2016 to better illustrate its work and the resources available to help overburdened communities improve their environment, health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities. Community spotlights were incorporated to provide concrete examples of EJ IWG efforts and programs. The revised Factsheet is now available on the EJ IWG's webpage (https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg) in English and Spanish. The factsheet will also be distributed at events attended or hosted by the EJ IWG for stakeholders interested in the working group.

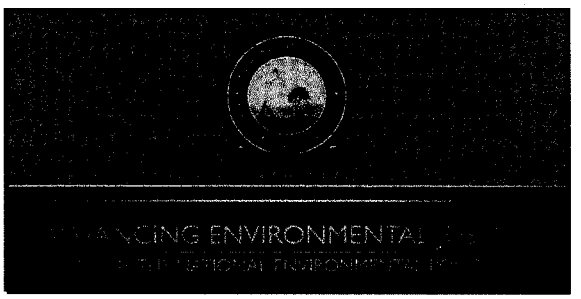
Goods Movement Federal Resources Compendium

- Emissions from ports disproportionately impact millions of people in nearby communities that are often comprised of low income and minority populations. EPA is working with community groups, non-profits, and ports to facilitate effective communication and engagement with the local port communities in decision-making processes that impact their lives. The EJ IWG Goods Movement Committee developed the *Goods Movement Federal Resources Compendium* which is intended to provide overburdened communities, and other stakeholders with a resource that compiles publicly available federal resources (e.g., agency strategies, guidance documents, reports, funding mechanisms, data and assessment tools) for communities that are impacted by the goods movement industry and port activities. The Compendium has been reviewed and approved by EJ IWG agencies and will be published on the EJ IWG webpage in FY 2017.

Spanish Translation of Citizens Guide to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- The EJ IWG NEPA Committee members from the Departments of Energy and Justice and the EPA worked together with the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to translate CEQ's existing *Citizens Guide to the National Environmental Policy Act* into Spanish for those with limited English proficiency so that they may better understand the NEPA process. The Spanish translation has been posted to CEQ's website (https://ceq.doe.gov/get-involved/citizens_guide_to_nepa.html).

Advancing Environmental Justice through NEPA Video



- The NEPA Committee members developed a video to highlight the importance of NEPA as a tool to help advance environmental justice. The video showcases three agency representatives: Suzi Ruhl (EPA), Kedric Payne (DOE), and Chris French (USDA-Forest Service). Each speaker provides a personal perspective on environmental justice and why it is an essential focus area for federal agencies and communities. EPA's Office of Environmental Justice helped produce the video, which was accompanied by an EJ in Action blog (https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/11/ej-nepa-promising-practices/). The video and blog allow the EJ IWG to educate the public on the many methods the working group is using to integrate environmental justice into agency practices that impact overburdened communities (see Goal 3, Section B. (Environmental Justice Tools for the National Environmental Policy Act), below for more examples).

Community Spotlights

- Since September of 2014, the EJ IWG has provided opportunities for stakeholders to attend its monthly meeting and make presentations on an environmental justice issue or program. In that time the EJ IWG member agencies have welcomed representatives from the Maryland Institute of Applied Environmental Health to discuss community-based monitoring of pollution in the Anacostia River, Cardno to discuss Brownfields to Healthfields programs, and the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) to discuss revitalization of the Selma to Montgomery (Voting Rights Act) National Historic Trail. In FY 2016, the EJ IWG welcomed Robert Garcia of the City Project to discuss Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (TitleVI) and urban green space equity in Los Angeles, California (see https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-08/documents/the_city_project_iwg.pdf). In addition, numerous Title VI and EJ advocates participated in an EJ IWG meeting lead by the EJ IWG Title VI Committee to discuss strengthening enforcement across the federal government.

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Goal 2: Enhance Multi-Agency Support

Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues.

In FY 2016, the EJ IWG promoted awareness and increased collaboration to leverage resources for capacity building, economic investments in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities. Highlights include:

Building Capacity in Rural Communities

- **Connecting Communities to Resources and Building Capacity at the Central Appalachia Regional Brownfields Conference** The Rural Committee of the EJ IWG is using the Brownfields to Healthfields (B2H) approach to foster collaborations that help local organizations access state and federal resources to transform brownfields into end uses that improve access to healthcare, food security, recreation, and renewables, especially in overburdened and underserved communities. The EJ IWG convened a community engagement forum and B2H session with breakout working groups at the Central Appalachia Regional Brownfields Conference in September 2016. In the text box to the right, please find a testimonial from Bonnie Swinton of Sierra Club, Tennessee on the value the community engagement forum brought to her organization.

"Participating in the Central Appalachia Regional Brownfields Conference was a great experience for Tennessee grass-roots organizations. The conference provided important networking opportunities that led to connecting with the EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant process in Campbell County, TN.

After the Conference our organization continued to coordinate and attend the Campbell County Community Development meeting where we were able to add two coal strip mine sites on the Woodland Community Land Trust to the assessment grant. One of these sites is an Abandoned Mine Lands and the other is a coal legacy site. Since that time we have been engaged in the assessment process included a series of meetings to education additional groups and community leaders and the grant writing process to apply for an EPA Brownfield Clean-Up Grant.

Community Leaders also met with the head of the Abandoned Mine Lands program at the TN Department of Environmental Conservation to discuss potential opportunities for the state AML program to work in conjunction with the EPA Brownfield program in Nashville and Knoxville with the hope of increasing further collaboration"

Bonnie Swinton

Sierra Club, Tennessee

Fostering Collaboration to Advance the B2H Model by Aligning Healthy Food with Affordable Housing

- The EJ IWG worked to increase access to healthy food for the low income, minority population in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Relevant USDA and other federal departments coordinated on how to best ensure community access to food and housing.

Fostering Collaboration to Improve Drinking Water Quality in Rural America

- The EJ IWG explored ways to help rural communities address adverse environmental and public health impacts by reducing exposures in ground water and drinking water from failing and/or non-existing wastewater infrastructure. Discussions brought together experts from across the federal family in the technical, financial, health, and management aspects of water infrastructure.

Building Capacity Regarding Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

- Hosted Title VI and EJ Workshop at National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program
  - More than 50 individuals from community organizations and federal agencies attended a training workshop held by the EJ IWG's Title VI Committee on March 11, 2016. The training focused on building capacity with respect to three topics: Title VI 101, Title VI and Environmental Justice and How to File a Complaint with Federal Civil Rights Agencies. Presenters included federal civil rights staff from the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, and Transportation, as well as the EPA and the General Services Administration.

Building Capacity by Strengthening Regional Interagency Community Collaboration

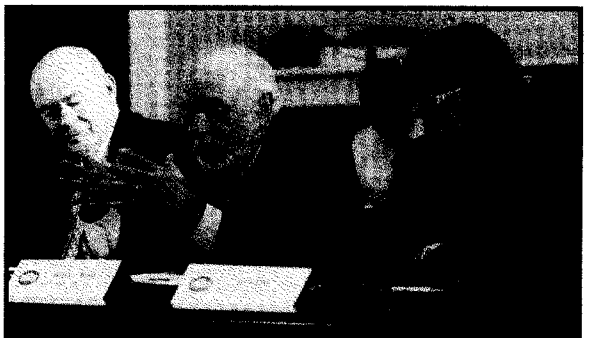
- Regional Interagency Collaboration
  - Successful community engagement meets communities "where they are" by employing valuable outreach and communication strategies that are effective in addressing local needs. The EJ IWG is providing targeted and coordinated technical assistance to communities in EPA Region 2 (NY, NJ, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands and eight Tribal Nations) and Region 4 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and six Tribal Nations) through Regional Interagency Workgroups (RIWG).

- The RIWG co-chaired by EPA and HHS in EPA Region 2 is working with the following six communities to create partnerships and build a foundation to respond to local environmental justice issues: Camden, New Jersey; Newburgh, New York; Caño Mart í n Peña, Puerto Rico; St. Croix (Hovensa site), US Virgin Islands; St. Regis Mohawk, New York; and Ramapo Nation, New Jersey.The RIWG chaired by EPA in EPA Region 4 is moving forward with a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental conditions and potential environmental impacts, in North Birmingham, Fairmont, Collegeville, and Harriman Park neighborhoods, as well as portions of Five-Mile Creek and Harriman Park ditch, located in and around Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama. This effort, which includes air, water and waste issues, is known as the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project. You can find more information here: https://www.epa.gov/north-birmingham-project.

Goal 3: Advance Interagency Strategies

Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies and activities.

In FY 2016, the EJ IWG fostered federal interagency coordination and increased accountability at regional, state, tribal and local levels. It also identified opportunities to highlight interagency community solutions that would advance the implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance. Highlights include:



(center) William Baer, former DOJ Principal Deputy Associate Attorney General; (left) John C. Cruden, former DOJ Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division; (right) Eve Hill, former DOJ Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division. Discuss the importance of environmental justice and how to more effectively coordinate with implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Strategy and Policy Integration

- Fostering Collaboration Through Interagency Leadership Meetings
  - The EJ IWG coordinated two senior leadership meetings in February and August of FY 2016. The theme of the February meeting was "A Collaborative Conversation on Environmental Justice." Topics included a discussion on "EJ IWG Advancing Collaboration in Communities," a "Federal Family Community Collaboration Spotlight" from the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance, and a roundtable discussion on "Strengthening Integration of Environmental Justice Infrastructure in Agencies and Departments."
  - Several EJ advocates attended the August senior leadership meeting which focused on "Passing the Leadership Baton." Topics included a "Community Voice: Stakeholders Perspectives on the EJ IWG" discussion and a roundtable on "Lessons Learned Through EJ Strategy Implementation and Collaboration." The EJ IWG has been implementing the next steps suggested during these leadership meetings, such as the expansion of the College Underserved Partnership Program as discussed under Goal 4 below.

- Gathering Stakeholder Feedback at the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC) Meeting
  - A panel of EJ IWG representatives presented at the March 2016 National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC) meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi. The panel highlighted the accomplishments and potential activities of the EJ IWG Committees. NEJAC members were able to ask questions and provide direction and feedback. For example, NEJAC members suggested that the EJ IWG be involved in the revitalization the 100 overburdened communities discussed in EPA's *EJ 2020 Action Agenda - The U.S. EPA's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan for 2016-2020* (referred to as "*EJ 2020*") (available at: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-2020-action-agenda).
  - In *EJ 2020*, EPA notes that it "will work with the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) and other partnerships, as well as through direct relationships with other federal agencies to develop and implement an interagency strategy for promoting the revitalization of overburdened communities. This strategy will focus on connecting EPA's community-based work, when and where possible, to other agencies' statutorily-based programmatic resources and functions, and will be guided by achieving outcomes that answer community needs."*EJ 2020* page 35.
  - Several EJ advocates attended the August senior leadership meeting which focused on "Passing the Leadership Ba ton." Topics included a "Community Voice: Stakeholders Perspectives on the EJ IWG" discussion and a roundtable on "Lessons Learned Through EJ Strategy Implementation and Collaboration." The meeting was attended by senior leadership of the EJ IWG partner agencies.

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- The first ever Hazel M. Johnson Federal Agency Achievement Award was presented to the Department of Health and Human Series for Outstanding Agency Achievement in Advancing EJ. In addition, a EJ Champion Award was presented to Arthur Blazer, Former Deputy Under Secretary at United States Department of Agriculture for his outstanding leadership in environmental justice at USDA and with the EJ IWG. The EJ IWG has been implementing the next steps suggested during these leadership meetings, such as the expansion of the College Underserved Partnership Program as discussed under Goal 4 below.

DHS: Teresa Pohlman (left) Director, Sustainability and Environmental Programs, DHS and Lisa Quiveors (right) Sustainability and Environmental Programs, DHS.

- Facilitating Collaboration on Concerns of Native American/Indigenous Peoples
  - The EJ IWG Native American/Indigenous Peoples Committee convened a subgroup to discuss potential opportunities for federal agency coordination and collaboration regarding support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). In FY 2016 the UNDRIP subgroup developed a draft set of UNDRIP training materials and scheduled its first interagency training which took place in the first quarter of FY 2017. Thirty-seven federal employees, from ten federal agencies, attended the training which was designed to enhance awareness of the UNDRIP, identify ways it is being applied by federal agencies, and enhance interagency coordination and collaboration in supporting the UNDRIP.

Environmental Justice Tools for the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Published *Promising Practices Report*
  - The NEPA Committee published the *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* (referred to as "*Promising Practices Report*") in March 2016. The report represents the professional experience, knowledge, and expertise of individuals from ten departments, three agencies, and one White House office. These individuals spent almost 48 months researching, analyzing and discussing the interaction of environmental justice and NEPA.
  - The *Promising Practices Report* is a compilation of practices on how to effectively integrate environmental justice considerations into NEPA processes. The report disseminates promising environmental justice practices across the federal government so that we can learn from one another about effective ways to build robust methods for considering environmental justice into our NEPA practice. This document draws from existing environmental justice and NEPA Guidance developed by White House Council on Environmental Quality and federal agencies, but is not and should not be considered formal guidance.
  - The *Promising Practices Report* is available at: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-08/documents/nepa_promising_practices_document_2016.pdf.

- Developed NEPA Lexicon
  - The NEPA Committee developed a Lexicon of terms from the *Promising Practices Report* to succinctly explain technical terms in a manner that is useable for all stakeholders. It includes preexisting agency definitions and a contextual basis for application. Agencies and communities may then use the Lexicon to more appropriately evaluate environmental justice issues. The final draft of the Lexicon was completed in September 2016 and is undergoing review.

- Building Federal Capacity Through Training and Tools
  - Across the federal government, departments and agencies are acting to advance EJ through NEPA and other environmental assessments, including the implementation of the *Promising Practices Report*. Departmental actions include training opportunities, guidance documents, and working groups to advance the methodologies outlined in the *Promising Practices Report.*
  - The EJ IWG's NEPA Committee has developed standardized training materials which can be used to create training modules as well as shorter, targeted presentations to enable the committee to expand the use of the *Promising Practices Report*. To help promote the use of methods outlined the *Promising Practices Report*, members of the NEPA Committee have also conducted briefings and trainings at various federal agencies. These agencies include: Department of Transportation (DOT) (Title VI, Office of Civil Rights & Environmental Law Practice Group; Federal Transit Agency); Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); Department of the Interior (DOI); Department of Agriculture (USDA); and Department of Energy (DOE).

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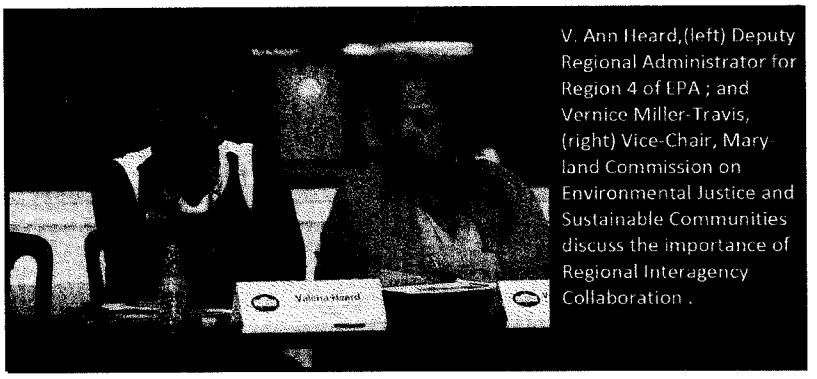
- The NEPA Committee also created a guide that aggregates tools and resources that NEPA reviewers from across the federal government utilize to address and evaluate environmental justice concerns. These tools were compiled from a variety of federal agencies including the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), EPA, DOT, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), USDA, and Federal Transit Administration (FTA).



V. Ann Heard,(left) Deputy Regional Administrator for Region 4 of EPA ; and Vernice Miller-Travis, (right) Vice-Chair, Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities discuss the importance of Regional Interagency Collaboration .

Goal 4: Develop Partnerships with Academic Institutions

Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities

In FY 2016, the EJ IWG expanded technical assistance opportunities for overburdened communities by developing Partnerships with academic institutions. Highlights include:

- **Launched Educate, Motivate, and Innovate (EMI)**
  - In 2015, the White House launched the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice's Educate, Motivate and Innovate Climate Justice Initiative. This initiative focuses on the next generation of climate-justice leaders and expands collaborations with Minority-Serving Institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions. The initiative is guided by the following principles:
    - **Educate**: Provide a two-way learning experience, access to information, platform to expand and share knowledge and ideas, and bridge the communication and capacity building gap.
    - **Motivate**: Ignite interest, nurture growth and commitment to addressing the complex issues around climate change and environmental justice in vulnerable communities.
    - **Innovate**: Embrace the opportunity for creative thought and action.
  - In FY 2016 the EMI Initiative put out a call for student climate justice abstracts which led to a successful workshop at the 2016 National Environmental Justice Conference, posted a blog on the EJ IWG website to provide background on the initiative and its mission, and developed an EMI video https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liHpESIFOqE

- **Expanded the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP)**
  - In an effort to expand agency technical support to the CUPP, USDA and the EPA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 22, 2016. The CUPP MOU established a cooperative relationship with universities to develop research and projects that address environmental justice, environmental quality and improve economic opportunities and public health in local underserved communities through the CUPP model. CUPP is based on developing partnerships between small, underserved communities and geographically close colleges/universities to provide a variety of technical support at no cost to those communities. The program will facilitate public-private partnerships among schools, communities, the private sector, and nonprofit organizations. Some examples of past CUPP projects involving students that worked with local communities to provide solutions to their concerns can be found here: https://www.epa.gov/communityhealth/college-underserved-community-partnership-program-cupp#getinvolved. The EJ IWG is continuing to support the expansion of the CUPP program with the support of federal partners such as the Departments of the Interior, Energy and Health and Human Services.

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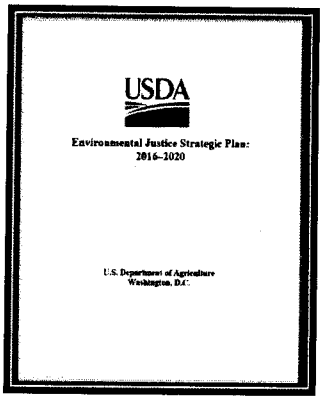
Federal Achievements in Advancing Environmental Justice

One of the core functions of the EJ IWG is to support the integration of environmental justice throughout federal government policies and programs. The principles of environmental justice help improve the effectiveness of our programs and ensue that the most vulnerable communities in America are taken into consideration when policies are implemented. This section highlights a few examples of how agencies are advancing environmental justice throughout the federal government.

In 2016 the following agencies published updated environmental justice strategies:

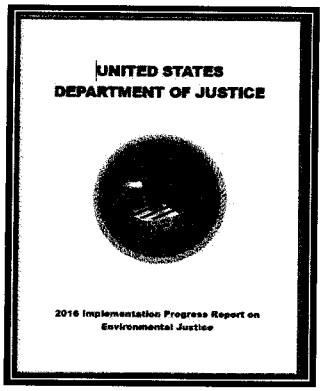
- **General Services Administration** (Click here to read the strategy)
- **US Department of Agriculture** (click here to read the strategy)
- **US Environmental Protection Agency** (click here to read the strategy)
- **US Department of Housing and Urban Development** (click here to read the strategy)
- **US Department of the Interior** (click here to read the strategy)
- **US Department of Transportation** (click here to read the strategy)

U.S. Department of Agriculture Achievements in Advancing EJ



- The Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), sponsored by the USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture, reached over half a million families and youth from low-income communities in 2016 to help improve access to healthy food. The USDA enhances diets and nutrition practices, stretches food dollars farther, improves food safety, and increase physical activity levels because of the EFNEP program.
- For our nation's children, USDA expanded the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program so more children from low-income households can eat regularly and well. Established in Section 104(a) of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, the CEP program is a streamlined approach to school meal service that allows schools in high-poverty communities to provide meals to all students, free of charge, for up to four consecutive school years. For FY 2016-17, USDA seeks to focus its expansion effort on those schools that are most in need and where CEP can have the greatest impact.

U.S. Department of Justice Achievements in Advancing EJ



- In August 2016, the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Transportation issued joint agency technical assistance, Guidance to State and Local Governments and Other Federally Assisted Recipients Engaged in Emergency Preparedness, Response, Mitigation, and Recovery Activities on Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to recipients of federal financial assistance.
- Two additional resources to assist recipients of federal financial assistance also accompany the guidance: the Department of Justice's Tips and Tools for Reaching Limited English Proficient Communities in Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery and the Department of Health and Human Services' Checklist for Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance, which facilitates the integration of the whole community into emergency-related activities.

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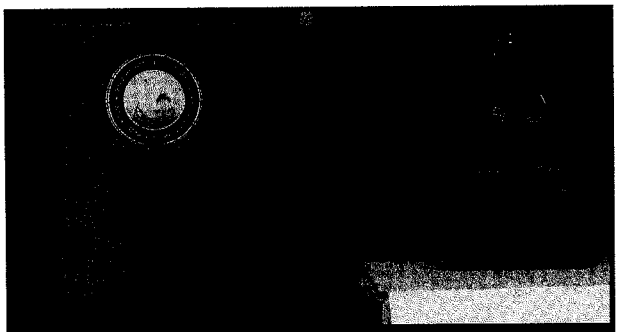
Looking Forward: FY 2017 Priorities

A: Communication and Coordination *(Accessible and Aware)*

Goal: *Enhance communication and coordination to improve health, quality -of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities*

Priorities:

- Continue the Access and Awareness Webinar Series and, as appropriate, provide resources documents for the webinar topics.
- Share lessons learned from regional interagency collaboration.
- Prioritize in-person outreach efforts through community visits and public dialogue with the EJ IWG. Implement additional strategies to help bridge the "digital divide".
- Enhance the EJ IWG's online presence and identify, or develop where necessary, additional communication tools.
- Provide information that identifies for communities, the government entities they can engage with concerning potential goods movement concerns and support for rural communities.
- Hold a panel discussion on environmental justice, the federal government, and Indigenous Communities.
- Support efforts to finalize and distribute a Community Guide to the *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* report.



Outstanding Achievement Awards Presented during the Principles Meeting.

B: Support Community-based Solutions *(Accessible and Accountable)*

Goal: *Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues*

Priorities:

- Convene cross-agency meetings at various levels within federal agencies to foster communication and collaboration on implementation of environmental justice efforts.
- Conduct workshop and training activities on interagency activities such as *NEPA Promising Practices,* Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and EJ IWG's work with Native American and Tribal Communities. Continue outreach to various stakeholder communities and beneficiaries of federal assistance.
- Look for opportunities to support regional interagency collaborations to help communities address EJ concerns and work to expand EPA Region 4's EJ Academy.
- Seek to leverage federal resources for communities participating in EPA's Near-Port Community Capacity Building efforts
- Conduct outreach on climate justice and public health efforts.
- Foster cross-agency coordination and communication that assists rural communities, such as collaborations to improve health and wellness through the Brownfields to Healthfields approach, community-focused environmental justice workshops, and facilitated dialogs between communities and other stakeholders focused on addressing place-based needs.

C: Interagency Strategies *(Accountable)*

Goal: *Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies and Activities.*

Priorities:

- Support federal agencies in the development of environmental justice policies, programs, or activities by providing technical support, tools, and information.
- Coordinate with the federal agencies to gather and share public feedback with the EJ IWG. Determine the EJ IWG's focus areas based on public comment and other recommendations.
- Continue engagement and training on implementation of the *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* report to foster cross agency learning of effective practices.
- Provide training for federal agencies on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and identify any potential opportunities for coordination and collaboration.

[redacted] ort

D: Partnerships with Academic Institutions *(Accessible and Aware)*

Goal: *Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities*

Priorities:

- Look for ways to expand the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP).
- Collaborate with academic institutions to promote the health, economic and environmental vitality of rural populations and to advance the understanding and application of the *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* report.
- Continue supporting the Educate, Motivate, Innovate (EMI) initiative to expandcollaborations with minority-serving institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other minority-serving institutions.

Stay Connected

Find more resources and information on the EJ IWG Website: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/economic_resilience/Environmental_Justice_Strategy

Sign up for the EJ ListServ: https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=epa-ej

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The ReGenesis Environmental Collaborative Partnership, Spartanburg, SC

In May of 2000, the ReGenesis Partnership was selected as an Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice pilot project. Below is background on the community driven redevelopment effort, capturing the pivotal role the Interagency Working Group Task Force agencies played in the success of the project.

After years of disinvestment, the 1990s found the Arkwright and Forest Park neighborhoods struggling. Urban renewal in the 1970s had decimated the community's formerly vibrant commercial core of 70 black-owned businesses. Economic revitalization initiatives that were improving the downtown areas of Spartanburg had not reached these communities. The only road into the communities was frequently blocked by standing trains, isolating them from other areas of the city. In addition, many residents had health concerns which they suspected were related to the presence of two hazardous waste sites and an active chemical manufacturing plant. These suspicions created high levels of tension and mistrust between community members and their industrial neighbors: a municipal landfill, an abandoned fertilizer plant and an active chemical manufacturer

In 1997, Harold Mitchell, a long-term community resident, founded ReGenesis. As efforts to assess and clean up contaminated sites began, ReGenesis represented neighborhood interests. Soon, the organization saw an opportunity to expand discussions with local government and environmental agencies to include equitable neighborhood revitalization. In 2000, the ReGenesis Environmental Justice Partnership was formed by representatives from ReGenesis, Spartanburg County, and the City of Spartanburg to promote equitable development for Arkwright and Forest Park. The Partnership became the focus of the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice, bringing a number of key agencies to the table to build capacity and help with local efforts. Key agencies involved were EPA, DOJ, DOE, HUD, DOI and HHS (HRSA).

Over the next decade, the Partnership worked with local residents to identify quality of life priorities for redevelopment and attracted millions of dollars for revitalization. Beginning with funding from the Environmental Protection Agency for site cleanup and redevelopment planning, the partnership has leveraged over $250 million dollars for neighborhood reinvestment. Achievements include:

- the development of over 500 new affordable/workforce housing units of housing,
- the establishment of the ReGenesis Community Health Center (which has grown to include five facilities and a mobile health unit and serves migrant health as well as school and behavioral health initiatives),
- the launch of the C. C. Woodson Community Center, a green recreational facility that received an award from the National Planning Council for Innovative Financing, and
- the creation of job opportunities for neighborhood residents in construction and at the nearby chemical manufacturing plant.
- Current efforts include plans to build a solar farm on the former City of Spartanburg landfill and an Urban Golf Course on the former IMC Fertilizer Site. Additional information on the project can be found in the EJ Blog in Action Blog: A Dream Realized: Community Driven Revitalization in Spartanburg, at http://blog.epa.gov/ej/2014/08/a-dream-realized/

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COMMUNITY-BASED WORK
(Draft: 2/25/16, post workgroup call version.)

OBJECTIVE
Achieve meaningful and sustainable improvements in overburdened areas through the strategic deployment of Agency community-based and core programmatic resources in a cross-agency manner that helps to build the capacity of our community partners, and establishes community-based work as a routine means of achieving our mission.

EPA has a significant history of community-based work, beginning in the 1980s with the Watershed Protection Approach, and continuing in the 1990s with the initiation of EJ and community-based participatory research grants and the launch of its Brownfields Program to clean up and restore contaminated sites to productive community use. The agency has seen many powerful and inspiring results from this work, and we have gained many lessons that continue to inform and shape how we engage communities in carrying out our mission of protecting health and the environment, while at the same time fostering partnerships to build healthier, more prosperous and sustainable places to live. Today, EPA continues to invest in supporting community-based efforts, most recently in focus communities nationwide through the Making a Visible Difference cross-agency strategy.

In order to advance these efforts to a new level, EPA will undertake the following strategies:

- Build the capacity of communities to address the critical environmental and public health issues that matter to them through the sharing of tools and other resources.
- Improve on-the-ground results by incorporating environmental justice and community-based work as a part of how EPA core regulatory programs achieve our mission of protecting public health and the environment;
- Expand the positive impact of EPA's community-based efforts by building stronger on-the-ground partnerships with communities and involving government, academia, business, philanthropy and others; and

ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT
The Community-Based Work priority area of EJ 2020 is led by the Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM), Region 3 and Region 10.

STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Strategy 1: Improve on-the-ground results by incorporating environmental justice and community-based work as a part of how EPA core regulatory programs achieve our mission of protecting public health and the environment.
EPA will be proactive in institutionalizing environmental justice and community-based work throughout the Agency in order to achieve greater community level collaboration, leveraging of resources and making visible on-the-ground differences. Reviewing EPA's strategic planning documents, National Program Manager (NPM) guidance documents, measurements, and goals is integral to successful incorporation of EJ into all core work. Promoting and integrating lessons learned from previous community-based approaches and assessing ongoing needs and activities will improve EJ integration. The additional actions below are needed in order to institutionalize this practice across the Agency.

Action 1.1: Strengthen on-the-ground results in XXXX overburdened communities nationwide through the incorporation of best practices in Agency core programs and regulatory work.
EPA will launch a multi-year effort to improve on the ground results by systematically and increasingly implementing best practices[1] throughout the United States to achieve meaningful environmental, and public health improvements in TBD_[2]American communities by 2020. Through the use of EJSCREEN and additional data, regional staff input, and community input to identify these communities, EPA will identify 25 locations per year in each EPA region, starting in 2017, where best practices learned from previous EPA efforts can significantly and meaningfully improve on-the-ground results in overburdened communities. This internal investment and agency-wide engagement will strengthen the integration of environmental justice principles in all of the Agency's work. EPA will report out to the American public on the results of this effort in 2020 and will include an independent evaluation of how well EJ is incorporated into Agency's community based work.

Action 1.2: Compile an EPA Community Practice Compendium
Using its historical and ongoing experience with community-based work, EPA, through its Communities Resources Network, will build a comprehensive Community Practice Compendium from those efforts, resources and techniques which have had the most positive and meaningful results in overburdened communities. The compendium will be drafted in 2017, and used on an ongoing basis beginning in 2017. The living document will be regularly updated based on reviews of its application during the course of this strategic plan's implementation and beyond.

Action 1.3: Increase the investment of EPA's discretionary spending to support of best practices
EPA will identify the 2016 baseline of dollars supporting community based work and will increase those funds by 10% every year from 2017 through 2020. This is not changing funding towards totally new work, but instead ensuring that as we shift the focus of our staff to include their capacity to operate at the community level, we will also shift dollars and staff to support our collective new manner of working in communities across the Agency.

Action 1.4: Strengthen the procedures and practices associated with collecting, following-up on and responding to citizen tip complaints
EPA will strengthen its procedures and practices associated with citizen tips and complaints and will elevate matters of critical public health concern. EPA will promote best practices in the use of existing reporting systems for citizen concerns (e.g., www.epa.gov/tips, regional tips and complaints hotlines, EJ hotline) in regional and headquarter offices, public meetings and other community involvement activities.

Strategy 2: Expand the positive impact of EPA's efforts by building stronger on-the-ground partnerships with communities and involving government, academia, business, philanthropy and others.
When community-based organizations lead collaborative partnerships, they are better able to address

[1] Such practices are currently reflected in EPA's Community Key Performance Indicators Promising Practices Report and practices for enhanced engagement in Permitting Regional Implementation Plans to Promote Meaningful Engagement of Overburdened Communities in Permitting Activities and will be further developed in the EPA Community Practice Compendium.

[2] This metric (number of communities) is inclusive of the 100 communities that will be the focus of geographic inspection initiatives by 2020, the EJ partnership challenge communities and communities that are the focus of controversial EPA permitting actions, complex controversial clean ups, etc. ???? WE NEED TO GIVE SOME INTERNAL COMFORT HERE THAT WE ARE FLEXIBLE IN TERMS OF COUNTING THIS METRIC.

the challenges they often face by partnering with a wide array of stakeholders. This strategy is intended to complement and promote the work of such community-driven collaborative partnerships and increase opportunities for meaningful community engagement.

Action 2.1: Address the most intractable environmental quality and public health issues in the nation through the creation of an EPA community-driven partnership program.
EPA will initiate an "EJ Partnership Challenge" program in 2018, modeled after the "Making a Visible Difference" initiative, to designate community-based partnerships for focused assistance from EPA and other federal agencies. Through data gathering and analysis, this effort will identify and address the most intractable public health and environmental challenges faced by communities. EPA will target and align resources and technical assistance from EPA and recruit other federal agencies to help meet the goal of improving human health and the environment.

EPA will begin with 10 partnerships in 2018 and increase the total number to 100 by [redacted]. To achieve these community driven partnerships, EPA will work with communities to build capacity to meaningfully engage in activities which can influence environmental decision making (through Agency tools such as EJ roadmap, visioning sessions, and charrettes) and to act as a convener of key partners (such as federal agencies, other government agencies, academia, business, non-profit organizations and other private sector organizations) and resources. EPA will solicit input from federal working groups and state organizations, including NEJAC, LGAC, ECOS, EJ IWG, and a broad range of stakeholders in designing this program.

Strategy 3: Build the capacity of communities to take part in critical environmental and public health issues that impact them through the sharing of tools and other resources

Activity 3.1: Strengthen internal and external awareness and utilization of EPA's grant and technical assistance programs
EPA's NPMs and regional offices will work with EJ and other community based grant, cooperative agreement and technical assistance programs (such as MVD (focus communities and the CRN), TASC (Technical Assistance Services for Communities), EJ grants, Brownfields, Urban Waters, Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities, and Brownfields) to identify and fill any gaps in essential community-based resources and engagement that promote collaboration, community sustainability, and equitable development. Additionally, this will be met through requirements to match the support as defined by the applicant community and through further support through application of the Community Practices Compendium and other appropriate support materials by project officers.

Action 3.2: Strengthen use of social media and other communications tools to promote the replication of real-life models of successes and network building and the wider use of promising practices.
With leadership from OLEM and OEJ, EPA will use social media and other online tools to promote real life stories of EJ stakeholders from across the country that educate, inspire, and offer lessons to improve community practice. These tools will include blogs and videos on the *Environmental Justice in Action Blog*, webinars and trainings on key issues, and other issues of special interest to EJ stakeholders. Through existing networks, EPA will create a more interactive, innovative, collaborative tool to engage overburdened communities on existing resources and assistance. The focus will be on key issues identified by the community which may include permitting and rulemaking process, equitable development, and climate resilience.

Activity 3.3: Support the establishment of an informal network of past and current recipients of EPA

community-based grants through formal networking and information-sharing opportunities
Through existing avenues, such as the EJ Small Grantee Workshop and the Brownfields Conference, EPA will offer workshops and sessions to bring together past and current recipients of the EJ, CARE (Community Action for a Renewed Environment), Urban Waters and other community-based grant programs. Each Region is responsible for creating a plan to accomplish a Regional network that connects to the National network. The purpose of each workshop will be to share promising practices and mutual learning from each EPA grantee, while also providing other Regional programs, federal, state and local partners an opportunity to better understand the challenges faced by these communities. Inspirational accomplishments and promising practices will be shared with other community groups and potential grant applicants through "community digital stories." We will also build into the biannual Community Involvement Conference more explicit involvement and convening of our community partners to develop that regular forum as a place for EPA personnel, community leaders and other partners (e.g. foundations) to gather for networking, strategic planning, cross-fertilization and training.

Action 3.4: Promote youth engagement and the development of the next generation of leaders proficient in meeting EJ challenges
EPA will put a special emphasis on engaging youth on the intersection of environmental justice and climate change. The EJ IWG will create a new subcommittee on climate change impacts, with a focus on the next generation of climate justice leaders and expand partnerships with Minority Serving Institutions. EPA will work with the NEJAC Youth Perspectives on Climate Justice Work Group comprised of up to 15 young people to prepare a best practices report, recommending ways for EPA to authentically engage and work collaboratively with youth, and other interested stakeholders, to identify and address climate change impacts on overburdened and vulnerable communities. Clear and consistent guidance on our outreach efforts is needed to help expand our positive impact on communities Additionally, nationally, EPA will expand Region 4's EJ Academy, which is based on the components of the EPA Collaborative Problem Solving Model, and incorporates the appreciative inquiry approach building the next generation of leaders.

Action 3.5 Promote outreach to and inclusion of communities in all of the work that EPA performs.
EPA will review its statutory and regulatory authorities and develop guidance for EPA staff to encourage and promote EPA's outreach to communities. This effort will be designed to provide information allowing them to participate more fully in all of EPA's activities.

MEASURES

1. By 2017, measure and report the baseline amount of leveraged resources in the communities identified under Action 1.1, pursuant to our community investments. Beginning in 2018, secure an annual increase by 10% in the amount of those resources leveraged. This will be achieved by including out-year reporting requirements in all dedicated community support mechanisms (grants, technical assistance, and cooperative agreements) and the creation of a central clearing-house to organize and store such data.
2. By 2020, achieve a 40% increase in the EPA investments and resources flowing to overburdened and vulnerable communities as determined from a baseline established in 2016 based upon objective health and environmental data such as that which is captured in the EJSCREEN).
3. Annually review and analyze tips/complaints received via www.epa.gov/tips and other intake mechanisms such as the EJ Hotline and report to the public on the number received, broken out by area of concern and location, as well as actions that were taken. This headquarters and regional information will be reported annually though www.epa.gov/tips.

4. Options
   - By 2017, develop community outreach guidance and develop an outcome measure for tracking the number of employees trained on community outreach, the number of community outreach efforts and impact of those efforts.
   - By 2020, xx percent of documented community outreach interactions that resulted in the initiation of projects or programs that directly responded to concerns, priorities and/or needs specifically voice by the community.

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To: Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]
Cc: Ali, Mustafa[Ali.Mustafa@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thur 2/25/2016 11:44:15 PM
Subject: Re: EJ IWG Quote

Love it! Thanks!!!

Cynthia Peurifoy
Environmental Justice Coordinator
EPA Region 4
404-562-9649

On Feb 25, 2016, at 5:57 PM, Minter, Marsha <Minter.Marsha@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi—just got your voicemail—how about this:

Regional Interagency Working Groups provides an opportunity for the voices of our most vulnerable, under resourced and overburdened communities to help shape innovative solutions to move their communities from surviving to striving. The Reg 4 RIWG presence in North Birmingham is an excellent example of the power of this holistic and collaborative approach to community revitalization.

Mustafa Ali

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From: Nitsch, Chad
Location: William Jefferson Clinton South Building - Conference Room 6204 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20004
Importance: Normal
Subject: EJ IWG Monthly Meeting Call-in - 1-866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal
Start Date/Time: Thur 3/24/2016 6:00:00 PM
End Date/Time: Thur 3/24/2016 7:30:00 PM
EJ IWG 3-24-16 Meeting Agenda.docx
EJ IWG 25Feb2016 Summary.pdf
EJ IWG 28Jan2016 Meeting Summary.pdf
Final All Signed MOA searchable.pdf
A New MOA - Investing in Federal Partnerships with Local Communities.pdf

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6204
Washington, DC
Thursday, March 24, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]

Agenda

- 2:00 Roll Call/Welcome
- 2:10 EJ IWG Update – Marsha Minter
- 2:20 EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update – Mustafa Santiago Ali
- 2:30 Committee Check-ins
  Updates from Permanent Subcommittees on FY 16 activities (Title VI, Public Participation, Strategy/Implementation, RIWGs)
- 3:15 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements

- EPA Drinking Water Mapping Application, www.epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection/dwmaps
- 2016 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum, Aug. 15-18, Mohegan Sun Resort, Uncasville, CT: Call for Proposals due May 6, 2016, www.7.nau.edu/itep/main
- NEJAC applications due 4/15 **www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/02/18/2016-03405/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council**
- TIGER applications are due no later than **April 29, 2016 at 8 PM E.D.T.** Additional details and webinars: https://www.transportation.gov/tiger

Future Meeting Topic Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- Title VI and EJ Issues

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6204
Washington, DC
Thursday, March 24, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy

Upcoming Events
March 30-31, 2016: College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) Conference, Atlanta, GA
April 6-7, 2016: Georgetown Climate Center Workshop, Baltimore, MD

EJ IWG Monthly Meetings/ Meeting Hosts
April 28, 2016
May 26, 2016
June 23, 2016

Attachments
EJ IWG Jan. 28, 2016 Meeting Notes
EJ IWG Feb. 25, 2016 Meeting Notes
Community Solutions Fact Sheet and MOU

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6204
Washington, DC
Thursday, February 25, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]

Summary

- 2:00 - 2:10pm Roll Call/Welcome
  - CEQ - Erin Shew
  - USDA – Joanna Stancil, Caitlin Gregg
  - DOE - Melinda Downing, Zachary Dubel
  - HHS – Barbara Adair
  - DHS - Jennifer Hass
  - HUD – Jim Potter, Chris Trent, Joey Baietti
  - DOI – Cheryl Kelley, Kim Lambert
  - DOJ – Cynthia Ferguson, Gina Allery
  - DOT – Fleming El-Amin, Jason Broehm
  - GSA- Caitlin Hudson, Debra Cullins-Treece
  - EPA - Chad Nitsch, Marsha Minter, Mustafa Ali, Stan Buzelle, Julie Capland, Rachel Congdon, Shanika Whitehurst

- 2:10- 2:20pm EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update
  - Thanked group for participation on Feb 4, 2016 Deputies and Chiefs of Staff EJ IWG Meeting.
  - Gave Update on Flint, MI: EPA has developed a Flint EJ Strategy. EPA will reach out to other federal partners as process develops. EPA will collect lessons learned and listen to the needs of the community. Discussion on creating a Reg. 5 Regional IWG.
  - Attended the Reg. 4 EJ RIWG and recognized the value of RIWGs. Great federal, local and state collaboration. Kudos to Cynthia Peurifoy and the other Region 4 organizers.
  - The selection of the NEJAC Youth Subcommittee will be announced soon and engaging with youth is critical.
  - The EJ IWG Regional IWG Subcommittee continues to encourage the creation of regional EJ IWGs by federal partners. Although EPA is the convener of the EJ IWG, all agencies are equal partners.

- 2:20-3:20pm Committee Check-ins
  - March and April Meetings dedicated to Updates from Focus Area Subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs on FY 16 activities and identifying cross-cutting issues.
    - Native American and Indigenous Peoples Committee
      - Meets every 4 weeks, held 4 to 5 meetings.
      - Developing a webpage (~live within the next 2 months).
      - Regional EJ Training. *DOE is in the process of conducting nationwide training and offered to collaborate.*
      - Working on how to apply EJ to UN Declaration Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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    - Partnering with tribal colleges.
    - Challenges: limited by lack of funding, having the capacity to follow-up on action items.
- Rural Communities Committee
    - Found the Native American/Indigenous Peoples Committee Strategic Plan to be helpful in developing their Plan.
    - Developed a chart for Definitions of Rural and Rural EJ.
    - Developed a Rural Communities Strategic Plan based on 5 Pillars.
    - 5 pillars: Capacity building, economic development, youth, human health, environmental health.
    - Next step: talk about action items for group to consider, then will prioritize,
        - Ranking criteria:
            - Addressing 5 pillars
            - Readiness/Implementability
            - Addressing EJ Needs
            - Replicability
            - Tie into existing measures
            - Measurability of outcomes
            - Integrating cross-cutting issues into agency core programs
    - Discussion Topic of Committee: Community Economic Development for 2030, communities experiencing poverty for 30 years or more.
    - Cross cutting issues: tribal, youth, training.
- Climate Change Committee
    - A new EPA co-chair will be selected and USDA will be the third co-chair. The three co-chairs (EPA, HUD & USDA) will meet during the NEJC conference.
    - Good representation from agencies on the committee.
    - Reviewing resources, topics, identifying EJ gaps.
    - Using a 3-pronged approach: training/capacity building (using existing tools kits), youth engagement (building on Educate, Motivate, Initiative Climate Justice Youth Initiative), Climate Justice Research (using mapping data to identify problem areas, leveraging all federal partners, creating a two-pronged approach climate - science/technical, social - justice).
    - Forest Service programs and EPA MVD could inform committee's action.
    - Potential alignment with NOAA SeaGrants program.
- Goods Movements Committee
    - Meet monthly, developed a framework for action.
    - Framework has 4 pillars: health, safety, quality of life, meaningful engagement by impacted communities.
    - Developing a Goods movement Resource Compendium, similar to the NEPA Committee.
    - Problem solving subgroup: looking at real world issues, focusing on how to avoid litigation, stakeholder engagement, developing lessons learned/promising practices.
        - First Problem Solving subgroup meeting will occur in 2 weeks.
            - Planned Activities: Former Oakland Army Base – reviewing long range concerns, community impacts; midrange concerns, sufficiency of NEPA review (does current mitigation plan address issues); immediate concerns, developer is discussing using land for bulk coal transport.
        - Considering how to leverage inter-agency resources into existing community-based EPA efforts: Office of Transportation and Air Quality near-port

community pilots (Ports Primer, EJ Primer, Community Action Roadmap), MVD communities with goods movement activities.
        - Cross-cutting issue: NEPA. Considering developing best practices for goods movements NEPA reviews.
        - Challenges: recruitment
    - NEPA Committee
        - NEPA report will be finalized in the next two weeks.
        - Developing a lexicon of common terms.

- Action Items
    - Identify 2-3 priorities (with corresponding milestones to prepare for the Principals meeting) by May 2016.
    - Compile EJ assets data.
    - Post accomplishments/implementation reports.
    - Post strategies by May 2016.
    - Send Committee Roster.

- 3:20 - 3:30pm Next Steps/Announcements
    - Future Meeting Topics
        - EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
        - Focus areas for next 3 years
        - Title VI and EJ Issues
        - Community Spotlights
        - 2016 IWG Meeting Hosts

Upcoming Events
NEJC, March 9-12, 2016 (http://thenejc.org/)
NEJAC, March 15-17, Gulfport, MS
Civil Rights Symposium at DOT, March 8-10, Online/Virtual

EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
March 24, 2016 (Subcommittee Check-ins)
April 28, 2016
May 26, 2016

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6626
Washington, DC
Thursday, January 28, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Notes

- **Roll Call/Welcome**
  - *Call to order 2:00*
  - *Introductions: EPA R4, DOE, HHS, HUD, DOJ, DOL, DOT, GSA*

- **EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update** Mustafa Ali (EPA OEJ)
  - Organizations should be looking to communicate strategic plans and accomplishments (e.g. look at USDA's EJ Strategic Plan)
  - Communities will be interested in what comes out of the Deputies and Principal EJIWG Meetings
  - Flint: EPA issued an enforcement order to city and state and is testing water. EPA Flint activities can be accessed by clicking here: EPA Flint Activities
  - Senior Advisor Ali will have 1-on-1s with committee members

- **OEJ Director, Matthew Tejada Comments**
  - Best Practices document for incorporating EJ into the NEPA process is final.

- **Marsha Minter Updates**
  - OEJ has briefed EPA Acting Deputy Administrator and Chief of Staff for Deputies EJIWG on February 4, 2016.
  - RSVP's are due to Marsha by Monday, February 1, 2016.
  - EJ matrices are due
  - Accomplishments reports are due by February 11, 2016.
  - Karen Martin sent copies of invitations to the group.
  - Connect to the Department of Transportation - Federal Highway Administration's Human Environment Digest and Livability Initiative newsletters here.

- **Next Steps/Announcements**
  - Post Implementation Plans
  - Update Strategic Plan by May 2016
  - Principals Meeting will be in June-July time frame.

  - 2016 IWG Meeting Hosts

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- Meetings occur the fourth Thursday of each month
- Looking for hosts, will be hosted by EPA if no one volunteers
- Next meeting February 25, 2016

- **Upcoming Events**
  - February 4: Deputies EJIWG @ Washington, DC - EPA HQ.
  - February 11-13: New Partners for Smart Growth Conference @ Portland, OR.
  - February 17-19: Regional EJIWG @ North Birmingham, AL.
  - March 9-11: EJ Conference @ Washington, D.C.
  - March 16-17: National Environmental Justice Advisor Council (NEJAC) @ Gulfport, MS
  - March 16-19: National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) Annual Conference @ Washington, DC. Register by going to NCRC.org.
  - March 30-31: College / Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) Conference (EPA CUPP link)
    Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
    Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
    61 Forsyth St. SW
    Atlanta, GA 30303

- **Awards Ceremony**
  - EPA EJ Senior Advisor Ali recognized Deoohn Ferris for instrumental work to create Executive Order 12898.
  - Willie Taylor recognized for service to EJIWG.
  - Marsha Minter and Suzi Ruhl recognized members of the NEPA andAction Agenda Development team setting workgroups.

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From: Martin, KarenL
Location: William Jefferson Clinton South Building - Conference Room 6204 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20004
Importance: Normal
Subject: EJ IWG Monthly Meeting Call-in - 1-866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Start Date/Time: Thur 2/25/2016 7:00:00 PM
End Date/Time: Thur 2/25/2016 8:30:00 PM
EJ IWG 2-25-16 Meeting Agenda.docx

Updated Agenda Included

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building - Conference Room 6204
Washington, DC
Thursday, February 25, 2016
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

Agenda

- 2:00 - 2:10pm Roll Call/Welcome
- 2:10- 2:20pm EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update
- 2:20- 3:20pm Committee Check-ins
  Updates from Focus Area Subcommittees on FY 16 activities
- 3:20 - 3:30pm Next Steps/Announcements
  Future Meeting Topics
  - EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
  - Title VI and EJ Issues
  - Community Spotlights
  - Others?
  - 2016 IWG Meeting Hosts

Upcoming Events
NEJC, March 9- 12, 2016
NEJAC, March 15-17, Gulfport, MS

EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
March 24, 2016 (Subcommittee Check-ins)
April 28, 2016

May 26, 2016

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The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) presents

Access & Awareness Webinar Series

Established by Executive Order 12898, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) comprises 17 federal agencies and White House Offices that work together to guide, support and enhance environmental justice and community-based activities. Check out the EJ IWG Webpage (https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg) for more information.

The EJ IWG is hosting the Access & Awareness Webinar Series, a monthly event, to provide public access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. This series will help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating and what resources are available to anyone interested in improving the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

Upcoming EJ IWG Webinars

Title: Creating Safe and Healthy Environments for Children
Date: 10/13/2016
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
Purpose: Children's Health Month: Advancing the federal commitment of protecting children's environmental health and safety.

Title: Learning Together: Lessons Learned from Collaborative Place-Based Initiatives
Date: 11/10/2016
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
Purpose: Overview of the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration to showcase the importance of effective federal collaboration.

And make sure to subscribe to the EPA's Environmental Justice Listserv (https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=epa-ej) so that you can receive registration information on all our upcoming webinars and activities!

EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration

Fiscal Years 2016 - 2018

Working together towards collaborative and innovative solutions

MARCH 2016

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INTRODUCTION

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and CEQ Managing Director Christy Goldfus

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) plays a central role in creating healthy and sustainable communities by bringing together the federal family to address critical environmental justice issues. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines environmental justice as: *The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people-regardless of race, color, national origin, or income-with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.*

The EJ IWG provides leadership, guidance, and support to federal agencies by:

- Coordinating a focused and concerted effort by federal agencies to directly address the environmental, social, economic, and public health burdens in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities;
- Implementing policies that have measurable impacts on environmental justice;
- Focusing federal agency resources and technical assistance to address disproportionately high and adverse health or environmental effects; and
- Developing partnerships with colleges, universities, and other organizations outside of the federal government to facilitate long-term support for, and improvement in, overburdened communities.

The EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration (Framework) outlines goals for the next three years that advance greater federal agency collaboration to improve quality - of- life and support economic opportunities in overburdened[1] and under-resourced communities. Increased coordination and cooperation among federal agencies will promote holistic community-based solutions to environmental justice issues and ensure that the public has meaningful opportunities for participation in the decision-making process.

Successful community engagement meets communities "where they are" by employing approaches to outreach and communication that they value and find effective. The EJ IWG listening sessions held across the country between 2011 and 2015 generated numerous public comments that influenced the development of the draft Framework. The draft also underwent a public comment period and the EJ IWG reviewed and considered all of the comments received to develop this final Framework document. The Framework builds upon the earlier work of the EJ IWG and outlines activities, priorities, and resources to strengthen a comprehensive federal approach to improve the health and sustainability of those communities that need the most assistance. As the EJ IWG and its committees implement the Framework, the input received during the public comment period will continue to be incorporated, as appropriate, and the EJ IWG will work to ensure that its community engagement efforts are successful.

[1] https://compliancegov.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/211430208-What-is-the-definition-of-overburdened-community-that-is-relevant-for-EPA-Actions-and-Promising-Practices-

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BACKGROUND:
Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

The EJ IWG facilitates the active involvement of all federal agencies to implement Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," (Order)[2]. The Order states that federal agencies must identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.

Established by the Order, the EJ IWG provides a forum for federal agencies collectively to advance environmental justice principles. The EJ IWG works as a federal family to assist communities in building the capacity to promote and implement innovative and comprehensive solutions that address environmental justice issues.

The EJ IWG is chaired by the EPA Administrator and includes federal agencies and White House offices. The EJ IWG has standing committees and other committees established as necessary to carry out responsibilities outlined by the Order. The EJ IWG consists of senior leadership representatives, senior staff representatives, and other persons designated by a federal agency. Additional information on the EJ IWG governance structure and a list of agencies can be found in Appendix A of this document.

In 2011, the EJ IWG agencies took a landmark step to support environmental justice by signing a Memorandum of Understanding[3] on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (MOU) and adopting a Charter. The MOU serves as a formal agreement among federal agencies to recommit to addressing environmental justice through a more collaborative, comprehensive, and efficient process. The Charter, revised in late 2014,[4] outlines the EJ IWG governance structure which includes the following four standing (permanent) committees:

EJ IWG Senior Principals Meeting

- Public Participation
- Regional Interagency Working Groups
- Strategy and Implementation Progress Report
- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act

[2]Executive Order No. 12898, 59 F.R. 7629 (1994): https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/executive-orders/1994.html#12898

[3] Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (2011): https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-02/documents/clinton_memo_12898.pdf

[4] Charter for Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/charter-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice

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In addition, consistent with the Presidential Memorandum[5] issued with the Order, and based on public recommendations, every three years the EJ IWG determines if there are additional focus areas for federal agencies to consider and address.

Mustafa S. Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice

During years 2016 - 2018, the EJ IWG will maintain committees to address the following five focus areas:

- Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples
- Rural Communities
- Impacts from Climate Change
- Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement)
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Additional information on these committees is found in Appendix A.

[5] Presidential Memorandum for Executive Order on Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, 1994: http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/executive-orders/1994.html#12898

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EJ IWG FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION GOALS

The EJ IWG developed this Framework, which builds on decades of environmental justice work, to focus the collective efforts of the federal agencies on four goals for years 2016, 2017, and 2018:

DOJ ENRD Assistant Attorney General John C. Cruden

I. Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities;
II. Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues;
III. Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities; and
IV. Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities.

Outlined below are a few ways the EJ IWG committees will work to achieve the goals over the next three years.

I. Enhance communication and coordination to improve the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities

- Enhance community outreach to provide greater public access to federal information, resources, and trainings;
- Increase public access to and understanding of data, mapping, and assessment tools to address environmental justice issues; and
- Maximize opportunities for federal agency leadership to consider stakeholder feedback.

EJ IWG Tribal Meeting in Bismark, North Dakota

II. Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues

GSA Administrator, Denise Turner Roth

- Enhance community capacity building by sharing lessons learned, promising practices, and resources;
- Identify and leverage federal resources to address environmental challenges and build sustainable community infrastructure; and
- Foster federal interagency collaboration on a regional, state, tribal, and local level through various outreach efforts and other activities.

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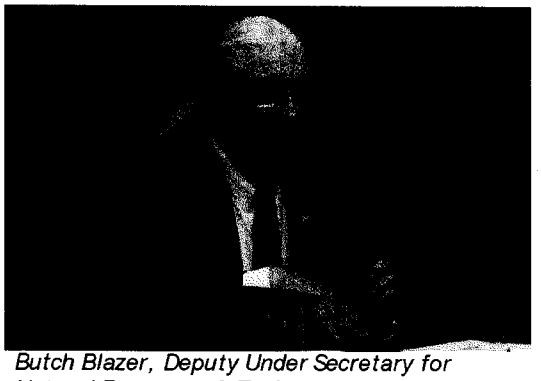
III. Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies, and activities

- Increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and goals to get feedback that assists the federal family in implementation;
- Identify opportunities to highlight interagency community solutions to help advance implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance; and
- Improve implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance by creating appropriate benchmarks.

Deputy Secretary of Transportation, Victor Mendez

IV. Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities



Butch Blazer, Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources & Environment

- Improve technical assistance to overburdened communities by leveraging programs such as the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP);
- Encourage enhanced training from federal agencies to academic institutions, particularly minority serving academic institutions and tribal colleges and universities, in areas such as grant writing and access to federal resources organized by community issues, rather than federal agency; and
- Develop internship opportunities for college students in overburdened communities to enhance the knowledge base of the communities and to educate college students on the conditions in overburdened communities.

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APPENDIX A: GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

EJ IWG Federal Agencies

- ☐ Environmental Protection Agency (Chair)
- ☐ Department of Agriculture
- ☐ Department of Commerce
- ☐ Department of Defense
- ☐ Department of Education
- ☐ Department of Energy
- ☐ Department of Health and Human Services
- ☐ Department of Homeland Security
- ☐ Department of Housing and Urban Development
- ☐ Department of Interior
- ☐ Department of Justice
- ☐ Department of Labor
- ☐ Department of Transportation
- ☐ Department of Veterans Affairs
- ☐ General Services Administration
- ☐ Small Business Administration
- ☐ White House Office: Council on Environmental Quality

The EJ IWG responsibilities and authority to act on environmental justice issues are established by Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," with two accompanying documents: 1) the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 and 2) the Charter for the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. Both documents are available at:

http://www3.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency/resources.html

The chart below outlines the committee structure and focus areas for the EJ IWG. The Charter created the Permanent committees listed in green. Consistent with the MOU, at least every three years, the EJ IWG will, based in part on public recommendations identified in annual progress reports, identify important areas for federal agencies to consider and address, as appropriate, in environmental justice strategies, annual implementation progress reports, and other efforts.

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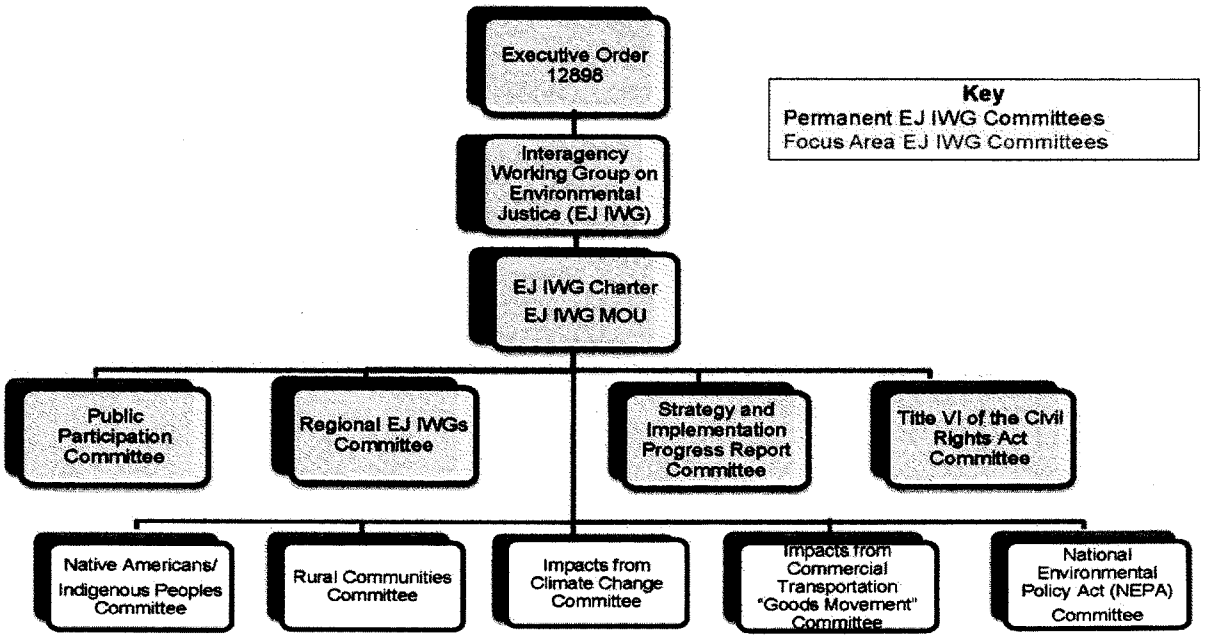
APPENDIX A: GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE (CONT'D)

EJ IWG Governance Structure 2016 - 2018



December 2015

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EJ IWG STANDING COMMITTEES
(PERMANENT, Displayed in green on the Governance Chart)

COMMITTEE NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE
Public Participation	Increases transparency, language accessible outreach and addresses technological barriers. Develops listening sessions and opportunities for public input. Facilitates collaboration and public participation with federal agencies and external stakeholders. Utilizes traditional means of communication and social media to build participation. Helps coordinate responses to public input.
Regional Interagency Working Groups	Provides targeted and coordinated technical assistance; develops relationships between federal field and regional staff; and develops best practices for prioritizing environmental justice concerns. Develops community resource materials. Strengthens education, training, and/or engagement on environmental justice among local and state agencies.
Strategy and Implementation Progress Report	Serves as a resource for federal agencies as they review, update, or develop their environmental justice strategy, and the annual implementation progress reports. Works with agencies to help coordinate programs, policies, and activities. Coordinates EJ IWG Senior Leadership meetings. Manages implementation of the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration and standard operating procedures.
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act	Serves as a resource to help agencies connect their civil rights enforcement responsibilities with their other efforts to achieve environmental justice.

EJ IWG AD HOC COMMITTEES
(AD HOC, Displayed in light blue on the Governance Chart)

COMMITTEE NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE
Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples	Facilitates effective coordination and collaboration of federal agencies in identifying and addressing issues of environmental justice that are of concern to federally recognized tribes, indigenous peoples (including state recognized tribes, tribal members, indigenous community-based organizations, Native Hawaiians, Alaska Natives, American Indians), and others living in Indian country.
Rural Communities	Supports efforts to: ensure collaboration between federal agencies and rural environmental justice communities, develop economic opportunities so rural overburdened communities are self-sustaining and economically thriving, and coordinate federal agency investments to further holistic community-based solutions that reduce environmental justice issues.

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EJ IWG AD HOC COMMITTEES

(AD HOC, Displayed in light blue on the Governance Chart)

COMMITTEE NAME	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE
Impacts from Climate Change	Supports collaboration across federal agencies and with communities with environmental justice concerns around climate change-related issues including facilitating consideration of vulnerable populations in agency climate adaptation activities; providing information, services, and data to help make communities more resilient; providing relevant tools, systems, and policies to communities and businesses to mitigate impacts on natural resources and human health due to climate change; and ensuring two-way communication around climate-change related issues. Implements the Educate, Motivate and Innovate (EMI) Project.
Impacts from Commercial Transportation "Goods Movement"	Serves as a resource to coordinate with other federal agencies on reducing environmental and health effects of commercial transportation and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement") that impact low-income, minority and tribal populations (overburdened communities). Ensures that overburdened communities have greater opportunities to access benefits from federal efforts related to goods movement.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Improves effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice principles in the NEPA process by sharing promising practices and lessons learned developed by federal departments and agencies.

APPENDIX B: 2016 PRIORITIES

The Framework spans a three-year timeframe. The 2016 priorities are a snapshot of the activities planned for implementation by the end of October 2016. The EJ IWG will produce an annual EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration Progress Report and increase opportunities for public input and engagement with the EJ IWG.

Collaboration

- Identify, highlight, and replicate, where possible, successful community-based models that leverage federal investments, technical assistance, and community-based resources; use the EJ IWG website and other appropriate methods to share these success stories with stakeholders.
- Increase collaboration and leveraging of resources for capacity building, economic investments, and research (e.g., climate, traditional cultural resources) in rural communities.
- Improve the effective, efficient, and consistent consideration of environmental justice issues in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by promoting the use of Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews.
- Promote awareness of and solutions to community-based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement (commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure) in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement.

Community Resources

- Issue and post on the EJ IWG home page a memorandum to federal funding recipients on how Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, applies to federally funded activities that have an impact on the environment and human health; use other appropriate methods to share the information provided in the memorandum with communities.
- Update and post on the EJ IWG home page a Community-Based Federal Environmental Justice Resource Guide and Directory and make the document available in multiple languages; use other appropriate methods to share the resource guide and directory information with communities.
- Post on the EJ IWG home page an Annual Framework Progress Report and the annual agency Environmental Justice Implementation Progress Reports; use other appropriate methods to share the information in these reports with communities.

External Communications and Outreach

- Through traditional and electronic communication methods, select EJ IWG Committees intend to conduct trainings, webinars, or presentations on EJ IWG focus areas to inform, engage, and provide community residents and stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback.
- The Public Participation Committee (PPC) will identify opportunities to increase transparency and address the linguistic, cultural, and technological barriers that exist between federal agencies and overburdened communities.
- The PPC will focus on prioritizing in-person outreach efforts through community visits and public dialogue sessions that solicit feedback from residents directly experiencing environmental impacts. The PPC will also explore opportunities to add state and local government engagement dialogue sessions as part of existing agency community outreach efforts.

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APPENDIX C: ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE FRAMEWORK

The EJ IWG will post annual progress reports (i.e., 2016, 2017, and 2018) on the EJ IWG website (https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg) to share its progress in implementing the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration. In addition, each federal agency will include relevant Framework highlights in their annual Environmental Justice Implementation Progress Reports posted in accordance with the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding[6] on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898.

[6] Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (2011): http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/executive-orders/1994.html#12898

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SEND COMMENTS TO **EJSTRATEGY@EPA.GOV**

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
Cc: Tennessee, Denise[Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov]
From: Jones-Johnson, Shea
Sent: Thur 8/25/2016 2:24:10 PM
Subject: RE: Action Required: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Meeting -- Request for Feedback in Preparation for Roundtable Discussion,

Thanks Cynthia!

-Shea

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 10:20 AM
To: Jones-Johnson, Shea <Jones-Johnson.Shea@epa.gov>
Cc: Tennessee, Denise <Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Action Required: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Meeting -- Request for Feedback in Preparation for Roundtable Discussion,

Hey Shea,

I only got one response but will put together some notes on each questions and have it to you shortly.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Jones-Johnson, Shea
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:39 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Cc: Tennessee, Denise <Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Action Required: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Meeting -- Request for Feedback in Preparation for Roundtable Discussion,

Hi Cynthia,

Did you get any input? Since Anne's CDO is on Friday, I need to finalize her package for this event today.

Thanks,

Shea

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 6:12 PM
To: R4 EJ Workgroup <R4_EJ_Workgroup@epa.gov>; R4 OEJS Staff <R4_OEJ_Staff@epa.gov>
Cc: Tennessee, Denise <Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov>; Jones-Johnson, Shea <Jones-Johnson.Shea@epa.gov>
Subject: Action Required: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Meeting -- Request for Feedback in Preparation for Roundtable Discussion,

Hello everyone,

Anne will be participating in next Monday's Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Meeting. She has asked for feedback in preparation for the Roundtable Discussion that she will be participating in. Please take a moment to review the three questions below and provide your thoughts. Please respond no later than 4:00pm on August 24th.

Thanks!

Cynthia

1:40 Roundtable Discussion: Lessons Learned Through EJ Strategy Implementation and

Collaboration

Moderator: Mustafa Ali

1. What do you see as the remaining challenges/opportunities to advance EJ?

2. How would you address the above using your EJ Strategy, the EJ IWG, or other relevant tools?

3. What steps should the EJ IWG take in 2016 to facilitate those efforts in the next Administration? Do you see a need for the EJ IWG to provide agencies with language that could be used in their transition planning documents?

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EJ IWG Regional Interagency Working Group (RIWG) Subcommittee – Dec. 1, 2016

Teleconference: 866-299-3188 Code (b)(6) Personal Privacy

GOALS: Discuss status of current projects and FY 16/17 Activities

1:00pm Roll Call/Welcome

1:05pm Committee Action Items (11/17 Meeting Recap)

1:10pm Webinar series Update

1:20pm Finalize Documents (Joey's 11-17 email)

EJ Resources & Terms- Access and Awareness Resource documents will be added as a supplement/update to the resource compendium in addition to the search terms document

Next steps: Jeanine and Marsha will meet with the Director of Comms at OEJ to discuss the best way to format and post the resource documents.

Interagency Collaborations

Next steps: Joey and Jeanine will review the most recent draft with everyone's comments included.

FY 16 Accomplishments/FY 17 Priorities

The Committee will discuss in more detail what "support" for the Regional IWGs looks like at a future meeting. The Accomplishments and Priorities for the committee have been submitted to Marsha and Jeanine for inclusion in the final report.

Next steps: FY 16 accomplishments for the Regional IWGs will be highlighted in the overall EJ IWG FY 16 Accomplishments Report.

1:50pm Support for RIWGs/Updates

1:55pm Next Steps

Team Members

- **Joey Baietti (HUD/Co-chair)**
- **Marsha Minter (EPA/Co-chair)**
- Evelyn Britton (GSA)
- Shannon Banks (GSA)
- Stephanie Wilson-Colemon (GSA)
- Gary Bojes (USDA)
- Cynthia Ferguson (DOJ)
- Sonya Neal-Reeves (USDA)

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- Daniel Hurley (USDA)
- Cheryl Kelly (DOI)
- **Jeanine Finley (EPA)**
- Erin Shew (CEQ)

AD HOC Members: **Kedesch Altidor (HHS/Reg.2),** Christine Ash, Barbara McGarry, Carsen Mata (EPA/Reg. 2), Jonathan Essoka (EPA/Reg.3), Cynthia Peurifoy**, Siobhan Tarver Whitlock (EPA/Reg. 4)**

Meeting Schedule: First and Third Thursdays @ 1pm

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Regional Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group

Interview Questions to Determine Guidelines for Establishing a Cooperative Environmental Justice Working Group

Structure

1. How did the group initially come together, who were the parties involved in the creation of the IWG?
2. What is the general structure of your IWG? How many chairs and co-chairs, how many members?
3. How did you decide that the current structure would be the most effective? What are the pros and cons?
4. What sectors and agencies are represented as members in the IWG? Example. Local/state/federal government, regional organizations.
5. What types of staff are on the committee- e.g. community focused, science focused?

Communication/Outreach

6. Do you have a formal process for meetings? (e.g. note taking, agenda prep, calendar invites?)
7. How does the group share information among its members? Is there a community site e.g. MAX.gov or webpage?
8. How do you share information with the public? (e.g. factsheets, reports, workshops, conferences, webinars?)

9. Have you held public meetings? If not, do you plan to?

Resources

10. Has the group received any outside resources or contractor support? (past or present)
11. If yes, what type of activities or projects has the contractor worked on?
12. If not, do you feel the group needs contractor support?
13. Do you get the type of support you need from the IWG ? If not, what type of support do you need?

Goals and Activities

14. What are the main goals of your IWG and how did you arrive at those goals?
15. How are the activities and priorities of the IWG determined? What is the decision process like for the group?
16. How often do you meet?
17. What is the level of effort that is required from each member, level of effort required to chair the working group? (amount of hours a week)
18. How do you evaluate the IWG's work, are there metrics used to track and evaluate success?
19. What will the group be working on in the next year?
20. What has been the most crucial element to your success?

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To: Olson, Margaret[Olson.Margaret@epa.gov]
Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Tennessee, Denise
Sent: Fri 6/10/2016 6:22:25 PM
Subject: RE: EJ IWG committee

I think #2 is appropriate for your skill set.

Also, Karen Smith has been trying to reach you about moving your computer and phone for Monday. Please give her a call at 404-562-9703 this afternoon.

From: Olson, Margaret
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 2:19 PM
To: Tennessee, Denise <Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov>
Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: EJ IWG committee

HI Denise,

Cynthia and I called in for the first planning call for the EJIWG National Funding Summit today. There is a great assembly of stakeholders so they are asking people to break out into one of the three tracks for future calls (with some calls still for everyone). The three tracks are as follows:

1) Just transition and workforce development training

2) Federal financial resources and business entrepreneurship development

3) Health and environmental technical training, education, and outreach

With my skill set, I am best suited for the 2nd track but if I wanted to check with you and Cynthia first to see if there is an area you particularly wanted me to work on.

Thanks,

Margaret

Margaret Olson

Environmental Engineer

USEPA Region 4 Brownfields Program

SC2 Liaison

(404) 562-8601

From: Tennessee, Denise
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2016 9:30 AM
To: Olson, Margaret <Olson.Margaret@epa.gov>
Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EJ IWG committee

FYI

From: Tennessee, Denise
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2016 9:23 AM
To: Olson, Margaret <Olson.Margaret@epa.gov>
Subject: EJ IWG committee

Hi Margaret,

The National EJ Interagency Working Group will begin planning a Funding Resources and Training Summit, August 2016, Washington, DC. I would like for you to be on the planning team. Cynthia Peurifoy will also participate. They will begin the planning calls in a week or two.

Thanks,

Denise

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To: Tennessee, Denise[Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov]
Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Olson, Margaret
Sent: Fri 6/10/2016 6:18:59 PM
Subject: FW: EJ IWG committee
EJ IWG National Funding Summit_2016.docx

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Thanks,

Margaret

Margaret Olson

Environmental Engineer

USEPA Region 4 Brownfields Program

SC2 Liaison

(404) 562-8601

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Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EJ IWG committee

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From: Tennessee, Denise
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2016 9:23 AM
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Thanks,

Denise

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What: 2016 National Funding Resources and Training Summit for Vulnerable Communities

When: October 25-26, 2016

Where: DC Metro Area

Summit Description

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) is committed to creating a community of environmentally healthy and economically independent individuals who are engaged citizens, contributing to the improvement of their place-based environments. In collaboration with the Federal Interagency Workgroup for Environmental Justice, the EPA will partner with the federal family, communities, states, tribes, local government, business, industry, foundations, nongovernmental organizations, and academia to leverage resources and capabilities to create successful outcomes in environmentally overburdened and vulnerable communities.

The EPA's October 25-26, 2016 National Funding Resources and Training Summit for Vulnerable Communities will support collaboration around environmental concerns (e.g., climate change, goods movement, just transition workforce development, business entrepreneurship, financial institutional education, etc.) and ensure vulnerable populations have access to information, services, and data to for increased resilience, engagement, and sustainability.

In addition, this Training Summit will offer information from foundations, nonprofits, and federal agencies to educate, share, and increase the communities understanding of available resources for addressing the concerns toward building healthy sustainable communities. The Training Summit will highlight best practices from community-based organizations and partnerships, outline challenges faced in economically distressed communities, and highlight resources, tools and techniques available to achieve sustainable success. EPA will lead two educational webinars. The first will be held leading up to and the second following the Training Summit to ensure effective and efficient sustainable results.

Objective of this 2-day Summit: In collaboration with the Federal Interagency Workgroup for Environmental Justice, the EPA will partner with the federal family, communities, states, tribes, local government, business, industry, foundations, nongovernmental organizations, and academia to leverage resources and capabilities to create successful outcomes in environmentally overburdened and vulnerable communities. **The Summit will outline a three section approach that encompasses:**

- **Just transition workforce development training**
- **Federal financial resources and business entrepreneurship development**
- **Health and environmental technical training, education and outreach**

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Grant Search Terms for Related Environmental Justice Projects

One of the Environmental Justice (EJ) Regional Interagency Working Group's (RIWG) goals is to develop a revised Community-Based Federal Environmental Justice Resource Guide ("Guide") that compiles Federal resources in a format that best serves the needs of community stakeholders and is readily accessible to them. The various federal agency programs accessible through the Guide will include resources focused on funding and technical assistance available to help communities address their environmental justice concerns. The original Guide, developed by the EJ Interagency Working Group (IWG) in August 2011, was designed to be a PDF document available in hardcopy or on the EJ IWG website. However, the revised Guide will leverage the wealth of information that is now available through www.grants.gov by directing communities to that tool for current information. While grants.gov is a great resource, it is important that communities know how to use it to find the environmental justice related information they seek. We are compiling a list of search terms to include in the Guide to help communities navigate grants.gov and pull up the most relevant information.

Overall Key Search Terms

- Environmental Justice/Injustice
- Marginalized Community/Communities
- Disadvantaged community/Communities
- Community-Based
- Underserved
- Place-Based
- Equity/Inequity
- Vulnerable Community/Communities
- Diverse/Diversity
- Low-Income
- Minority
- Tribal Nation
- Community/Communities of Color
- Disenfranchise
- Socioeconomic Status (SES)
    - Low Socioeconomic Status
- Health Disparity/Disparities
- Health Equity/Inequity
- Economically Disadvantaged
- Underrepresented
- Vulnerability
- Ex-Offenders
- Poverty
- Health Risk
- Health Impact/Impacts

EPA Key Terms

Description of the Community

- Minority communities/people
- Low - income communities/people
- Indigenous communities
- Environmental justice
- Unemployed people
- Under-employed people
- Overburdened communities
- Affected communities

Description of the Issue/Outcomes

- Community revitalization
- Sustainable development
- Equitable development

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Baietti, Joseph A
Sent: Fri 5/6/2016 2:39:12 PM
Subject: RE: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG Project)

Good morning Cynthia,

I am just checking in to see if Monday from 2pm – 3pm works for you?

Thanks,

Joey

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia [mailto:Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2016 2:22 PM
To: Baietti, Joseph A; Finley, Jeanine
Cc: Minter, Marsha
Subject: FW: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG Project)

Hello,

In response to Marsha's email below, here are some available time slots to conduct interviews with Region 4. Once we have a date and time established I will add additional regional folks who I think will be helpful.

Monday May, 9th: 2pm to 5:00pm

Tuesday, May 10th , 2pm to 4:00pm

Friday, May 13th, 10:00am to 12:00 noon

Please let me know if either of these times work for you.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Minter, Marsha
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 3:47 PM
To: 'Kedesch Altidor' <Kedesch.Altidor@hhs.gov>; Ash, Christine <Ash.Christine@epa.gov>; Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Mcgarry, Barbara <McGarry.Barbara@epa.gov>; Wenstrom, Michael <Wenstrom.Michael@epa.gov>; Guadalupe.M.Herrera@hud.gov; Darling, Corbin <Darling.Corbin@epa.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Sunaree K <Sunaree.K.Marshall@hud.gov>; Baietti, Joseph A <Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov>; Finley, Jeanine <finley.jeanine@epa.gov>
Subject: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG Project)

Happy Monday,

Hope this email finds you well. The EJ IWG has recently received requests for information and resources explaining how to start an environmental justice working group or committee that focuses on tackling environmental justice concerns in their region/community. In an effort to create these resources, we want to capture your insight and highlight your model/approach to developing and implementing a federal family EJ working group. This project will also institutionalize your work in this area and assist others who can build upon your efforts and lessons learned. The EJ IWG identified the following three regional focused models/approaches:

1) Regional Interagency Working Group in EPA Region 2 (Kedesch Altidor, Christine Ash, Barbara McGarry)

2) Regional Interagency Working Group in EPA Region 4 (Cynthia Peurifoy)

3) EPA Region 8: North Dakota Tribal Meetings, EJ Working Group, Partnership for Sustainable Communities/EJ working group (Guadelupe Herrara, Michael Wenstrom, Corbin Darling)

All three working groups function differently and can demonstrate different approaches to addressing environmental justice concerns in a collaborative process. We would like to interview you as one of the regions who has created a successful regional environmental justice collaboration. With the information gathered from the interviews, we will develop fact sheets to provide options to the federal family for creating regional collaborative models.

Joey Baietti, from HUD, and Jeanine Finley, a new addition to the Office of Environmental Justice at EPA (cc'ed here,) are the project leads and will conduct the interviews. We plan to complete this project by September and the project leads would like to schedule the one hour interviews between May 2 and May 20, 2016. If you would like to be part of this exciting project (pretty please) reply to both of them with a few dates/ times that work best for you during this time period. Also, let us know if they should interview others in your region.

Prior to the interview, you will receive a copy of the questions. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment for advancing EJ principles!!

Take Care,

Marsha

Marsha Minter

Associate Director

US EPA

Office of Environmental Justice

(202) 566-0215

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EJ IWG Principals Meeting: Passing the Administration's Leadership Baton
August 29th, 2016 Meeting Notes

Opening Remarks

CEQ: Christy Goldfuss

- Publishing NEPA promising practices and transforming NEPA.gov
- Spanish translation of NEPA citizens guide
- Just beginning conversation on climate equity and environmental justice, pushed by the EJ IWG Climate subcommittee. CEQ is hoping to see more funding and tools made available.

EPA: Gina McCarthy

- The Administrator is very proud of the progress the EJ IWG has made in the last few years and has played a major role in moving the EJ conversation forward
- EJ IWG published NEPA Promising Practices Report
- Educate, Motivate, Innovate Climate Justice Youth Initiative and NEPA videos to come soon
- EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series launched
- Permanent EJ staff in each of the agencies is very important, staff that do this work should also have access to senior leadership
- Stressed the importance of current EJ Strategies and Implementation Plans
- EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration a bridge that will guide the EJ IWG during the transition
- EJ IWG's Guiding Principles: Accessible, Aware, Accountable is a Foundation for the Framework
- Mentioned the City of Midway GA's work with the College Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP)

MD Commission on EJ: Vernice Miller-Travis

- This Administration gave the Executive Order new life.
- EJ Communities turns to federal government because they are rebuffed by state and local governments. Discrimination continues to exist. Federal government has the power to set parameters.
- Asks: Increased collaboration, Create a Region 3 EJIWG
- Letter of recommendations to White House included:
    - Creation of Office of Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization, and Senior Advisors at each of the Departments/Agencies
    - Increased enforcement and elevation of Title VI
    - Focus on a commitment to community rebuilding and revitalization

Roundtable Panel

EPA, Mustafa Santiago Ali, Moderator

- Acknowledged hard work of EJ IWG Sr. Staff Representatives and Committee Members
- Thanked the EJ IWG Team that planned this meeting

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DOJ, Eve Hill

- DOJ Leads the EJ IWG Title VI subcommittee
- Departments/Agencies should support Civil Rights Offices across the federal government
- Invited advocates to EJ IWG monthly meeting to discuss Title VI. Complainants need to be more informed in these processes. Increased transparency needed.
- Some communities perceive that Title VI Enforcement is dead.

Challenges:

- Using Title VI as a tool to address issues
- Chairing networks to support work, i.e. Office of Civil Rights
- Stakeholders need to know more about our processes to determine if those processes help the community
- Need to re-establish their (community) faith in the process

Opportunities:

- Coordinate more interagency work to share what works and what doesn't, i.e. Corpus Christy
- Facilitate communication with local entities i.e. Creation of a website
- Consistent messaging
- Mapping tools to help LEP communities
- Support the federal government in implementation of Title VI

Lessons Learned:

- Agency support for Civil Rights Offices is important
- More transparency with affected communities
- EJ IWG reminds us of power we have thru Title VI and how important agency collaboration is (Corpus Christy)

Next Steps: More coordination on Civil Rights Law, work through silos. Strengthen Title VI enforcement at each agency

DOE, Thomas Johnson, Jr.

DOE has a legacy of commitment to EJ, and issued its first EJ Strategy in 1995 which was renewed in 2007. Today DOE is in the process of updating its 5 yr plan. Three major priorities: agency integration, stakeholder involvement and interagency collaboration. One of the major lessons learned over the years is to meet with communities early and continually work with them to make sure they understand the projects, DOE ensures that they can provide input. Organize community meetings to not only provide information but also provide opportunity for capacity building. Another lesson is working directly with state regulators. For DOE, there is a difference between being informed and being knowledgeable on the issues going on around you. DOE is focused on the following:

- Agency Integration of EJ
- Stakeholder Involvement

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- Collaboration

Opportunities:

- STEM
- Workforce Initiatives
- Staff Retreats
- Youth education

Lessons Learned:

- Involve communities early and often, meaningful engagement. work with them continually and build capacity
- Collaboration with regulators as well as communities is important

GSA, Katy Kale/ Madeline Caliendo

Challenges:

- Looking into how GSA presence affects surrounding area
- Winning hearts and minds of stakeholders and communities

Opportunities:

- Making A Visible Difference (MVD) has helped provide a new, cross-silo perspective. (e.g. Alaskan Village – relocation. Able to get village a truck to get medicine and food.) informed GSA process/activity
- Database/tools connect agencies to identify spaces where GSA and other agencies can plan a role
- Need a more organized way of connecting
- Transition Handbook

Lessons Learned:

- EPA's MVD work has been important to meld agencies, see connections/intersections with agency's work
- Education on the difference between NEPA & Title VI
- Community advisory boards are valuable
- Work at your agency to include EJ in the transition handbook

Next Steps: Ensure EJ is a part of agency transition documents, Create a database/organization for agencies to work together on projects

Roundtable Discussion on Challenges and Opportunities

DOT, Stephanie Jones

- Secretary Fox asked that Opportunity Office be more proactive, less reactive
- Increase community involvement

- Trying to get in front of problems, working with communities earlier in the process, which requires organizational change
- Updating Title VI order
- "Every Place Counts Initiative" provides a way for architects and planners to better understand communities
- Looking to understand the differences between Title VI and EJ
- DOT is working very hard to build internal capacity on EJ, NEPA and Title VI
- The focus has been on embedding the knowledge into staff at the organizational level

Opportunities:

- Moving away from "linear" stakeholder input i.e. Every Place Counts program
- Intersection of differences between EJ and Title VI

Lessons Learned:

- Sometimes we need to "get in the way" to protect impacted communities
- Better to involve communities early at the beginning instead of having to do mitigation at the end. Makes process more efficient even though there is more work on front end.
    - A need to understand the intersection and difference between NEPA, Title VI and EJ. Internal agency education on compliance with NEPA may not mean compliance with Title VI

DHS, Teresa Pohlman

DHS has convened a working group made up of representatives from different components.

- Challenge: understanding difference between Title VI and NEPA
- Challenge: standardizing processes and procedures
- Just revamped Title VI Directives, creating an EJ Directive
- Reaching out to components that have field presence and improve internal coordination

Next Step: Create more community revitalization advisory boards

EPA Region 4, Anne Heard

EJ issues are complex and multi-faceted issues across multiple sectors we need to connect the dots despite complexity. People see federal government, not individual agencies

HUD, Harriet Tregoning

EJ IWG needs to identify most critical challenges. Figure out how to have meetings that focus on multiple agencies coming together to work on complex EJ issues. A lot of issues are regional not just one locality.

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Challenges:

- Address climate change and its effect on homes and families, long-term, eg. Climate change effects
- Regional issues

Lessons Learned:

- EJ IWG helps connect agencies to discuss how to leverage opportunities because this is the only space where agencies are coming together to discuss these issues, it will take all agencies.

Next Step: Work together on specific critical issues not just quarterly, policy oriented meetings and discussions

DOJ, John Cruden

- Soon to unveil website on 94 US attorneys and how to engage.
- Revitalize Native American communities – negotiated partial consent decree with VW. Monies are dedicated to go to the populations that have been disproportionally affected by the cars that were polluting.

USDA, Robert Bonnie

- Will work to diversify staff, committees
- Each area goes thru multiple levels of civil rights reviews
- "Strike Force Program" an asset to rural communities
- Natural Resources and Conservation Service and Forestry Service working with communities to address African American land loss in rural communities
- Signed MOU Southern Cooperative in SE

Challenges:

- Making sure progress remains strong through administrative transition
- Climate change and disproportionate impact on communities of color
- Addressing issues with landless rural communities, helping with establishing clear titles

Lessons Learned:

- Diverse workforce is an asset
- Outreach is critical
- Strike Force program to target areas to direct resources

DOE, Kedric Payne

- NEPA Subcommittee has institutionalized work, new leadership team will bridge Administrative transition

Next Step: Look at succession planning for EJ IWG subcommittee chairman

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DOI, Michaela Noble

Developed a new strategic plan, which integrates each bureau and charges each bureau to have EJ priorities. EJ is a national problem which requires a whole of government solution. There are many opportunities with Native American and Tribal communities and that work is very important.

Challenges:

- Resources issues
- Addressing digital divide and get information to communities that are failing to access it

Next Step: Refer digital divide issue to EJ IWG Public Participation Subcommittee

Special Recognitions

- EJ Champion Award was given to Arthur "Butch" Blazer, Former USDA Deputy Under Secretary
- The Department of Health and Human Services for Hazel M. Johnson Federal Agency Award
- The Department of Homeland Security recognized Quentin Pair, former EJ IWG Member
- EPA Region 4 Deputy Administrator Anne Heard recognized USDA and Region 4 staff for College Underserved Partnership Program MOU Development

Closing Remarks

CEQ, Erin Shew

Meeting Wrapup:

- Use transition as an opportunity to prioritize future work
- Include EJ language in transition documents
- Should include longer term goals
- Continuing IWG coordination
  - Databases
  - Increase communication
  - Build upon existing work

Post Meeting Discussion

EPA, Marsha Minter

Next Step:

- The EJ IWG Strategy and Implementation Committee will explore how the EJ IWG can support individual agency EJ work groups, and inventory the work that is going on or being discussed in order to ensure agencies are connecting and collaborating whenever possible

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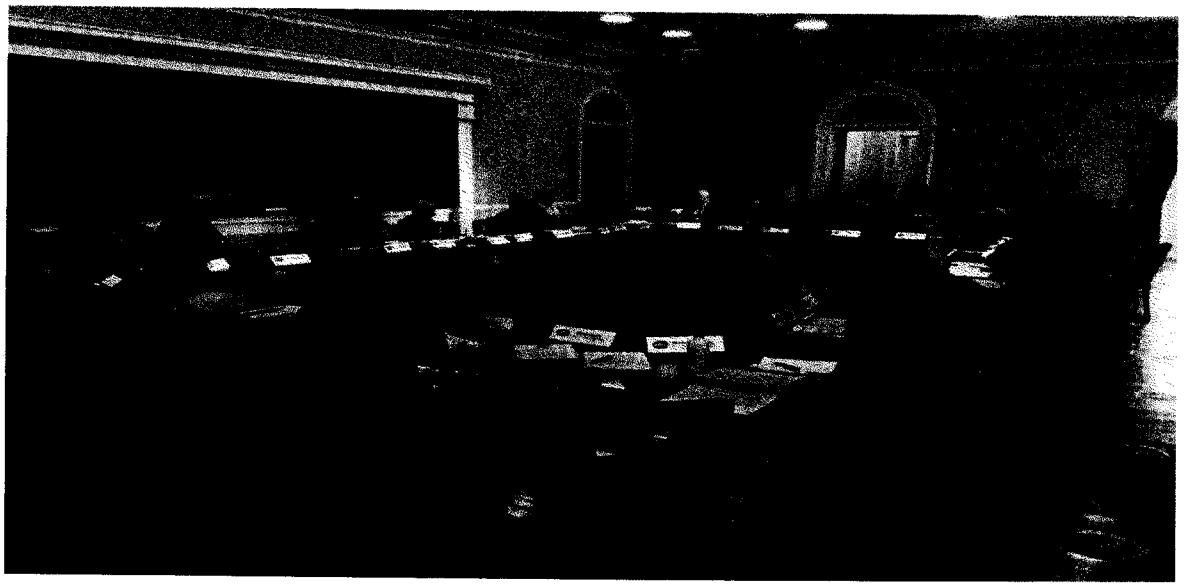
EJ IWG Principals Meeting

Passing the Administration's Leadership Baton

August 29th, 2016 Meeting Summary



On August 29th, the EJ IWG, in partnership with The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), hosted a Principals Meeting entitled "Passing the Administration's Leadership Baton: Lessons Learned through EJ Strategy Implementation and Collaboration." The program included opening remarks from Christy Goldfuss; Managing Director of CEQ, Gina McCarthy; Administrator of EPA and Vernice Miller-Travis; Vice-Chair, Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities. EPA Administrator McCarthy stressed the importance of maintaining strong EJ strategies in the months and years ahead. She stated that the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration will be the bridge that will guide the EJ IWG during transition and how important it is for agencies to ensure consistent participation of senior leadership and senior staff through the administrative transition. All three speakers expressed gratitude for the great progress that has been made in federal integration of environmental justice through the work of the EJ IWG.

These opening remarks set the stage for a wide-reaching roundtable discussion in which speakers from three agencies (DOE, DOJ and GSA) shared lessons learned from EJ strategy implementation and collaboration. Some challenges that agency representatives brought to the forum included the need to improve coordination and implementation of Title VI, the need to meaningfully engage with and build capacity of affected communities early and continuously, and the need for databases and new tools to help agencies connect on environmental justice.

EJ IWG Principals Meeting

Passing the Administration's Leadership Baton

August 29th, 2016 Meeting Summary

In addition to these presentations, agency representatives agreed that there is a need to increase capacity within the federal government around the differences between Title VI, EJ and NEPA. Leadership also suggested that the EJ IWG organize meetings that enable senior leadership to focus on the most critical policy challenges facing EJ stakeholders, instead of general discussions. Additional opportunities for collaboration that were discussed at the meeting are listed below and you can find more information on the many important issues that were discussed in the attached detailed meeting notes.

Additional Collaboration Opportunities:

- *Better coordination on Civil Rights Law, work through silos and strengthen Title VI enforcement at each agency;*
- *Create a database for agencies to work together on projects;*
- *Support the establishment of community revitalization advisory boards;*
- *Work together to convene policy-oriented meetings where senior staff can come together to discuss specific critical issues;*
- *EJ IWG support to individual agency EJ working groups.*

Specific work products that will result from this meeting include drafting environmental justice language that will be included in agency transition documents for the new administration. Additionally, the EJ IWG Regional Subcommittee is developing standard operating procedures that will support consistent conversion of subcommittee leadership in the future.

Finally, the EJ IWG acknowledged Arthur "Butch" Blazer, former Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA with the EJ Champion Award. Additionally, the Hazel M. Johnson Federal Agency Award, was given to the Department of Health and Human Services for outstanding achievement in environmental justice in 2015, and the Department of Homeland Security gave in impromptu recognition to Quentin Pair for his outstanding achievement in supporting DHS in environmental justice. Lastly, Gina McCarthy announced that the MOU between EPA and USDA in support of the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program was signed prior to the meeting.

Stay Engaged

To assist in ensuring the EJ IWG is "Accessible, Aware and Accountable" the Regional IWG Subcommittee has launched an Access and Awareness monthly webinar series. The first two webinars in the series have each garnered over 350 registrants and we are hoping to build on

that success going forward. Please assist in advertising the webinar series within your agency when the webinar flyers are provided and submit webinar ideas to the webinar team of the Regional IWG Subcommittee (webinar team contact: finley.jeanine@epa.gov or Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov). Additionally, please continue to refer to our EJ IWG webpage for more opportunities and continue to attend our monthly meetings. If you have additional follow-up questions please feel free to contact Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov). Lastly, the EJ IWG is heavily involved with planning for *the National Training and Resources Summit to Revitalize Vulnerable Communities* will take place on October 25th-26th at the Crystal City Marriott in Arlington, VA. The summit is working to enhance collaboration around environmental, health and economic concerns (e.g., climate change, goods movement, just transition workforce development, business entrepreneurship, financial institutional education, etc.) and ensure vulnerable populations have access to information, services, and data for increased resilience, engagement, and sustainability. For more information please visit the summit website: http://www.survivingtothrivingsummit.org/

Thank you again for your participation and for all of your hard work in making this meeting a success. The federal family continues to demonstrate the importance of advancing environmental justice principles with representation from 12 federal agencies including; the White House Council on Environmental Quality, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Justice, the Department of Labor, the Department of Transportation and the General Services Administration. I'm proud of how far we have come as a federal family and recognize that there is much more work to do. Let's continue to build off of the momentum we have and bring it into the next administration!

Be Blessed,

Mustafa Santiago Ali

Associate Assistant Administrator and Sr. Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

Attachment: Meeting Notes

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Target Audience	Need	Information to Address Need	Webinar Topic	Method to Reach Audience
Federal staff working on place-based initiatives and staff working directly with communities	Understanding of EJ as a term, a concept and a practice	How we define EJ, who works on EJ issues and examples of EJ issues, and descriptions of populations and individuals who are most likely to suffer from EJ problems.	Environmental Justice and the Federal Response	MVD, PZ and EJ IWGs
Communities requiring collaborative government assistance for revitalization	Understanding the dynamics of place-based initiatives, and the collaboration mechanism involving federal, state, local agencies, and the community	EJ IWG Collaboration Framework, Role of each agency involved, Examples of successful collaborative place-based initatives	Federal Collaboration for Community Revitalization (not the most creative title, I know.)	SC2, MVD, Southeast IWG (NB), NRI -Choice Neighborhoods
Rural communities	Financing rural revitalization efforts, understanding asset mapping	Federal resources available for rural communities, capacity building strategies, implementation of placemaking appproaches	Investments in Rural Development : Federal Resources for Small to Mid Sized Communities	EPA Technical Assistance Options: LFLP, Building Blocks, EJ Small Grants, USDA Rural Development Bank, CDFIs, PZ
EJ communities	Purpose of the IWG Climate Change Committee, and understanding impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations	defining "populations of concern" and determinants of vulnerability, adaption and resilience planning	Implications of Change on Populations of Concern	CC IWG efforts including Youth Climate Justice Workgroup, federal mapping tools, Climate resilience toolkit

Other Potential Audiences	Associated IWG Committee
	Regional IWG
	Rural Communities, Regional IWG Committees
	Climate Change Committee

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Tarver, Siobhan
Sent: Wed 3/9/2016 3:37:12 PM
Subject: RE: Write-up for OEJS@ Work eNewsletter

Got it. I will be sure to add this. Davina is currently reviewing all the content.

Thanks!

Siobhan

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 10:31 AM
To: Tarver, Siobhan <Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Write-up for OEJS@ Work eNewsletter

Hey,

Looks fine. The only thing I would add would be capturing GSA's agency spotlight showing how surplus government equipment and property can be assessed.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Tarver, Siobhan

Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2016 9:48 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Write-up for OEJS@ Work eNewsletter

Take a look—

This is what I drafted for the eNewsletter. Did I capture everything?

North Birmingham Interagency Working Group Convenes in Atlanta

On February 18th, EPA Region 4 hosted a meeting of the North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) in Atlanta, Ga, convening representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area. Over 130 people were in attendance for the meeting which included presentations outlining smart goals, progress thus far, and resources needed from the six sub-workgroups to address the community's concerns with blight and environmental degradation. Mustafa Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and Marsha Minter, National EJ IWG Program Manager were in attendance for the meeting. In addition, a community spotlight was given to the Ivanhoe Neighborhood in Kansas City, Mo., presented by Ms. Margaret May, current Chair of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC).

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice was established in 1994, under Executive Order 12898. The role of the EJ IWG is to guide, support and enhance federal environmental justice and community-based activities. In August 2014, EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies in the Atlanta region, began a Regional EJ IWG to assist with revitalization efforts in the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods in Jefferson County, Alabama. Visit the following links to read more on the North Birmingham Collaboration Efforts and the EJ IWG.

From: Tarver, Siobhan
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 11:19 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Thomas-Burton, Tami <Thomas-Burton.Tami@epa.gov>; Good, Sheryl <Good.Sheryl@epa.gov>
Subject: Write-up for OEJS@ Work eNewsletter

Good morning Ladies,

I am preparing the first edition of the OEJS eNewsletter for distribution in March to educate internal and external stakeholders on the great work we do in Region 4. This eNewsletter will be distributed quarterly, and must go through the PROTRAC review and approval process. The concept, layout, and design were approved last year, now we are on to content. I've spoken with each of you in reference to information that Denise and I discussed highlighting in this edition (Proctor Creek- Green Infrastructure, Northern Birmingham IWG Meeting, EJA update). This were suggested projects. If you have something that you would like to highlight instead of the projects Denise and I discussed, feel free to send me that information.

Please provide me with a write-up on your work. It doesn't have to be long… At least 4-5 lines, and photos are not required. I would like to get this entered in the system by Monday. I know it's a quick turnaround, but it's a short write-up. If you submitted this information in the WAR previously, that may work. Send it to me, and I will work with you to edit it to fit our audience.

I've included the draft so that you can see the layout. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks in advance,

Siobhan

Siobhan L. Tarver, Ph.D | Physical Scientist |
Office of the Regional Administrator | **Office of Environmental Justice & Sustainability**
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 | Atlanta, GA 30303
Voice: 404-562-8299 | **Email:** Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov

Robust Science, Clean Environment, Healthy Communities

Are you part of the 12% of EPA employees who have taken the Children's Environmental Health Training on EPA's eLearning Skillport site? If you haven't taken the training, either click on this link or paste this url into your web browser: https://epa.skillport.com/skillportfe/assetSummaryPage.action?assetid=_scorm12_epa_epa_ceh_fy12_fgc_

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North Birmingham Interagency Working Group Convenes in Atlanta

On February 18th, EPA Region 4 hosted a meeting of the North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) in Atlanta, Ga, convening representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area. Over 130 people were in attendance for the meeting which included presentations outlining smart goals, progress thus far, and resources needed from the six sub-workgroups to address the community's concerns with blight and environmental degradation. Mustafa Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and Marsha Minter, National EJ IWG Program Manager were in attendance for the meeting. In addition, a community spotlight was given to the Ivanhoe Neighborhood in Kansas City, Mo., presented by Ms. Margaret May, current Chair of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC).

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice was established in 1994, under Executive Order 12898. The role of the EJ IWG is to guide, support and enhance federal environmental justice and community-based activities. In August 2014, EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies in the Atlanta region, began a Regional EJ IWG to assist with revitalization efforts in the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods in Jefferson County, Alabama. Visit the following links to read more on the North Birmingham Collaboration Efforts and the EJ IWG.

From: Tarver, Siobhan
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 11:19 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Thomas-Burton, Tami <Thomas-Burton.Tami@epa.gov>; Good, Sheryl <Good.Sheryl@epa.gov>
Subject: Write-up for OEJS@ Work eNewsletter

Good morning Ladies,

I am preparing the first edition of the OEJS eNewsletter for distribution in March to educate internal and external stakeholders on the great work we do in Region 4. This eNewsletter will be distributed quarterly, and must go through the PROTRAC review and approval process. The concept, layout, and design were approved last year, now we are on to content. I've spoken with each of you in reference to information that Denise and I discussed highlighting in this edition (Proctor Creek- Green Infrastructure, Northern Birmingham IWG Meeting, EJA update). This were suggested projects. If you have something that you would like to highlight instead of the projects Denise and I discussed, feel free to send me that information.

Please provide me with a write-up on your work. It doesn't have to be long... At least 4-5 lines, and photos are not required. I would like to get this entered in the system by Monday. I know it's a quick turnaround, but it's a short write-up. If you submitted this information in the WAR previously, that may work. Send it to me, and I will work with you to edit it to fit our audience.

I've included the draft so that you can see the layout. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks in advance,

Siobhan

Siobhan L. Tarver, Ph.D | Physical Scientist |
Office of the Regional Administrator | **Office of Environmental Justice & Sustainability**
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 | Atlanta, GA 30303
Voice: 404-562-8299 | **Email:** Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov

Robust Science, Clean Environment, Healthy Communities

Are you part of the 12% of EPA employees who have taken the Children's Environmental Health Training on EPA's eLearning Skillport site? If you haven't taken the training, either click on this link or paste this url into your web browser: https://epa.skillport.com/skillportfe/assetSummaryPage.action?assetid=_scorm12_epa_epa_ceh_fy12_fgc

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To: Altidor, Kedesch (OS/OASH)[Kedesch.Altidor@hhs.gov]; Ash, Christine[Ash.Christine@epa.gov]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
Cc: Walter, Simone[walter.simone@epa.gov]; (cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov)[cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov]
From: Minter, Marsha
Sent: Tue 5/3/2016 7:29:52 PM
Subject: RE: Regional Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Meeting

Hi ladies--looks like things are progressing on the Regional Front--The EJ IWG Public Participation Committee is developing a fact sheet and would like to highlight some of the work of the Region 2 and Region 4 RIWG. Can you send a couple of paragraphs of specific activities that is occurring with your communities--and a nice picture is always appreciated ☺ within the next two weeks?

Below is an example from the Urban Waters Partnership Accomplishments Report to stir your creative juices:

COMMUNITY "HANDS-ON" PROJECTS

[redacted]

Let me know if you have any questions--thanks!!!
Marsha
-----Original Appointment-----
From: Altidor, Kedesch (OS/OASH) [mailto:Kedesch.Altidor@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2016 4:45 PM
To: Hoang, Anhthu; Mcgarry, Barbara; Enck, Judith; 'Ash.christine@Epa.gov'; Frazier, Tasha; 'Chris A Palin'; Gutierrez, Nilsa S. (CMS/CQISCO); Bane, Thomas M.(CMS/CMHPO); Thomas, Joyce (ACF); 'Everett Lo'; Becoat, W. Charles (FDA/ORA); Granville, Dilcia (FDA/ORA); Pace, Ronald (FDA/ORA); 'Brian Hickey'; 'Jacquelyn Pitta'; 'Carmine Gallo'; Castaldo, Anna (HHS/OCR); Colon, Linda (HHS/OCR); Cornell-Bechelli, Jackie (OS/IEA); 'Denise Pease'; 'Thomas Burke - 2PMT'; 'Gita Stulberg - 2A'; Gordon, Keith (OIG/OI); Nudelman, Jodi D (OIG/OEI); Vaouli, Elena (ATSDR/DCHI/EB); Graziano, Leah T. (ATSDR/DCHI/EB); 'Erik Langhoff'; 'Grace Protos'; 'Mark L Vrooman'; 'Robert A Angelo'; 'Aloia'; 'Angela M"; 'Jeff T Behler'; Hatfield, Jerome (DHS/FEMA); 'Kellie Ledet'; 'Rita D."; 'Kevin Berry'; Lerner, Joel J (HHS/OGC); Martillotti, Louis (PSC/FMP/CAS); 'Martina Parauda'; 'Michael Borgen'; Moss, Ronald (HRSA); Raggio, Tanya Pagan (HRSA); Ghosh, Chandak (HRSA); Otte, Kathleen F. (ACL/ORO/Region II); 'Paul Owen'; Peterson, Shirlene (HHS/OCR); Raheem, Murad (OS/ASPR/OEM); Romero, Dennis O. (SAMHSA/OPPI); Santiago, Yvonne (FDA/ORA); Garner, Kimberly (FDA/ORA); Stack, Michael (PSC/FMP/CAS); Ashford, Bronia (ACF); Donald, Cheryl (HRSA); Andrews, Barbara L. (ACF); Hurd, Raymond (CMS/CMHPO); Klitsberg, Barry (ACL/ORO/Region II); 'Miller, Samuel E'; 'Mirza Orriols'; Ofrane, Rebecca;

'Yolonda Jones'; Wesley, Terry; Gonzalez, Dennis (HHS/IEA); Pourakis, George (HRSA); Mills, Flaire; Siegel, Joseph; 'kulick.robert@dol.gov'; 'Jill Badami'; 'McCabe.Catherine@epa.gov'; 'Joseph.Seebode@usace.army.mil'; 'Pendse.sabina@Epa.gov'; 'Cribbs, Jennifer E'; 'Jeffrey.M.D'Agostino@hud.gov'; Malave, Claritsa (HRSA); Rossy, Madeline (HRSA); Davis, Michelle (HHS/OASH/RHA); 'minter.marsha@epa.gov'; 'barbara-anne.gardenhire-mills@sba.gov'; 'Horowitz, Susan I'; 'franklin.sandra@dol.gov'; 'Turner Tammy Y'; Meyers, Nicole (ACF); 'Leicht, Holly M'; Anderson, Lisa Lee (HHS/OCR); 'Parauda, Martina'; Harrison, Vennetta (CMS/CMCHO); Huertas, Evelyn; Jonathan, Grant; Klaber, Nica; Gutierrez, Claudia; Efrain Maldonado; 'Pokines, Cathy Rae'; 'Paynter, Sheryl L.'; 'Brighton, Nancy J NAN02'; Smith-Hirak, April (HHS/OASH/DRHA); Aguilar, Karina (HHS/OASH); Bennett-Pagan, Sandra (HHS/OASH); Vega, Genet (HHS/OASH); Lawrence, Justina (HHS/OASH); Lepore, Kristen (OS/ASPR/OEM) (CTR); Puertoreal, Anna (HHS/OASH); Ramirez, Angelica (HHS/OPHS); Vignier, Marline (HHS/OASH); Pinnock, Sandra (HHS/OS/IEA); Maddaloni, Mark; Wilson, Stephanie-M; christopher.newman@dot.gov; Mercadante, Vincent; Ligia.Jaquez@census.gov; Mosley, Carrie - NRCS, Somerset, NJ; Gardenhire-Mills, Barbara Anne; Lourdes.Maurice@faa.gov; Lindig, Carrie - NRCS, Somerset, NJ; gelica_r@yahoo.com; diane.crean@faa.gov; Maria.Stanco@faa.gov; Escobar, Leah; Scott, Zachary; Pendse, Sabina; Lockwood, Ronald; Ash, Christine; Vaouli, Elena; Obrien, Karen; calvin.edghill@dot.gov; Beck, Nancy; Cromwell, Travis; Wilkerson, Ronald; Tahsir-Rodriguez, Wesley (HRSA); allison.arias@gsa.gov
Subject: Regional Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Meeting
When: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 10:00 AM-12:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: 290 Broadway, Conference Room 27A; Call-in-Number : 866-299-3188 Access Code: 212-637-4072

Good Afternoon Federal Colleagues,

Please save the date for our next in-person Regional Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ RIWG) Meeting:

Wednesday, May 11th
10:00am to 12:00pm
290 Broadway
Conference Room 27D

The meeting will feature two speakers: Karen Washington and Brian Lang. Karen Washington is a Food Justice Advocate and Urban Farmer who will present about food justice. Brian Lang is from the Food Trust and will be presenting about food deserts. This is a great opportunity to learn more about these two important topics, both of which are concerns for all of our six focus communities.

Please share the invite with other federal colleagues on this important topic.

Thank you and look forward to seeing you on May 11th.

Thanks!
~Kedesch

Kedesch E. Altidor-Dorcély, Public Health Advisor

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Region II
26 Federal Plaza, Suite 3835
New York, New York 10278
212-264-5013
Kedesch.altidor@hhs.gov

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To: Kedesch Altidor[Kedesch.Altidor@hhs.gov]; Marshall, Sunaree K[Sunaree.K.Marshall@hud.gov]; Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]; Ron Milam[ron.milam@hhs.gov]; Smith, Rhonda[smith.rhonda@epa.gov]; christy.jackiewicz@gsa.gov[christy.jackiewicz@gsa.gov]; Evelyn Britton[Evelyn.Britton@gsa.gov]; Gary Bojes[Gary.Bojes@wdc.usda.gov]; (cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov)[cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov]; Luther.Jones@wdc.usda.gov[Luther.Jones@wdc.usda.gov]; Poliwka, Annette[Poliwka.Annette@epa.gov]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]; Tarver, Siobhan[Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov]; Trent, Chris B[Chris.B.Trent@hud.gov]; Erin_K_Shew@ceq.eop.gov[Erin_K_Shew@ceq.eop.gov]
Cc: Neal-Reeves, Sonya - NRCS, Washington, DC[sonya.neal-reeves@wdc.usda.gov]
From: Baietti, Joseph A
Sent: Mon 3/7/2016 8:39:38 PM
Subject: RE: Regional EJ IWG Working Group Meeting March 3
EJ IWG RIWG March 3 2016 Meeting Notes.docx

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached notes from our meeting on March 3.

Below is a message from Erin Shew-

As I mentioned yesterday on the Regional EJ conference call, the Coastal Erosion Working Group (CEWG), part of the Arctic Executive Steering Committee, recently released a catalogue of Federal resources aimed at assisting Alaskan communities to navigate the Federal alphabet soup of funding sources. I've attached it and it's also available online at http://www.denali.gov/images/documents/Other_Commission_Reports/Catalog_of_Federal_Resilience_Programs_for_A

Some of these programs and resources are Alaska specific and so may not be useful to the wider EJ community, but many are, especially regarding funding in Indian Country. The CEWG focuses primarily on risk planning and assessment and infrastructure development, since its mission is to coordinate interagency efforts on building resiliency in communities facing land loss and flooding risk due to climate change, and the catalogue reflects that focus with the types of programs it includes. Some feedback we've gotten from communities is that it needs application deadlines so communities can better plan when seeking funding, but overall is more useful to communities, especially those with a small work force, than just using Grants.gov because it helps them to be able to better plan where potential funding could be procured for projects.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Joey

-----Original Appointment-----
From: Baietti, Joseph A
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 11:31 AM
To: Baietti, Joseph A; Kedesch Altidor; Marshall, Sunaree K; Minter, Marsha; Ron Milam; Smith, Rhonda; Christy Jackiewicz (Christy.Jackiewicz@gsa.gov); Evelyn Britton; Gary Bojes; (cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov); Luther.Jones@wdc.usda.gov; Poliwka, Annette; Peurifoy, Cynthia; Tarver, Siobhan <Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov> (Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov); Trent, Chris B;

Erin_K_Shew@ceq.eop.gov
Cc: Neal-Reeves, Sonya - NRCS, Washington, DC
Subject: Regional EJ IWG Working Group
When: Thursday, March 03, 2016 1:00 PM-2:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: Call-in: 866-299-3188 Participant Code (b)(6) Personal Privacy

EJ IWG Regional Interagency Working Group (RIWG) Subcommittee – March 3, 2016

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Teleconference: 866-299-3188 Code: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

Region 4 Workshop Update

Great conference with good representation

Key takeaways for the IWG- Engaging youth and compiling successes from the communities to make sure that information is available for other emerging community groups as a resource

Looking to establish regional IWGs in Region V and Region III

Regional Workshop

Suggestion- instead of a workshop, hold a webinar series for communities to be involved

Focus on upcoming grant opportunities from each agency

Publish topics ahead of time so people can chose to attend the webinars that they deem important

Can have the presenters be folks who have been grantees in the past in order to share best practices and lessons learned

Can be used as training for community leaders

Utilize each agency's respective EJ networks to promote the series

Next Steps:

Gary to establish the DRAFT of how the series would run

Explain the tool to be use

All committee members need to look into IT resources to see the capacity of their webinar service in order to find a host

All committee members to think about different topics in order to establish the first month of webinars and then set a rotation

Create backups for topics in case people get called away

Setup a meeting on Thursday March 10, to discuss further details with those who are

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attending the NEJC

First webinar planned for April

Use the webinar series to establish a compendium of resources for EJ communities

Regional EJ IWG 2011 Resource Document

Marsha to reach out to Cheryl and Cynthia to discuss about intern help with the document update

Could we reach out to Grants.gov to establish an EJ category to have grants listed under that category? - Find the agency that has oversight over grants.gov

Should have a hardcopy available for EJ communities

Erin will share a similar catalog that CEQ has put together, which can be used as an example for the update to the 2011 resource catalog

Need to get ideas from communities about the most useful way to organize the catalog

Meeting Schedule

Meeting Schedule: First and Third Thursdays @ 1

Attendees

- Marsha Minter (EPA/Co-chair)
- Evelyn Britton (GSA)
- Joey Baietti (HUD)
- Gary Bojes (USDA)
- Cynthia Ferguson (DOJ)
- Sonya Neal-Reeves (USDA)
- Cheryl Kelley (DOI)
- Erin Shew (CEQ)
- Kedesch Altidor (HHS/Reg.2)
- Shioban Tarver (EPA/Reg. 4)

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U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Washington D.C.

March 2, 2016

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING

DATE: March 16, 2016
LOCATION: Gulfport, MS
MEETING TIME: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
YOUR TIME: **9:10 am**
FROM: Office of Environmental Justice

I. PURPOSE

YOU will deliver remarks and participate in a moderated discussion with the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) members on the first day of the NEJAC Public Meeting, which is scheduled for March 16-17, 2016, in Gulfport, MS. The meeting discussion will focus on community recovery and revitalization; technical assistance available to communities with environmental justice concerns; and climate change concerns of coastal communities. Once yearly a meeting is scheduled to be held outside of the Washington, DC area. This session will allow YOU to share YOUR appreciation to the NEJAC for its work in supporting YOUR goal of Making a Visible Difference in Communities. YOU will also show your appreciation for the six members whose terms expire June 2016. The session will provide NEJAC members with the opportunity to hear from YOU and to have a conversation with YOU about YOUR vision for the agency in several areas.

II. BACKGROUND

The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), a federal advisory committee to EPA was established September 30, 1993. The Council provides advice and recommendations about broad, cross-cutting issues related to environmental justice, from all stakeholders involved in the environmental justice dialogue. In addition, the NEJAC provides a valuable forum for discussions about integrating environmental justice with other EPA priorities and initiatives.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Please provide a bulleted list of all key participants, including EPA staff:

- YOU
- Margaret May, NEJAC Chair and Executive Director, Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council in Kansas City
- Javier Francisco Torres, NEJAC Vic-Chair and Technical Assistance Manager, Border Environment Cooperation Commission
- Matthew Tejada, Designated Federal Officer
- EPA Region 4 Regional Administrator Heather McTeer

- Mustafa Ali, Senior Advisory to the Administrator for Environmental Justice
- Approximately 150 people will be in attendance. This includes NEJAC members, members of the public and EPA staff.
- NEJAC Membership – See Attachments

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Please provide a bulleted step-by-step of the sequence of the event, highlighting the Administrator's/Deputy Administrator's role. This does not have to include a specific tick-tock, but rather should provide a general sense of how the meeting/event will run. The Administrator's/Deputy Administrator's role should be highlighted by capitalizing and bolding references to her/him, as follows:

- 9:00 AM – Matthew Tejada, Designated Federal Official and Margaret May, NEJAC Chair introductory remarks
- 9:05 AM – Heather McTeer Toney, Region 4 Regional Administrator introduces **YOU**
- **9:10 AM** – **YOU** deliver remarks
- **9:25 AM** – Following **YOUR** remarks **YOU** participate in a Q&A session with the meeting participants moderated by Margaret May, NEJAC Chair.
- 9:55 AM – Margaret May, NEJAC Chair will conclude the Q&A session and deliver closing remarks
- **10:00 AM YOU** participate in a photo-op with the meeting participants and depart

V. PRESS

At this time members of the press have not registered to attend. The meeting is open press and this meeting is a public meeting and your comments will be on record.

VII. TALKING POINTS

Additional talking points provided under separate.
EPA Region 4 talking points listed below.

Please insert a few bullet points of notes in this section. If formal remarks (including introductory remarks) or talking points are required, please note whether they are included as an attachment or if they will be provided under a separate cover and by whom.

Region 4 Making a Visible Difference Community- Communities along the Turkey Creek Watershed (North Gulfport, MS)

- Region 4's Water Protection Division and Gulf of Mexico Program Office have worked diligently with residents to address ongoing water quality concerns in Turkey Creek. Recently, we have worked with our state partners, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality to provide water quality and *E. coli* monitoring data directly to the Turkey Creek Steering

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Committee (includes state, local and community members) to meet a community requested need for more data on which to make decisions. We continuously sample 4 stations weekly on the creek in partnership with the EPA Gulf of Mexico Program, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and the North Gulfport 8th Grade. Middle Tennessee State University has agreed to conduct source tracking and the Gulf of Mexico Program and ORD Gulf Ecology Division will conduct nutrient/phytoplankton/viral monitoring in the creek starting March 2016.

- Region 4 staff and MVD Team continues to maintain communication with all stakeholders, including, the city, state, and citizens to assess our role in improving the overall quality of life for the Gulfport community. We regularly respond to requests to meet with residents and we have opened positive and effective lines of communication with local, state, and federal officials, including the Mayor's office and congressional representatives.

Colleges/Universities and Underserved Communities Partnership Program

- CUPP provides a creative approach to partnering and delivering technical assistance to small underserved communities from local colleges and universities at no cost to the communities.

- By leveraging existing EPA partnerships with colleges and universities, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, the program combines environmental justice concerns and mission related objectives of multiple agencies with core curriculum objectives of local colleges and universities.

- Communities benefit from the investment of innovative technical assistance and approaches provided by top students attending academic institutions in the southeast.

- Currently we have active partnerships at 30 schools in all eight Region 4 states, in addition to Utah, Colorado, Arkansas, and Louisiana. Over the next couple of months, we will add schools in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Arizona, and New Mexico.

- We have also partnered with five federal agencies and look to expand to include several additional agencies over the next six months.

- We are currently engaged with several communities in Mississippi. For example, here in the Biloxi/Gulfport area, we are actively developing support for the Asian fishing community by partnering with the University of Southern Mississippi and the Port of Gulfport. These organizations are committing to incorporating training and developmental opportunities to the Asian fishing community, which is still suffering greatly from Hurricane Katrina and the BP Oil Spill.

Region 4 Office of Environmental Justice Summary of Work

North Birmingham Infrastructure, Parks, & Recreation Subgroup

Background

- EPA *has* shown tremendous dedication to our commitments within the North Birmingham Community. Not simply through the tireless efforts of my staff, but with our limited resources as well.

Message

- Take for example, the funds committed to address flooding issues in the North Birmingham communities.
- This was an $80,000 commitment through EPA's Regional Sustainable Environmental Science Program to develop a Green Infrastructure Costing Module and Stormwater Calculator that will provide high resolution data on ecosystem services and community benefits and which will assist the City in determining the costs of various stormwater control measures.
- Also consider EPA's commitment to improving development codes with the use of innovative green infrastructure.
- How did we commit? A $42,200 EPA technical assistance contract was provided to the City of Birmingham to help the City define new stormwater ordinances and land development codes that promote greener infrastructure while still encouraging needed redevelopment.
- The Infrastructure, Parks, & Recreation Subgroup is also working on capitalizing on the great momentum the City of Birmingham has gained by improving Maclin Park.
- The Subgroup will focus on connecting this improved recreational area to the historic Bethel Baptist Church with green infrastructure enhancements along a walkable trail.
- This is good news for the City of Birmingham and represents forward movement and progress towards achieving the communities' goals.

Region 4 EJ Complaints Process

Background

- Currently, Region 4 receives the highest number of inquiries into the National EJ Hotline Database, which is currently managed by Office of Environmental Justice.
- In addition to these national complaints, the Region receives complaints through various other means, including direct calls and emails from citizens, Congressional and Executive Controls, and through media programs and offices within Region 4.

Message

- Streamlining the process by which these complaints are handled would potentially:
  - ✓ Increase Region 4's ability to effectively manage and address increasing numbers of complaints,
  - ✓ Increase awareness of staff activity in the affected communities,
  - ✓ Add valuable input into Region 4's current efforts to develop community measures,
  - ✓ Provide a roadmap for newly developed community-based sections and branches within various Region 4 Divisions,
  - ✓ Increase response times to regional complaints in the National EJ Hotline Database, and
  - ✓ Inform other regional processes for handling environmental justice inquiries.

Proctor Creek Health Impact Assessment Project

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Background

- R4's Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability alongside EPA's Office of Research and Development partnered on a 2-year project in 2013 exploring a new science tool that examines and judges the potential effects on the health of a population. This science tool is called a Health Impact Assessment (HIA).

Message

- This is one of the Agencies first ever "EPA-led" Health Impact Assessment (HIA) case studies, conducted in Region 4, and located in Atlanta, GA in the Proctor Creek Community which is predominately low-income and African American.
- The HIA examined both the positive and negative health impacts within a half-mile radius of the proposed Boone Boulevard "Green Street" to address flooding issues and some of the community's needs.
- The Green Street is being installed by the City of Atlanta's Watershed Program who was a partner throughout the process and plans to incorporate several of the findings from the HIA in the design of the green street.
- I've learned from my staff that Equity is a core value of a Health Impact Assessment and is used by HIA practitioners across the United States to advance equity in decision-making.
- It is an effective way for communities to engage in decision-making processes that ensure adequate community outreach and ground-truthing, thus achieving equity outcomes.
- Further, my staff has informed me that the City of Atlanta's Watershed program has taken further steps to secure an additional 2.1 million in funding for beautification and intends to incorporate the "Envision® Sustainable Infrastructure Rating System" certification to help the project team identify sustainable approaches during planning, design, construction, and operation.
- The 273 page full report and 34 page executive summary of the Health Impact Assessment can be found on EPA's Office of Research and Development website at: **http://www.epa.gov/healthresearch/health-impact-assessments**
- Final construction of the green street is anticipated summer 2017.....and this is truly a successful partnership between EPA – Region 4, community, and local government.

Environmental Justice Academy

Background

- The EJ Academy launched in September 2015 to provide community-based leaders with 1) Skills to articulate and identify environmental concerns in their community, 2) Advocate for their needs, and 3) work collaboratively with their organization, community and other partners to address barriers.
- The EJ Academy utilized a facilitated, hands-on learning approach that incorporates
  - EPA's Collaborative Problem Solving Model,
  - the Appreciative Inquiry Philosophy, and
  - Smart Growth Building Blocks Process and leadership principles.

Message

- The inaugural class started with 26 participants. At least half of the participants are from outside the Metropolitan Atlanta Area from Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and South Carolina.
- The class will culminate in May 2016 with a graduation and presentation of their portfolios.
- Participants have realized many successes since joining the EJ Academy, such as increasing partnerships, leveraging additional resources, and understanding environmental laws and regulations.

Southeastern Multi-Media Geographic Priority Projects Program: Financial Assistance Awards
Background

- EPA has provided more than $470,000 in financial assistance awards to Region 4 stakeholders under its Environmental Justice Small Grants and Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Programs and the Southeastern Multi-Media Geographic Priority Projects Cooperative Agreement Program.

Message

- The project goals and accomplishments consist of the "EPA's Themes - Meeting the Challenge Ahead" that includes: (a) "Taking Action on Toxics and Chemical Safety", (b) "Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality," (c) "Protecting Water: A Precious Limited Resource" and (d) "Working for a Sustainable Future."
- During FY 2015, EPA provided financial assistance awards under the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program to four (4), regional, communities located in the states of Florida, North and South Carolina. Three of the projects will focus on Climate Change and the fourth on water-based toxics.
- Under the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program, the projects' grant awards' focus includes: Reducing housing-related asthma hospitalizations and community awareness and education in Greensboro, North Carolina and community awareness and education concerning the harmful effects of lead exposure in addition to preventative techniques throughout the Mississippi Delta.
- Under the Southeastern Multi-Media Geographic Priority Projects Cooperative Agreement Program, the projects' grants awards focus included: College cafeteria composting including outreach and education activities; pedestrian activity and safe bicycle usage and a college curricula's sustainability module.
- The successes of these projects includes:
  - A sustainability module added to all sections of a college's first year curricula.
  - A college sustainability workshop.
  - Implementation of pedestrian activity and safe bicycle usage.
  - Integrated composting tubs in a college cafeteria.
  - Creation of a Native Plant Garden.
  - Replaced refrigerators requiring more energy demands with "EPA Energy Star Refrigerators" in college dorms.
  - Creation of an electronic map displaying asthma cases in targeted zip codes that overlay code compliance violations, poverty index data and other indicators regarding housing and community barriers.

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Regional IWGs Committee

Background

- The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) plays a central role in creating healthy and sustainable communities by bringing together the federal family to address critical environmental justice issues.
- In 2011, the EJ IWG agencies took a landmark step to support environmental justice by signing a Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898 (MOU) and adopting a Charter. The MOU serves as a formal agreement among federal agencies to recommit to addressing environmental justice through a more collaborative, comprehensive, and efficient process. The Charter, revised in late 2014, outlines the EJ IWG governance structure which includes the following four standing (permanent) committees:
  - Public Participation
  - Regional Interagency Working Groups
  - Strategy and Implementation Progress Report
  - Title VI of the Civil Rights Act

Message

- The Regional IWGs Committee is a **standing** committee of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG). This committee serves as a regional engagement team for the EJ IWG, and is Co-Chaired by Marsha Minter (EPA) and Sunaree Marshall (HUD).
  - Includes HQ based staff from HHS, USDA, GSA, DOJ, DOI
  - Includes HHS and EPA staff from Regions 2, 3, 4 (Cynthia Peurifoy and Siobhan Tarver from R4).

The committee provides:

  - Targeted and coordinated technical assistance; develops relationships between federal field and regional staff.
  - Develops best practices for prioritizing environmental justice concerns.
  - Develops community resource materials.
  - Strengthens education, training, and/or engagement on environmental justice among local and state agencies.

EJ and Permitting Training in Pascagoula, MS

Background

- Region 4 staff, along with staff and contractor support from EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, supported the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality's Community Air Permitting Workshop that took place in Pascagoula, Mississippi in 2014. The workshop was organized in response to a myriad of concerns raised by residents of the heavy industrial area in which they live and was well attended. The Cherokee Concerned

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Citizens continue to be concerned about industrial pollution and recently followed up by meeting with the Jackson County Local Emergency Personnel Committee. They discussed a fuel tank that leaked last September that is about 12 miles from the Pascagoula Community. The community feels that there was not sufficient and timely notice about the chemical leak. There is a DuPont facility in DeLisle, MS that community folks are concerned about.

Message

- EPA will continue to provide support to MDEQ at address concerns raised by residents in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

VII. ATTACHMENTS

Agenda
NEJAC Work Plan Gantt Chart
NEJAC Charges Outline
NEJAC Membership List

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From: Baietti, Joseph A
Location: Call-in: 866-299-3188 Participant Code (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Importance: High
Subject: Canceled: Regional EJ IWG Working Group
Start Date/Time: Thur 4/6/2017 5:00:00 PM
End Date/Time: Thur 4/6/2017 6:00:00 PM

;;
Hi team,
We have decided to cancel this week's meeting. We would like everyone to start thinking of a timeline for our projects with some good benchmarks to measure our progress along the way. We will also need to start brainstorming some ways we can work to assist the CUPP program and expand our networks in other regions. During our next call, we will need to start discussing our talking points for the upcoming Community Solutions call in May.
Let's all think about in what type of format we would like to compile the webinar resources, how we can start networking with other regions, and where we can provide a value-add to other agency initiatives. This is an exciting time for our committee to expand our scope and promote EJ among regional federal collaborations! Let's take some time to think about next steps and all meet again in a couple weeks.
Best,
Marsha and Joey

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From: Finley, Jeanine
Sent: Wed 4/5/2017 4:27:47 PM
Subject: Webinar recordings are now posted online!

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in the Federal Interagency Working Group and the *Access and Awareness Webinar Series.* This email is to notify the registrants of Discrimination Protections and Promising Practices in Federally Assisted Emergency Management and Brownfields to Healthfields: Championing the Triple Bottom Line for Community Infrastructure that the webinar recordings have been posted on our webpage, you will find these recordings **under the EJ IWG Webinars Tab**.

Link to the EJ IWG Page:

https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg

Thanks again for your interest in our webinar series!

Subscribe to the EPA's Environmental Justice Listserv (https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=epa-ej) to receive information on Environmental Justice activities that are happening around the federal government!

Jeanine Finley

Program Coordinator | Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Office of Environmental Justice
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW | Washington, DC 20460

Office: 202-564-2195

Mobile: 202-309-4208

Before printing this email, assess whether a hard copy is really needed. Think GREEN!

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FY 16 Federal Interagency Working Group Progress Report

I. Creating Change through Collaboration

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) is comprised of 17 federal agencies and White House offices working together to – advance environmental justice principles across the federal government, engage and support local communities in addressing environmental and human health impacts, and promote and implement comprehensive solutions to environmental justice concerns.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines Environmental Justice as:
The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people-regardless of race, color, national origin, or income-with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

The EJ IWG provides leadership, guidance, and support to federal agencies by:

- Coordinating a focused and collaborative effort across the federal government to address the environmental, social, economic, and public health burdens in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities;
- Identifying and supporting policies that have measurable impacts on environmental justice;
- Focusing federal agency resources and technical assistance to address disproportionately high and adverse health or environmental effects; and
- Developing partnerships with colleges, universities, and other organizations outside of the federal government to facilitate support for, and improvement in, overburdened communities.

The EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration ("Framework") outlines the goals of the working group for fiscal years 2016 through 2018, which will advance greater federal agency collaboration, improve quality-of- life and support economic opportunities in overburdened and underresourced communities. The Framework also includes information on the formation and governance structure of the EJ IWG.

Fiscal year 2016 was the first year of implementation of the Framework for Collaboration. The EJ IWG is delighted to present some of its many accomplishments for this fiscal year in this annual progress report. In addition to highlighting some outstanding environmental justice work being carried out through interagency collaboration, this report also features some of the incredible work of the individual partner agencies of the EJ IWG.

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II. EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration

The EJ IWG developed the Framework, which builds on decades of environmental justice work and community engagement, to focus the collective efforts of the federal agencies. Successful community engagement meets communities "where they are" by employing approaches to outreach and communication that highlight federal collaboration and provide tools and resources to enable the public to address environmental injustice in their local communities. The Framework included fiscal year 2016 priorities to increase opportunities for public input and engagement with the EJ IWG. The following is a snapshot of accomplishments achieved under the Framework's four key goals:

Accessible

Aware

Accountable

Goal 1: Enhanced Communication and Coordination

Enhanced communication and coordination to improve health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

In FY 2016, through traditional and non-traditional electronic communication methods, the EJ IWG increased access and awareness about critical environmental justice activities to inform, engage and provide community residents and stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback to federal agencies. Highlights include:

External Communications and Outreach

Access and Awareness Webinar Series The EJ IWG successfully reached over 700 individuals with the launch of a monthly webinar series, in FY 2016. Over 350 people participated in webinars that highlighted environmental justice initiatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). The webinar series has provided an opportunity for various agencies and subject matter experts to discuss different approaches, provide resources, share guidance, and highlight programs that help address environmental injustices across the county. The following

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chart provides a description of the fiscal year 2016 webinar topics and a link to access the webinar recordings:

FY 16 Webinars	*Descriptions*	*Recordings*
Federal Agencies Convening for Environmental Justice: Connecting Communities to Green Space, Healthcare and Jobs	Introduction to the EJ IWG and highlighting three innovative federal projects from the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor and the Department of the Interior, National Parks Service	Access and Awareness webinar recordings can be found on the EJ IWG webpage: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg
Increasing Awareness of Federal Grants and Resource Opportunities	Overview of how to use grants.gov to apply for federal funding along with grant opportunities available for communities from EPA and USDA	
Climate Justice Webinar	(?)	(?)

The Access and Awareness Webinar Series has continued in fiscal year 2017 and additional webinar recordings will be posted as they become available.

EJ IWG Factsheet Updated

The EJ IWG updated its Factsheet in fiscal year 2016 to better illustrate its work and the resources available to help overburdened communities improve the environment, health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in their communities. Community Spotlights were incorporated to provide concrete examples of the efforts underway. The revised Factsheet is now available on the EJ IWG's webpage [https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg] in English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese. It will also be available at events attended or hosted by the EJ IWG.

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Goods Movement Federal Resources Compendium

Developed the *Goods Movement Federal Resources Compendium* which is intended to provide overburdened communities, community stakeholders and other interested parties with comprehensive access to publically available federal resources (e.g., agency strategies, guidance documents, reports, funding mechanisms, data and assessment tools) that may be useful to communities impacted by goods movement activities. The Compendium has been reviewed and approved by EJ IWG agencies and will be made publically available in 2017.

Community Spotlights

Since September of 2014, the EJ IWG has provided opportunities for non-profits to attend a monthly meeting and make presentations on an environmental justice issue or program. In that time the EJ IWG member agencies have welcomed representatives from Maryland Institute of Applied Environmental Health to discuss community-based monitoring of pollution in the Anacostia River, CARDNO to discuss Brownfields to Healthfields programs and representatives from the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program to discuss revitalization of the Selma to Montgomery (Voting Rights Act) National Historic Trail. In fiscal year 2016, the EJ IWG welcomed Robert Garcia of the City Project to discuss Title VI and urban green space equity in Los Angeles, California (see https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-08/documents/the_city_project_iwg.pdf). In addition, numerous Title VI and EJ advocates participated in an EJ IWG meeting lead by the EJ IWG Title VI Committee to discuss strengthening enforcement across the federal government.

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Goal 2: Enhance multi-agency support

Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues

In FY 16, the EJ IWG promoted awareness and increased collaboration to leverage resources for capacity building, economic investments in minority, low-income, indigenous and tribal communities. Highlights include:

Collaboration and Engagement

A. Rural Communities

Held Community Engagement Forum and B2H Session at the Central Appalachia Regional Brownfields Conference

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Improving Health and Wellness in Rural Communities through Brownfields to Healthfields (B2H): Fostered collaborations that access federal capacity to transform brownfields into end uses that improve access to health and healthcare, food security, recreation, and renewables, especially in overburdened and underserved communities. Engaged in Central Appalachia Regional Brownfields Conference by convening community engagement forum and B2H session. Established affinity working groups on increasing access to rural health care and to advance renewables through biomass.

Facilitated dialog on Improving Drinking Water Quality through Addressing Inadequate Water Infrastructure in Rural America

Improving Drinking Water Quality through Addressing Inadequate Water Infrastructure in Rural America: Addressing adverse environmental and public health impacts and reduction of exposures in ground water and drinking with from failing and/or none existing decentralized septic systems. Convened facilitated dialogues to engage experts in the technical, financial, health and management from across the federal family.

Convened a facilitated dialogue with relevant USDA and other federal departments to advancing the B2H model by aligning food access with housing access.

Increasing Access to Healthy Food for low income, minority population in Bridgeport, CT: Convened a facilitated dialogue with relevant USDA and other federal departments.

B. Title VI and EJ Workshop

Hosted Title VI and EJ Workshop at National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program.

More than 50 individuals from community organizations and federal agencies attended a training workshop held by the EJ IWG's Title VI Committee on March 11, 2016. The training focused on building capacity with respect to three topics: "Title VI 101" – What is Title VI; "Title VI and Environmental Justice" – How does it intersect with EJ; and "How to File a Complaint with Federal Civil Rights Agencies". Presenters included Federal civil rights staff from the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, and Transportation, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency and the General Services Administration.

C. Port Communities

Near Port Community Capacity Building Tools

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Provided input on the development of the EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality's Near-Port Community Capacity Building tools (i.e., *Draft Ports Primer for Communities; Draft Community Action Roadmap; and Draft Environmental Justice Primer for* Ports) and facilitated input on the tools from the full EJ IWG.

D. Regional Interagency Community Collaboration

Successful community engagement meets communities "where they are" by employing approaches to outreach and communication that they value and find effective. The EJ IWG is providing targeted and coordinated technical assistance to communities in EPA's Region 2 and 4 through Regional Interagency Workgroups (RIWG). The RIWG co-chaired by EPA and HHS in EPA's Region 2 is working with the following six communities to create partnerships and build a foundation to respond to local environmental justice issues: Camden, New Jersey; Newburgh, New York; Caño Martín Peña, Puerto Rico; St. Croix (Hovensa site), U.S. Virgin Islands; St. Regis Mohawk, New York and Ramapo Nation, New Jersey.

The RIWG chaired by EPA in EPA's Region 4 is moving forward with a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental condition and potential environmental impacts, in certain areas of the North Birmingham, Fairmont, Collegeville and Harriman Park neighborhoods, as well as portions of Five-Mile Creek and Harriman Park ditch, located in and around Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama. This effort, which includes air, water and waste issues, is known as the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project.

Goal 3: Advance interagency strategies

Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies and activities

In fiscal year 2016, the EJ IWG fostered federal interagency coordination and increased accountability on a regional, state, tribal and local level. It also identified opportunities to highlight interagency community solutions to help advance implementation of federal environmental justice policies and guidance. Highlights include:

Strategy and Policy Integration

A. Held two Sr. Level EJ IWG meetings (EPA/White House)

Proposed language: The EJ IWG held two senior leadership level meetings in fiscal year 2016. Several EJ advocates attended the August meeting which focused on "Passing the Leadership Baton." Discussion topics included a "Community Voice: Stakeholders Perspectives on the EJ IWG" and a "Lessons Learned Through EJ Strategy Implementation and Collaboration."[**NEED TO ADD SIMILAR DESCRIPTION OF THE OTHER MEETING**]

Presented at NEJAC meeting

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Proposed language: A panel of EJ IWG representatives presented at the March 2016 National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (NEJAC) meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi. The panel highlighted the accomplishments and proposed work of the EJ IWG Committees. Committee representatives presented to the NEJAC and NEJAC members were able to ask questions and provide direction and feedback.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- **Promising Practices**

Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews, is an EJ IWG report produced by the NEPA Committee and published in March of 2016. The report represents the professional experience, knowledge, and expertise of individuals from ten departments, three agencies, and one White House office. These individuals spent almost 48 months researching, analyzing and discussing the interaction of environmental justice and NEPA. The *Promising Practices Report* is a compilation of methodologies to integrate environmental justice considerations through NEPA processes. The report disseminates promising environmental justice practices across the federal government so that we can learn from one another about effective ways to build robust consideration of environmental justice into our NEPA practice. This document draws from existing environmental justice and NEPA guidance developed by White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and federal agencies, but is not and should not be considered formal guidance. (Promising Practices Guidance, 2016) [https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-08/documents/nepa_promising_practices_document_2016.pdf]

- **CEQ Citizens Guide to NEPA Spanish Translation**

A group of NEPA Committee members from DOE and EPA worked together with CEQ to translate CEQ's existing *Citizens Guide to the National Environmental Policy Act* into Spanish for those with limited English proficiency so that they may better understand the NEPA process. The Spanish translation was posted to CEQ's website (https://ceq.doe.gov/get-involved/citizens_guide_to_nepa.html).

- **Advancing Environmental Justice through the National Environmental Policy Act Video**

NEPA Committee members developed a video to highlight the importance of NEPA as a tool to help advance environmental justice. The video showcases three agency representatives: Suzi Ruhl (EPA), Kedric Payne (DOE), and Chris French (USDA-FS). Each speaker provides a personal perspective on EJ and why it is an essential focus area for both federal agencies and communities. EPA's Office of Environmental Justice Communications Team helped produce

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the video, which was accompanied by a blog written by Suzi Ruhl. [https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/11/ej-nepa-promising-practices/]

- **NEPA Lexicon**

The NEPA Committee developed a Lexicon of terms from *Promising Practices Report* which may be confusing or unclear and provides in a succinct document, preexisting agency definitions and a contextual basis for application. Agencies and communities may then use the Lexicon to more appropriately apply and evaluate environmental justice issues. The final draft of the Lexicon was completed in September 2016 and is awaiting review.

- **Departmental Implementation**

Across the federal family, Departments and agencies are taking action to advance EJ through NEPA and other environmental reviews, including the implementation of Promising Practices. Department actions include training opportunities, guidance documents, and working groups.

- **Departmental Briefings**

To help promote the use of Promising Practices, members of the NEPA Committee have been conducting departmental briefings and trainings at various agencies. These agencies include: DOT (Title VI, Office of Civil Rights & Environmental Law Practice Group); FAA; DOI; and DOE.

- **EJ IWG Committee Newsletter**

In an effort to increase communication between agencies, the NEPA Committee has created a monthly update e-newsletter. This update keeps those within the federal family informed on what each agency is doing in order to advance EJ in NEPA. Date of first e-newsletter release was July 2016.

- **National Training Product**

The NEPA Committee has developed a draft *National Training Product* (*NTP)* that takes information contained in the *Promising Practices* report and presents it in a PowerPoint format. Once finalized, the *NTP* may be used to create training modules as well as shorter, more focused PowerPoint presentations.

- **Data Tools and Resource Document**

Document brings together the tools and resources NEPA reviewers utilize to address and evaluate environmental justice concerns. Tools were compiled from a variety of agencies including HUD, NRC, EPA, DOT, BLM, USDA, and FTA. Completed in August 2016 and ready for distribution.

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FY 16 Federal Interagency Working Group Progress Report

Goal 4: Develop partnerships with academic institutions

Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities

In fiscal year 2016, the EJ IWG improved technical assistance to overburdened communities by developing partnerships with academic institutions. Highlights include:

Engaging Students and Universities in EJ

A. **EMI**

In 2015, the White House announced the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice's new Educate, Motivate and Innovate Climate Justice Initiative. This initiative focuses on the next generation of climate-justice leaders and expands collaborations with Minority-Serving Institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions. The initiative is guided by the following principles:

- **Educate**: Provide a two-way learning experience, access to information, platform to expand and share knowledge and ideas, and bridge the communication and capacity building gap.
- **Motivate**: Ignite interest, nurture growth and commitment to addressing the complex issues around climate change and Environmental Justice vulnerable communities.
- **Innovate**: Embrace the opportunity for creative thought and action.

In FY 16 the EMI Initiative put out a call for student climate justice abstracts which led to a successful workshop at the 2016 National Environmental Justice Conference. Blog on EJ IWG website to give background on the initiative and its mission. You can view the EMI video here: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg or https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liHpESlFOqE.

B. Signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the USDA and the EPA on the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP).

USDA and the EPA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding the College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP) on August 22, 2016. The CUPP MOU established a cooperative relationship to address environmental justice and economic issues for communities' environmental health, economic development, and public health through the CUPP model and other tools, enhancing outreach opportunities. CUPP is based on developing partnerships between small, underserved communities and geographically close colleges/universities to provide a variety for technical support at no cost to those communities. The program will facilitate public-private partnerships among schools, communities, the private sector, and nonprofit organizations.

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FY 16 Federal Interagency Working Group Progress Report

III. AGENCY ACHEIVEMENTS IN ADVANCING EJ

(Highlight outstanding agency achievements i.e. USDA Summer Food Program, DOE Community Leader Institutes, etc.)

USDA Achievements in Advancing EJ

USDA expanded its food programs in FY 2016 with plans to reach even more communities in FY 2017. For example, the Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), sponsored by the USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture, reached over half a million low-income families and low-income youth in 2016 to families how eating better will improve their lives. Routinely, 80 percent or more EFNEP families report living at or below 100 percent of poverty, and nearly 70 percent indicate being of minority status. Chronic disease and poor health disproportionately affects minority and low-income audiences. This USDA program has proven these families improve their diets, improve their nutrition practices, stretch their food dollars farther, handle food more safely, and increase their physical activity levels as a result of the EFNEP program.

For our nation's children, USDA expanded the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program so more low-income kids eat regularly and well. Established in Section 104(a) of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, the CEP program is a streamlined approach to school meal service that allows schools in high-poverty communities to provide meals to all students, free of charge, for up to four consecutive school years. For SY 2016-17, USDA seeks to focus its expansion effort on those schools that are most in need and where CEP can have the greatest impact.

During the summer months, USDA provides the families of low-income children with benefits similar to SNAP and WIC, giving them more resources to use at retail food stores. In the 2010 Agriculture Appropriations Act, Public Law 111-80, Congress authorized demonstration projects to develop and test alternative methods of providing access to food for low-income children during the summer months when schools are not in session, as well as rigorous independent evaluations of each project's effectiveness. In FY 2016, Congress provided an additional $23 million dollars to continue the demonstration for a fifth year.

DOJ Achievements in Advancing EJ

The Civil Rights Division has been steadfast in its effort to address environmental justice issues through improving government-wide enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and implementing regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. The Division is charged with ensuring that all Federal agencies consistently and effectively enforce Title VI and other civil rights statutes and Executive Orders that prohibit discrimination in federally conducted and assisted programs and activities.

In August, the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, and Transportation issued joint agency technical assistance, Guidance

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to State and Local Governments and Other Federally Assisted Recipients Engaged in Emergency Preparedness, Response, Mitigation, and Recovery Activities on Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to recipients of federal financial assistance.

Two additional resources to assist recipients of federal financial assistance also accompany the guidance: the Department of Justice's Tips and Tools for Reaching Limited English Proficient Communities in Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery and the Department of Health and Human Services' Checklist for Recipients of Federal Financial Assistance, which facilitates the integration of the whole community into emergency-related activities.

IV. LOOKING FORWARD

FY 17 Priorities

I. Enhanced communication and coordination

Enhanced communication and coordination to improve health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities

- The Access and Awareness Webinar Series will produce at least six webinars in FY 17
- Create a resource document to coincide with Access and Awareness webinar topics
- Publish lessons learned from regional interagency collaboration
- Prioritize in-person outreach efforts through community visits and public dialogue with the EJ IWG
- Enhance EJ IWG's Web Presence
- Implement additional strategies to help bridge "digital divide"
- Identify and develop where necessary additional communication tools (such as blogs, agency newsletters, talking points, etc.)
- Draft factsheet identifying various government entities that communities can engage concerning potential concerns related to goods movement and support for rural communities

II. Enhance multi-agency support

Enhance multi-agency support of holistic community-based solutions to provide assistance as needed to address environmental justice issues

- Facilitate Senior-Level EJ IWG Dialogue to explore opportunities for advancing EJ with Senior Representatives from EJ IWG member agencies

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- Enhance coordination between the EJ IWG Committee Chairs to foster alignment of cross-cutting issues
- Increase agency participation in EJ IWG Committees
- Conduct workshop and training activities on Title VI and Environmental Justice
- Continue outreach to various stakeholder communities and beneficiaries of federal assistance
- Look for opportunities to support regional interagency collaborations to address EJ
- Look for opportunities to expand agency participation in EPA Region 4 EJ Academy
- Seek to leverage federal resources for communities participating in the EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality's Near-Port Community Capacity Building pilot projects
- Conduct outreach on climate justice and public health efforts at upcoming conferences
- Foster collaborations for community health and wellness through Brownfields to Healthfields approach
- Host community-focused sustainability workshops
- Convene facilitated dialogs focused on place-based needs in rural communities

III. Advance interagency strategies

Advance interagency strategies to identify and address environmental justice concerns in agency programs, policies and activities

- Determine the areas of focus for the EJ IWG based on public comment and other recommendations
- Coordinate with the Senior Representatives for the EJ IWG Agencies to gather and share with the EJ IWG public feedback
- Continue engagement and training on implementation of *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* to foster cross agency learning of effective practices
  - NEPA Lexicon: release in spring 2017
  - Departmental Briefings
  - Field Application and Applied Learning: demonstration/pilot
  - Education and Engagement

- Develop online resources; all-federal, holistic, systems-based climate justice framework including a matrix of federal intersections with climate justice
- Compile a list of community-based climate justice best practices
- Compile summary of related international efforts (e.g., WHO, UNEP PROVIA, USAID, World Bank Group) and potential leveraging/partnering opportunities

IV. Develop partnerships with academic institutions

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Develop partnerships with academic institutions to assist in providing long-term technical assistance to overburdened communities

- Look for opportunities to expand College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP)
- Partner with academic institutions to address health care and well-being of rural populations (e.g., vision, mental health, diabetes) to promote health, economic and environmental vitality
- Educate, Motivate, Innovate (EMI) Initiative- This initiative focuses on the next generation of climate-justice leaders and expands collaborations with Minority-Serving Institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions.

V. STAY CONNECTED

EJ IWG Website
EJ IWG List Serve

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The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) presents

Access & Awareness Webinar Series

Established by Executive Order 12898, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) comprises 17 federal agencies and White House Offices that work together to guide, support and enhance environmental justice and community-based activities. Check out the EJ IWG Webpage for more information.

The EJ IWG is hosting the Access & Awareness Webinar Series to provide public with access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. This series will help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating and what resources are available to anyone interested in improving the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

Webinar No. 7: Whole Community Disaster Planning: Inclusive Approaches to Recovery and Preparedness

Date: 02/09/2017
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
To register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whole-community-disaster-planning-inclusive-approaches-to-recovery-and-preparedness-tickets-30467448960

Description
In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and other recent catastrophes, community advocates and Federal, state, local, and tribal emergency managers began developing strategies for inclusive public engagement to improve disaster planning. Broad engagement can heighten individual and community resilience and deepen understanding of needs to better target limited resources.

In addition to improving access to information and services, effective community engagement can help identify important values, norms, community networks and relationships to inform and improve planning before and after incidents. Over time, inclusive disaster planning can lead to a broader understanding of local risks, needs, and capabilities; improved preparedness through the empowerment of community members; and, ultimately, more resilient communities.

Join this webinar to hear from local leaders on the ground. Learn how their efforts are supporting and strengthening community leaders, networks, and assets so that these resources can be leveraged to improve resilience, public health, and community access to information and resources. In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, two of the federal agencies that work on short-term and long-term disaster recovery, will discuss federal efforts to support whole community disaster planning, and lessons learned during recovery from recent disasters.

Subscribe to the EPA's Environmental Justice Listserv (https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=epa-ej) to receive registration information for upcoming webinars and activities!

UPCOMING WEBINARS

March
Title: *Women's History Month! Women and Environmental Justice*
Date: 03/09/2017
Time: 1:00-2:30pm EST

Purpose: This webinar will highlight the unique role that women have played in the environmental justice movement and the specific challenges they face.

To Register:

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Jeanine Finley
Sent: Mon 1/30/2017 6:19:02 PM
Subject: Message to attendees of Discrimination Protections and Promising Practices in F...

[redacted]

Find events My Tickets

Part 2 of our series on Emergency Management and EJ:

Access & Awareness Webinar Series from the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG)

"Whole Community Disaster Planning: Inclusive Approaches to Recovery and Preparedness"

Thursday February 9, at 1:00pm - 2:30pm Eastern

Register Today

Description

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and other recent catastrophes, community advocates and Federal, state, local, and tribal emergency managers began developing strategies for inclusive public engagement to improve disaster planning. Broad engagement can heighten individual and community resilience and deepen understanding of needs to better target limited resources.

In addition to improving access to information and services, effective community engagement can help identify important values, norms, community networks and relationships to inform and improve planning before and after incidents. Over time, inclusive disaster planning can lead to a broader understanding of local risks, needs, and capabilities; improved preparedness through the empowerment of community members; and, ultimately, more resilient communities.

Join this webinar to hear from local leaders on the ground. Learn how their

efforts are supporting and strengthening community leaders, networks, and assets so that these resources can be leveraged to improve resilience, public health, and community access to information and resources. In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, two of the federal agencies that work on short-term and long-term disaster recovery, will discuss federal efforts to support whole community disaster planning, and lessons learned during recovery from recent disasters.

Upcoming Webinars:

"Women's History Month! Women and Environmental Justice"

- Date: 03/09/2017
- Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
- Register Here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gender-and-environmental-justice-tickets-31463559353
- Purpose: This webinar will highlight the unique role that women have played in the environmental justice movement and the specific challenges they face.

  Once you register, you will be emailed with information on how to access the webinar.

- EJ IWG Background

  Established by Executive Order 12898, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) comprises 17 federal agencies and White House Offices that work together to guide, support and enhance environmental justice and community-based activities. Check out the EJ IWG Webpage for more information.

  The EJ IWG is hosting the Access & Awareness Series, a monthly event, to provide public access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. This series will help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating and what resources are available to anyone interested in improving the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

  If you have any questions, please contact Jeanine Finley for additional information.

This email was sent to peurifoy.cynthia@epa.gov
To stop receiving emails from this organizer, you can unsubscribe
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:s, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
:onferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

State of the EJ IWG Discussion

2:10 **Mustafa Santiago Ali- Opening Remarks**
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

2:25 Principals Meeting Follow-up/Ask questions of the Sr. Staff reps

1. What do you see as the remaining challenges/opportunities to advance EJ?
2. How would you address the above using your EJ Strategy, the EJ IWG, or other relevant tools?
3. What steps should the EJ IWG take in 2016 to facilitate those efforts in the next Administration? Do you see a need for the EJ IWG to provide agencies with language that could be used in their transition planning documents?

2:40 NEJAC Public Meeting/ EJ IWG Panel
Karen L. Martin
Program Manager National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

2:55 FY 17 Priorities and Interagency Agreement

3:20 Agency Announcements

Other Announcements:

- EPA webinar for EJ Communities and Tribes on how to engage in the

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Title V Clean Air Act Petitions Process Rulemaking, Oct 4th 1pm-2pm
https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/titlev-petitions

- Smart City Air Challenge- EPA offers 80,000 to communities to develop air sensor data best practices- open until Oct 28th. For more info: https://www.challenge.gov/challenge/smart-city-air-challenge/

- Working Together to Reduce Toxic Releases, TRI National Training Conference. Washington DC Oct 19-21st For more info: https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/2016-tri-national-training-conference?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)%20on%20the%20Toxics%20Release%20Inventory%20(TRI)%20and%20Environmental%20Conditions%20in%20Communities.%20Register%20now%20(https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/2016-tri-national-training-conference?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#3

- Request for Nominations for new Science Advisory Committee on Chemicals. Deadline Oct 11th for more info: https://www.epa.gov/csac

- EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series:
  From Home to School and Back Again: Safe and Healthy Environments for Children. October 13th 1pm-2:30pm
  To register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/from-home-to-school-and-back-again-safe-and-healthy-environments-for-children-tickets-27580157995

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children (?)
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities (?)

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Cat Goughnour, Right to Root
- Glen Harris, Center for Social Inclusion in NYC

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- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
October 27, 2016
November 17, 2016 (date changed due to holiday) (DOI host)
December 15, 2016 (date change due to holiday)

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conferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA

1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204
Thursday, August 25th, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy

To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

2:10 **Mustafa Santiago Ali**
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

- August 29, 2016 Principals Meeting- Looking forward to a successful and productive meeting
- Clean Energy Savings For All event in Spartenburg, VA Oct 29th- ReGenesis Project
- National Resources and Training Summit for Revitalizing Vulnerable Communities: Oct 25-26th at the Crystal City Marriott. Linking vulnerable communities to resources, worker training and economic drivers.
- NEJAC meeting- October 12-13th Arlington VA, Renaissance Hotel. Looking at what EPA has done over the past 8 years and the messages going forward. EJ IWG will have an hour long panel.

EJ IWG Update
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

- Meeting materials will be shared by COB today. Hard copies provided at the meeting.
- The roundtable discussion will cover keeping the EJ IWG going through administrative transition and lessons learned from agencies that are at different

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stages of developing their EJ programs.

2:20 Committee Spotlights

- *Strategy and Implementation Committee*

The SIC is staffed by reps from EPA, DOJ and DOI. The committee determines the strategic direction of the EJ IWG along with planning meetings, managing the implementation of the framework for collaboration, liaison for all the committee chairs. The committee is working on developing standard operating procedures on review and concurrence processes, the process for how community organizations can present to the EJ IWG and succession planning for agency co-chairs, end of year reports, ensuring that the EJ IWG is effectively using Max.Gov.

- *Climate Change Committee*

Chaired by EPA/HUD/USDA Updates: Earlier this year, the committee presented at the white house champions of change on climate equity and also lead a discussion on the committees planned products. On Aug 16th a committee member presented on EPAs EJ Roadmap and Interagency Efforts on Climate Justice webinar. Products underway: Educate, Motivate, Innovate effort, which is currently finalizing the call for student climate justice abstracts due Nov 14th, a blog will be posted on the EJ in Action Website. Possibly will partner with the 2017 HBCU Conference to have a presentation. The EMI team will have a presentation at the 2017 EJ Conference…Also developing a holistic climate justice framework, evaluating the need for developing a harmonized federal climate justice terminology, broad vision is to publish a framework. Compiling best practices for climate justice from around the nation, the committee is leveraging the effort

- *Goods Movement Committee*

Chaired by DOT/HUD/EPA- currently engaged on the near port community toolkit, the public comment period is extended until Sept 14th. These engagement tools is also currently identifying pilot communities and port authorities to begin testing the tools that have been developed. In 2017 the committee is looking for opportunities to leverage and expand these tools. Additionally the committee is developing a resource compendium that provides information on federal resources on goods movement. We will provide a template that will be shared so EJ IWG reps can help compile resources related to goods movement that are available across the federal government.

- *Native American/Indigenous People's Committee*

USDA/DIA/EPA/DOJ: The committee is developing a webpage which would provide resources for tribes, also developing webinars Indian Law 101 and EJ in Indian Country. Looking at developing best/promising practices and a toolkit for indigenous communities. Still developing a training on either capacity building on EJ and tribal environmental codes. The committee is also looking at addressing, where possible, interagency recommendations related to indigenous peoples through the NEJAC.

- *National Environmental Policy Act Committee*

EPA/DOT: has been supporting CEQ in translating the Citizens Guide into Spanish which will be posted on CEQs website on Monday. Finalizing the national training project, working on the NEPA Lexicon, started publishing a NEPA E-newsletter and the committee in looking for input from all the agencies. At the principals meeting, if time permits, a video on NEPA and EJ will be shared. Next month, committee members will be traveling to share the NEPA and EJ Promising Practices document.

- *Public Participation Committee*

EPA/DOJ: The committee has developed the logo and tagline (accessible, aware,

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accountable) which communicates what the EJ IWG is working to accomplish, working on revamping the EJ IWG website to help the website be relevant and informative for the public and the federal family. They've also developed a new version of the EJ IWG factsheet that highlights community spotlights to keep the information relevant for the public. Also updating the online directory for the EJ IWG, contact information for members. Lastly, looking at the "assignment desk" which is about making an effort to ensure that all community engagement among the IWG member agencies is captured and highlighted. Looking at engaging with the NAACP on EJ efforts.

- *Regional Interagency Working Group Committee*

HUD/EPA: this committee provides support to regional EJ IWG interagency collaborative. Efforts include the Access and Awareness Monthly Webinar Series which kicked off in August, the next webinar will be focused on grant opportunities for communities. Developing a EJ Resource Appendix to develop a list of search terms that will enable the public to more easily find grants and resources available. Also developing a lessons learned document on the various interagency collaborations at the regional level.

- *Rural Committee*

USDA/EPA: The committee has been led by the same agencies for the past 4 years. Developing a 1 pager to harmonize the definition/description of "rural", developed a strategic plan which is being revised within the USDA NR&Env Office. USDA/EPA MOU on the CUPP program which is a basis for other agencies to sign on to the program.

- *Title VI Committee*

DOJ: Focuses on Title VI enforcement responsibility, comprised of federal civil rights offices staff from across the federal government. The committee is developing a Title VI and EJ Roundtable which will take place on Oct 6. It will bring together subject matter experts to focus on community enforcement and intra-agency challenges on EJ/Title VI issues, for example Title VI and NEPA. For the next FY, they are looking at a new Title VI memo and coordinating with the NEPA committee. Recent guidance that was shared

3:20 Agency Announcements

Other Announcements:

- The deadline to apply for scholarships for attending the Communities & Affordable Homes Summit and Greenbuild 2016 is Wednesday, August 31 at 6:00 pm. The Communities and Affordable Homes Summit is October 4, 2016, and is followed by Greenbuild on October 5-7, 2016. Both events are held in conjunction in Los Angeles, CA. Information on scholarships can be found at https://greenbuildexpo.com/attendee/home/community/scholarships

- EPA has collaboratively developed three draft tools to support effective stakeholder engagement between near-port communities and port facilities. Please review the draft tools and provide your feedback. The link below provide an overview and include access to the draft tools, ways to provide public comments, and how to apply to be a pilot location. https://www.epa.gov/ports-initiative

- The 2016 West Virginia Brownfields Conference will take place September 7-8 at the Marriott Town Center in Charleston, West Virginia. The event will include sessions

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covering all aspects of brownfields redevelopment, interactive workshops, specialty training on remediation, two networking receptions, and the inaugural Central Appalachian Regional Brownfields Summit on September 8. Full conference details can be found at http://wvbrownfields.org/2016-conference/

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Cat Goughnour, Right to Root
- Glen Harris, Center for Social Inclusion in NYC
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings

September 22, 2016
October 27, 2016
November 17, 2016 (date changed due to holiday) (DOI host)
December 15, 2016 (need to change date)

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SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group
Principals Meeting
August 29th, 1pm-3pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Room 350
1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
By close of business on Friday, August 12, 2016

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To: EJ Coordinators[EJ_Coordinators@epa.gov]
From: Walter, Simone
Sent: Tue 8/2/2016 4:39:36 PM
Subject: Upcoming EJ IWG Webinar Series
Flyer - EJ IWG Webinar Series.pdf

Good morning EJ Coordinators,

The EJ IWG is launching a webinar series to increase public understanding of the federal initiatives to address environmental justice concerns. Please find attached the announcement advertising the webinar series. Additionally, we published a blog post this morning to highlight the series. I would greatly appreciate if you could assist in distributing the attachment as well as the promotional blog information, which you can find below.

Accessible, Aware, Accountable: How the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice is Responding to Your Concerns

Have you ever wondered how federal agencies integrate environmental justice?

To increase public awareness on these initiatives, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) is launching a webinar series to highlight the ways that federal agencies are collaborating to assist overburdened and under-resources communities across the nation.

Learn more about the series in the blog Accessible, Aware, Accountable: How the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice is Responding to Your Concerns by Marsha Minter, Associate Director of the Office of Environmental Justice, and register for the first webinar today!

Thank you for your assistance.

All the best,

Simone R. Walter | Communications Specialist
US Environmental Protection Agency | Office of Environmental Justice

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW | Washington, DC 20460
Phone: 202.564.9653 | FAX: 202.501.0936

Follow EPA's EJ blog at blog.epa.gov/blog/category/environmental_justice/

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From: Nitsch, Chad
Location: William Jefferson Clinton South Building - Conference Room 6226 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20004
Importance: Normal
Subject: EJ IWG Monthly Meeting Call-in - 1-866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Start Date/Time: Thur 7/28/2016 6:00:00 PM
End Date/Time: Thur 7/28/2016 7:30:00 PM
EJ IWG Meeting Agenda July 28 2016.docx

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA

1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC - Conference Room 6226
Thursday, July 28th, 2016
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

2:10 **Mustafa Santiago Ali**
Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

2:20 EJ IWG Update
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

- August 29, 2016 Principals Meeting
- EJ IWG 2016 Framework for Collaboration Deliverables Table
- 2016 National Funding Resources & Training Summit for Vulnerable Communities

2:30 Community Spotlight - The City Project

Robert Garcia
Founding Director
http://www.cityprojectca.org

3:15 Committee Updates

3:25 Agency Announcements

Announcements:

- The FY 2017 Brownfields Area-Wide Planning (BF AWP) Grant is currently accepting proposals up until August 10th. https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/ https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/apply-brownfields-grant-funding

- Invitation - Civil Society Consultation on UPR for Human Rights

  August 17, 2016 from 10am-4pm Eastern. Please RSVP no later than Friday, August 4, 2016 The federal interagency Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group invites you to participate in a civil society consultation with representatives from various federal agencies on August 17, 2016 from 10am-4pm in the Brooke-Mondale Auditorium at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), located at 451 7th St SW, Washington, DC 20410. The first part of the consultation will be webcast for those who are unable to attend in person.

  A full list of UPR recommendations and the U.S. Government positions on each recommendation is available here. Please RSVP to UPRWorkingGroup3@state.gov no later than **Friday, August 5, 2016** with the following information: (i) your name, (ii) institutional affiliation, (iii) whether you will participate in-person or by webcast.

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Cat Goughnour, Right to Root
- Glen Harris, Center for Social Inclusion in NYC
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
August 25, 2016
September 22, 2016 (need a host or change to Sept. 29)
October 27, 2016
November 17, 2016 (date changed due to holiday) (DOI host)
December 22, 2016 (need to change date)

Attachments:
June 23, 2016 EJ IWG Notes

SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Principals Meeting
August 29th, 1pm-3pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Room 350
1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
By close of business on Friday, August 12, 2016

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From: Nitsch, Chad
Location: William Jefferson Clinton South Building - Conference Room 6045 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20004
Importance: Normal
Subject: EJ IWG Monthly Meeting Call-in - 1-866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Start Date/Time: Thur 4/28/2016 6:00:00 PM
End Date/Time: Thur 4/28/2016 7:30:00 PM
EJ IWG March 24 2016 Meeting Notes .docx
EJ IWG 4-28-16 Meeting Agenda.docx

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building - Conference Room 6045
Washington, DC
28 April 2016

Agenda

- 2:00 Roll Call/Welcome
- 2:10 EJ IWG Update - Marsha Minter
- 2:20 EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update - Mustafa Santiago Ali
- 2:30 Title VI Subcommittee Presentation - DOJ Committee Chairs: Daria Neal & Dylan de Kervor

Topics of discussion will include: how civil rights (Title VI) offices interact with EJ programming at various agencies; what opportunities exist for improving civil rights enforcement in the environmental justice context; how can advocates encourage collaboration between OCRs and EPA's Office of Environmental Justice; how civil rights complaints (Title VI, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing) are coordinated when multiple funding agencies are implicated; what opportunities exist for ongoing collaboration between EJ IWG and Title VI advocates. **Please feel free to invite your OCR/Title VI reps to the meeting.**

- **Participating In-Person**
- Erica Dupree, Energy Justice Network
- Marianne Engleman-Lado, EarthJustice
- Christine Ernst, EarthJustice
- Steve Fischbach, Rhode Island Legal Services
- Megan Haberle, Poverty & Race Research Action Council
- Gregg Macey, Brooklyn Law School

- Vernice Miller-Travis, Miller-Travis & Associates
- Joe Rich, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights
- Rashida Tlaib, Sugar Law Center

- **Participating by Phone**
- Marc Brenman, consultant
- Amy Laura Cahn, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia
- Cesar De La Vega, The City Project
- Adrienne Hollis, WE ACT for Environmental Justice
- Sara Imperiale, Natural Resources Defense Council
- Dr. Charlotte Keys, Jesus People Against Pollution
- Mark Magana, GreenLatinos
- Vincent Martin, Human Synergy Works
- Brent Newall, Center for Race Poverty and Enviro
- Omega Wilson, West End Revitalization Assoc.
- Chandra Taylor, Southern Environmental Law Center
- Karen Rotker, ACLU - Wisconsin

- 3:20 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements

- NEJAC applications due April 29 **www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/02/18/2016-03405/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council**
- TIGER applications are due no later than April 29, 2016 at 8 PM E.D.T. Additional details and webinars: https://www.transportation.gov/tiger
- Great Urban parks Campaign applications are due April 29 http://smartgrowth.org/great-urban-parks-campaign-green-infrastructure-in-underserved-communities
- 2016 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum, Aug. 15-18, Mohegan Sun Resort, Uncasville, CT: Call for Proposals due May 6, 2016, www.7.nau.edu/itep/main

Future Meeting Topic Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- EJ 2020

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

EJ IWG Monthly Meetings/ Meeting Hosts
May 26, 2016
June 23, 2016

Attachments
EJ IWG March 24, 2016 Meeting Notes

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6045
Washington, DC
Thursday, April 28, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]

Agenda

- 2:00 Roll Call/Welcome
- 2:10 EJ IWG Update – Marsha Minter
- 2:20 EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update – Mustafa Santiago Ali
- 2:30 Title VI Subcommittee Presentation – DOJ Committee Chairs: Daria Neal & Dylan de Kervor

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- Rashida Tlaib, Sugar Law Center

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- Sara Imperiale, Natural Resources Defense Council
- Dr. Charlotte Keys, Jesus People Against Pollution
- Mark Magana, GreenLatinos
- Vincent Martin, Human Synergy Works

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
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William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6045
Washington, DC
Thursday, April 28, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy [redacted]

- Brent Newall, Center for Race Poverty and Enviro
- Omega Wilson, West End Revitalization Assoc.
- Chandra Taylor, Southern Environmental Law Center
- Karen Rotker, ACLU - Wisconsin

- 3:20 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements

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- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- EJ 2020

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

EJ IWG Monthly Meetings/ Meeting Hosts
May 26, 2016
June 23, 2016

Attachments
EJ IWG March 24, 2016 Meeting Notes

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

MEETING NOTES

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

Erin Shew
White House Council on Environmental Quality

- The White House is looking for 10-12 leaders in the climate justice sector to nominate as Climate Equity Champions of Change.
- CEQ is engaged with the EJ IWG Climate Change Committee to look for areas to engage with the awardees and are open to planning ideas. There may be opportunities to bring in experts from around the federal government to moderate panels during the event.
- Please visit www.Whitehouse.gov and search "champions of change" to submit a nomination. Application deadline June 10th.
- The EJ IWG Climate Change Committee will look for opportunities to host the nominees to learn about their outstanding work

2:10 EJ IWG Creating Change Through Collaboration
Mustafa Santiago Ali
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

- June 30th has been confirmed for the Principals Meeting.
- The topic of EJ transition language will be discussed at the June 30th meeting. Some IWG members have asked for assistance in this area.
- We would like to recognize GSA and DOI for preparing EJ strategies and having them out for public comment.
- We would like to recognize DOT for their redesigned EJ webpages.
- Mustafa consistently participates in speaking engagements around the country. A reoccurring theme that is expressed by stakeholders is a request to continue to create opportunities for stakeholders to engage and to work to identify more opportunities for technical assistance and resources.

Holly Wilson, *Office of Air Quality and Planning Standards, EPA*

- EPA would like support in organizing a 'National Funding Resources and Training Summit for Vulnerable Communities'- Oct 25-26th 2016
- Needs: Representative from your Agency to serve on the planning team and/or be an exhibitor or sponsor. Reach out and invite your EJ community member or partner (as

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

appropriate) to participant in the DC Summit.

2:20 EJ IWG Update
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

- Principals Meeting
  - Focus of meeting will be transition planning and strengthening EJ Strategy Implementation and infrastructure across the federal government.
  - Save the date email will go out the week of May 31st, senior reps and senior staffers will also receive hard copies of the invitation.
  - Suggestion that the meeting focus on lessons learned and opportunities and challenges for advancing EJ.

- Public Participation Committee
  - EJ IWG Federal Interagency Directory: The committee is compiling a list of agency contacts and agencies EJ webpages to be posted on the EJ IWG web page.
  - EJ IWG Community-Based Federal Resources Guide: The Committee is compiling a compendium of grants, technical assistance and relevant search terms to be posted on the EJ IWG webpage.
  - The Committee has created a factsheet that aims to tell the 'IWG story' and guiding principles to be posted on the EJ IWG webpage by the end of June.
  - The Committee is collecting outreach activities (webinars, training, public meetings, etc) that are being planned for FY 16 from the various EJ IWG subcommittee chairs. This info is due to Jeanine Finley by June 3rd.

2:30 Rural Committee Presentation- USDA Summer Meals Program
Lance Hendrix
Place-Based Initiatives Coordinator, Office of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Administrator, USDA
Link to the Summer Meals Toolkit http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit

- Lance Hendrix works with the Rural Human Health Subcommittee which has merged with the Environmental Health Team of the Rural Committee.
- Rural Committee action items: The Summer Food Program, EPA's Brownfields to Healthfields Program and improving drinking water through addressing inadequate

water infrastructure.

- USDA's Summer Meals Program is looking for greater federal agency participation. There are 18 million currently being served through the summer meals program every year. The program is under-utilized nation-wide, and they would like to increase participation through partnership with other agencies. In the past USDA has worked with HUD, HHS etc. Please contact Lance for more information.

2:50 EJ 2020 Presentation - EPA's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan
Mustafa Santiago Ali
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA
EJ 2020 pages: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-action-agenda
Blog link: https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/ej-ej2020-2/

- EJ 2020 was released for public comment- which is open from *May 23rd-July 7th*
- IWG members were encouraged to share the document with their stakeholders
- EPA's Office of Environmental Justice is holding two informational webinars on June 2nd and June 7th. Registration information will be sent out to the IWG members.
- An overview of EJ 2020 will be discussed at the June 23, IWG meeting.

3:20 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements:

- Nominate a White House Champion of Change for Climate Equity: Applications close Friday June 10th
  https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/04/20/nominate-white-house-champion-change-climate-equity

- Apply to the Tribal EcoAmbassadors Program, Applications will close Friday June 17th
  https://www.epa.gov/tribal/funding-opportunity-2016-2017-tribal-ecoambassadors-grant-program

- EPA Urban Waters Federal Partnership National Training Workshop 2016, July 26-27th
  https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/urban-waters-national-training-workshop-2016

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

- Help Set HUDs Research Agenda: HUDs Office of Policy Development and Research is updating the Research Roadmap. Submit feedback by Friday May 27th
  http://www.huduser.gov/forums/index.php?q=research_roadmap.html

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi
- Robert Garcia

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
June 23, 2016
July 28, 2016

Attachments:
Rural Challenges and Summer Meals-USDA
Summer Food Service Program Factsheet- USDA

ED_001416_00006041-00004

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Principals Meeting
June 30th, 10am-12pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Room 350
1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
By Friday, June 17th 2016 *COB*

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To: 'swirsky.stephanie@dol.gov'[swirsky.stephanie@dol.gov]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]; Poliwka, Annette[Poliwka.Annette@epa.gov]; Fordham, Tami[Fordham.Tami@epa.gov]; King, Marva[King.Marva@EPA.GOV]; 'Michael_Zimmerman@ios.doi.gov'[Michael_Zimmerman@ios.doi.gov]; 'fleming.el-amin@dot.gov'[fleming.el-amin@dot.gov]; christy.jackiewicz@gsa.gov[christy.jackiewicz@gsa.gov]; 'Lisa.Quiveors@hq.dhs.gov'[Lisa.Quiveors@hq.dhs.gov]; Tejada, Matthew[Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov]; Martin, Lawrence[Martin.Lawrence@epa.gov]; 'Madeline.Caliendo@gsa.gov'[Madeline.Caliendo@gsa.gov]; 'Sandra.Howard@hhs.gov'[Sandra.Howard@hhs.gov]; Poole, Elizabeth[Poole.Elizabeth@epa.gov]; Carey, Pat[Carey.Pat@epa.gov]; Eargle, Frances[Eargle.Frances@epa.gov]; Lee, Charles[Lee.Charles@epa.gov]; 'Donald.Ami@nnsa.doe.gov'[Donald.Ami@nnsa.doe.gov]; 'Dwayne.Weeks@dot.gov'[Dwayne.Weeks@dot.gov]; Buzzelle, Stanley[Buzzelle.Stanley@epa.gov]; Robinson, Victoria[Robinson.Victoria@epa.gov]; Joyce_Stanley@ios.doi.gov[Joyce_Stanley@ios.doi.gov]; Wenstrom, Michael[Wenstrom.Michael@epa.gov]; 'zdubel08@gmail.com'[zdubel08@gmail.com]; 'Daria.Neal@usdoj.gov'[Daria.Neal@usdoj.gov]; Freeman, Tamara[Freeman.Tamara@epa.gov]; 'Melinda.Downing@hq.doe.gov'[Melinda.Downing@hq.doe.gov]; Belille, Jean[Belille.Jean@epa.gov]; 'CBarrett2@doc.gov'[CBarrett2@doc.gov]; Lasky, Lara[lasky.lara@epa.gov]; 'Evelyn.Britton@gsa.gov'[Evelyn.Britton@gsa.gov]; 'dylan.dekervor@usdoj.gov'[dylan.dekervor@usdoj.gov]; Gogal, Danny[Gogal.Danny@epa.gov]; Lousberg, Macara[Lousberg.Macara@epa.gov]; Hauff, Amanda[Hauff.Amanda@epa.gov]; 'Sunaree.k.Marshall@hud.gov'[Sunaree.k.Marshall@hud.gov]; hughes3@niehs.nih.gov[hughes3@niehs.nih.gov]; 'Annie.Whatley@hq.doe.gov'[Annie.Whatley@hq.doe.gov]; 'a.Marie.Ecton@hq.dhs.gov'[a.Marie.Ecton@hq.dhs.gov]; Nitsch, Chad[Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov]; 'Manisha_d_Patel@ceq.eop.gov'[Manisha_d_Patel@ceq.eop.gov]; cynthia.cordova@va.gov[cynthia.cordova@va.gov]; Bell, Aaron L.[Bell.Aaron@epa.gov]; Moses, Althea[Moses.Althea@epa.gov]; 'Andrea.Falken@ed.gov'[Andrea.Falken@ed.gov]; Catherine.Johnson7@va.gov[Catherine.Johnson7@va.gov]; 'Beatrice.m.Bernfeld.civ@mail.mil'[Beatrice.m.Bernfeld.civ@mail.mil]; 'Cynthia.Ferguson@usdoj.gov'[Cynthia.Ferguson@usdoj.gov]; 'stuart.lisa@dol.gov'[stuart.lisa@dol.gov]; 'Eric.Benderson@sba.gov'[Eric.Benderson@sba.gov]; 'Lori_Faeth@ios.doi.gov'[Lori_Faeth@ios.doi.gov]; 'caitlin.hudson@gsa.gov'[caitlin.hudson@gsa.gov]; 'James.M.Potter@hud.gov'[James.M.Potter@hud.gov]; 'Jody.Tallbear@hq.doe.gov'[Jody.Tallbear@hq.doe.gov]; Walter, Simone[walter.simone@epa.gov]; kim_lambert@fws.gov[kim_lambert@fws.gov]; 'Joshua.Douglas@usdoj.gov'[Joshua.Douglas@usdoj.gov]; 'Brenda.Kragh@dot.gov'[Brenda.Kragh@dot.gov]; 'Cynthia.d.Jester.civ@mail.mil'[Cynthia.d.Jester.civ@mail.mil]; Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]; 'jRoberson@doc.gov'[jRoberson@doc.gov]; Tennessee, Denise[Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov]; 'Loren.Clark-Moe@dhs.gov'[Loren.Clark-Moe@dhs.gov]; Smith, Rhonda[smith.rhonda@epa.gov]; Whitehurst, Shanika[whitehurst.shanika@epa.gov]; Ruhl, Suzi[Ruhl.Suzi@epa.gov]; 'Beard1@niehs.nih.gov'[Beard1@niehs.nih.gov]; 'Chanya.Liv@hhs.gov'[Chanya.Liv@hhs.gov]; 'Teresa.Pohlman@dhs.gov'[Teresa.Pohlman@dhs.gov]; Grass, Running[Grass.Running@epa.gov]; 'Linda.Belton@noaa.gov'[Linda.Belton@noaa.gov]; 'DeRosaBM@state.gov'[DeRosaBM@state.gov]; Martin, KarenL[Martin.KarenL@epa.gov]; 'Williams.Babette@dol.gov'[Williams.Babette@dol.gov]; Robertson, Lakeshia[robertson.lakeshia@epa.gov]; 'jason.broehm@dot.gov'[jason.broehm@dot.gov]; Burns, Michael[Burns.Michael@epa.gov]; Wooden-Aguilar, Helena[Wooden-Aguilar.Helena@epa.gov]; Monahan, Sean[monahan.sean@epa.gov]; Hannon-Hall, Linda[hannon-hall.linda@epa.gov]; 'william_g_ellis@nps.gov'[william_g_ellis@nps.gov]; 'sonya.neal-reeves@wdc.usda.gov'[sonya.neal-reeves@wdc.usda.gov]; 'tloporto@fs.fed.us'[tloporto@fs.fed.us]; 'Joelle.Bowers@ascr.usda.gov'[Joelle.Bowers@ascr.usda.gov]; 'Caitlin.Gregg@ogc.usda.gov'[Caitlin.Gregg@ogc.usda.gov]; 'nedouglas@fs.fed.us'[nedouglas@fs.fed.us]; 'Lawrence.Shorty@osec.usda.gov'[Lawrence.Shorty@osec.usda.gov]; 'mpugh@fs.fed.us'[mpugh@fs.fed.us]; Reyes, Deldi[Reyes.Deldi@epa.gov]; Finley,

Jeanine[finley.jeanine@epa.gov]
Cc: Congdon, Rachel[Congdon.Rachel@epa.gov]; 'Amy.Vance@hq.dhs.gov'[Amy.Vance@hq.dhs.gov]; 'Aleksandra.George@usdoj.gov'[Aleksandra.George@usdoj.gov]; 'danielle.coles@dot.gov'[danielle.coles@dot.gov]; 'SWhitehead@naccho.org'[SWhitehead@naccho.org]; 'Rosanne.Goodwill@dot.gov'[Rosanne.Goodwill@dot.gov]; 'Tami.TROST@ogc.usda.gov'[Tami.TROST@ogc.usda.gov]; 'Sheila.Walcott@ascr.usda.gov'[Sheila.Walcott@ascr.usda.gov]; 'Kevonne.Small@usdoj.gov'[Kevonne.Small@usdoj.gov]; Tarver, Siobhan[Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov]; Grafton, Bernadette[Grafton.Bernadette@epa.gov]; 'Marcos.Gonzalez@usdoj.gov'[Marcos.Gonzalez@usdoj.gov]; 'Whitehead,'[Carey_C_Whitehead@ceq.eop.gov]; 'ageorge4@bu.edu'[ageorge4@bu.edu]; 'ttaylor@usbr.gov'[ttaylor@usbr.gov]; 'bkerner@naccho.org'[bkerner@naccho.org]; 'Erin_K_Shew@ceq.eop.gov'[Erin_K_Shew@ceq.eop.gov]; 'Cheryl_kelly@ios.doi.gov'[Cheryl_kelly@ios.doi.gov]; 'teresa.Pohlman@hq.dhs.gov'[teresa.Pohlman@hq.dhs.gov]; 'ccunningham@usbr.gov'[ccunningham@usbr.gov]; 'Chris.B.Trent@hud.gov'[Chris.B.Trent@hud.gov]; 'joannastancil@fs.fed.us'[joannastancil@fs.fed.us]; 'Kulsoom.Naqvi@usdoj.gov'[Kulsoom.Naqvi@usdoj.gov]; Walts, Alan[walts.alan@epa.gov]; Lewis, Sheila[Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov]; 'bianca.norman@gsa.gov'[bianca.norman@gsa.gov]; 'LMeredith@usbr.gov'[LMeredith@usbr.gov]; Johnson, Sabrina[Johnson.Sabrina@epa.gov]; Edwards, Alyssa[edwards.alyssa@epa.gov]; 'julie.kaplan@dot.gov'[julie.kaplan@dot.gov]; 'amy.coyle@dot.gov'[amy.coyle@dot.gov]; Freeman, DeniseC[freeman.denisec@epa.gov]; Menanno, MaryAnn[menanno.maryann@epa.gov]; Heard, Anne[Heard.Anne@epa.gov]; Hicks, Javoyne[Hicks.Javoyne@epa.gov]; Burns, Michael[Burns.Michael@epa.gov]
From: Nitsch, Chad
Sent: Fri 7/22/2016 4:42:55 PM
Subject: NEW DATE 29 August 2016: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group
INVITATION - Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group 29August2016 at EEOB350.pdf

Good afternoon EJIWG team,

The White House's Council on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency have identified the new date for the Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group as Monday, August 29, 2016 from 1pm-3pm Eastern Time in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB) 350. As you'll see in the message below, the invitation to your principals was sent directly to your respective departmental scheduling offices. Please RSVP to Jeanine Finley at finley.jeanine@epa.gov by August 12th and use the following link to pass through security at the EEOB: https://events.whitehouse.gov/form?rid=8V8VFD3H6M. Meeting materials will be sent prior to the meeting.

Thank you,

Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

From: Ali, Mustafa
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 5:56 PM
To: 'scheduling@ios.doi.gov' <scheduling@ios.doi.gov>; 'Liza.Purcell@osec.usda.gov' <Liza.Purcell@osec.usda.gov>; 'Bessie.l.meadows@usdoj.gov' <Bessie.l.meadows@usdoj.gov>; 'scluthe@doc.gov' <scluthe@doc.gov>; 'jayaratne.ladini@dol.gov' <jayaratne.ladini@dol.gov>; 'Kimberly.Bender@sd.mil' <Kimberly.Bender@sd.mil>; 'brenna.marron@dot.gov' <brenna.marron@dot.gov>; 'christian.warner@dot.gov' <christian.warner@dot.gov>; 'Tia.Borders@ed.gov' <Tia.Borders@ed.gov>; 'Jacqueline.Colli@va.gov' <Jacqueline.Colli@va.gov>; 'francie.harris@hq.doe.gov' <francie.harris@hq.doe.gov>; 'syretta.dyson@gsa.gov' <syretta.dyson@gsa.gov>; 'jolene.lester@gsa.gov' <jolene.lester@gsa.gov>; 'Julie.Herr@hhs.gov' <Julie.Herr@hhs.gov>; 'jeffrey.wexler@sba.gov' <jeffrey.wexler@sba.gov>; 'Antoniewicz, Mark T. EOP/CEQ' <Mark_T_Antoniewicz@ceq.eop.gov>; 'Machayo, Bo M. EOP/CEQ' <Bo_M_Machayo@ceq.eop.gov>; Minter, Marsha <Minter.Marsha@epa.gov>; Finley, Jeanine <finley.jeanine@epa.gov>; Tejada, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>; Vargas, Melissa <Vargas.Melissa@epa.gov>; Azoolin, Liel <Azoolin.Liel@epa.gov>; 'Carey_C_Whitehead@ceq.eop.gov' <Carey_C_Whitehead@ceq.eop.gov>; 'Shew, Erin K. EOP/CEQ'; Vance, Eric <Vance.Eric@epa.gov>; 'michael.plostock@hq.dhs.gov' <michael.plostock@hq.dhs.gov>; 'bjohnson@doc.gov' <bjohnson@doc.gov>; 'veronica.aguilar@gsa.gov' <veronica.aguilar@gsa.gov>; 'maury.mungin@gsa.gov' <maury.mungin@gsa.gov>; 'Lani.Esparza@hud.gov' <Lani.Esparza@hud.gov>; 'Sawyer.A.Hackett@hud.gov' <Sawyer.A.Hackett@hud.gov>; 'marcy.brodsky@hq.dhs.gov' <marcy.brodsky@hq.dhs.gov>; 'Huffman, Linda' <Huffman.Linda@epa.gov>; Bailey, Ethel <Bailey.Ethel@epa.gov>; 'reggie.greer@dot.gov' <reggie.greer@dot.gov>; 'shelly.watson@hhs.gov' <shelly.watson@hhs.gov>; 'sandra.howard@hhs.gov' <sandra.howard@hhs.gov>; Michaels, Andrew <michaels.andrew@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; MacCartney, Connor <maccartney.connor@epa.gov>
Subject: NEW DATE 29 August 2016: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group

Good afternoon,

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to the meeting.

Thank you,

Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

From: Ali, Mustafa
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2016 11:52 AM
To: Ali, Mustafa <Ali.Mustafa@epa.gov>; 'francis_iacobucci@ios.goi.gov' <francis_iacobucci@ios.goi.gov>; 'scheduling@ios.doi.gov' <scheduling@ios.doi.gov>; 'Liza.Purcell@osec.usda.gov' <Liza.Purcell@osec.usda.gov>; 'Bessie.l.meadows@usdoj.gov' <Bessie.l.meadows@usdoj.gov>; 'scluthe@doc.gov' <scluthe@doc.gov>; 'jayaratne.ladini@dol.gov' <jayaratne.ladini@dol.gov>; 'Kimberly.Bender@sd.mil' <Kimberly.Bender@sd.mil>; 'brenna.marron@dot.gov' <brenna.marron@dot.gov>; 'christian.warner@dot.gov' <christian.warner@dot.gov>; 'Tia.Borders@ed.gov' <Tia.Borders@ed.gov>; 'Jacqueline.Colli@va.gov' <Jacqueline.Colli@va.gov>; 'francie.harris@hq.doe.gov' <francie.harris@hq.doe.gov>; 'syretta.dyson@gsa.gov' <syretta.dyson@gsa.gov>; 'jolene.lester@gsa.gov' <jolene.lester@gsa.gov>; 'Julie.Herr@hhs.gov' <Julie.Herr@hhs.gov>; 'jeffrey.wexler@sba.gov' <jeffrey.wexler@sba.gov>; 'Antoniewicz, Mark T. EOP/CEQ' <Mark_T_Antoniewicz@ceq.eop.gov>; Machayo, Bo M. EOP/CEQ <Bo_M_Machayo@ceq.eop.gov>; Minter, Marsha <Minter.Marsha@epa.gov>; Finley, Jeanine <finley.jeanine@epa.gov>; Tejada, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>; Vargas, Melissa <vargas.melissa@epa.gov>; Morales, Esther <Morales.Esther@epa.gov>; Azoolin, Liel <Azoolin.Liel@epa.gov>; Carey_C_Whitehead@ceq.eop.gov; 'Erin_K_Shew@ceq.eop.gov' <Erin_K_Shew@ceq.eop.gov>; Vance, Eric <Vance.Eric@epa.gov>; michael.plostock@hq.dhs.gov; bjohnson@doc.gov; veronica.aguilar@gsa.gov; maury.mungin@gsa.gov; Lani.Esparza@hud.gov; Sawyer.A.Hackett@hud.gov; marcy.brodsky@hq.dhs.gov; Huffman, Linda <Huffman.Linda@epa.gov>; Bailey, Ethel <Bailey.Ethel@epa.gov>; reggie.greer@dot.gov; shelly.watson@hhs.gov; sandra.howard@hhs.gov; Michaels, Andrew <Michaels.Andrew@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>
Subject: Rescheduling Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group

Good morning,

We are rescheduling the Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group to a later date. The Administrator wants to increase the number of Principals in attendance to ensure full participation in accordance with Executive Order 12898. We will be in touch as soon as we identify the new date. Thank you for your continued support.

Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

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From: Ali, Mustafa
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 4:27 PM
To: 'francis_iacobucci@ios.goi.gov'; 'scheduling@ios.doi.gov'; 'Liza.Purcell@osec.usda.gov'; 'Bessie.I.meadows@usdoj.gov'; 'scluthe@doc.gov'; 'jayaratne.ladini@dol.gov'; 'Kimberly.Bender@sd.mil'; 'brenna.marron@dot.gov'; 'christian.warner@dot.gov'; 'Tia.Borders@ed.gov'; 'Jacqueline.Colli@va.gov'; 'francie.harris@hq.doe.gov'; 'syretta.dyson@gsa.gov'; 'jolene.lester@gsa.gov'; 'Julie.Herr@hhs.gov'; 'jeffrey.wexler@sba.gov'; 'Antoniewicz, Mark T. EOP/CEQ'; Machayo, Bo M. EOP/CEQ; Minter, Marsha; Nitsch, Chad; Finley, Jeanine; Tejada, Matthew; Vargas, Melissa; Morales, Esther; Azoolin, Liel
Subject: INVITATION: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group on 30 June 2016 at EEOB 350

Good afternoon,

Advancing environmental justice principles has been a priority for the federal government for more than 20 years. As we approach the final months of the Obama Administration, we have an opportunity to reflect on lessons learned and to identify what big challenges and opportunities remain. The Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and chairwoman of the Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group is pleased to invite the 17 involved agencies and departments to the second principals' meeting on June 30 at 10 a.m. in Room *350* of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. The discussion will focus on identifying the needs for a consistent approach to transition planning on environmental justice.

Your principals will be receiving a hard copy invitation soon. To expedite the process, we are sending this e-mail and attached invitation to the applicable scheduling offices. Please reply to Jeanine Finley at finley.jeanine@epa.gov.

Thank you,

Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
Cc: Naomi Gordon[Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov]
From: Parker, William A.
Sent: Fri 1/13/2017 6:47:26 PM
Subject: Re: North Birmingham IWG Write-up

Hi pls send the 3-4 bullet points on accomplishments- as well as the bio. Also, where/time of the event on Thursday. Wp

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 13, 2017, at 1:09 PM, Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov> wrote:

North Birmingham Interagency Working Group Continues to Make Progress

In August 2014, EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies, including HUD, HHS, HRSA, DOL, COE, DOT, ATSDR and CDC began a Regional EJ IWG to assist with revitalization efforts in the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods located in Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama. Prior to the establishment of the Regional IWG focused on North Birmingham, EPA engaged in a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental condition and potential environmental impacts in this area due to past industrial practices. This effort, which includes air, water and waste issues, is known as the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project.

Over the last two years, Regional Federal Agencies have worked closely with the City of Birmingham, the North Birmingham Community Coalition, and a host of other local stakeholders, to gather information about the area, set priorities, provide technical assistance and capacity building opportunities.

In February 2016, EPA Region 4 hosted a meeting of the North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) in Atlanta, Ga, reconvening representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area. Over 130 people were in attendance for the meeting which included presentations outlining smart goals, progress thus far, and resources needed from the six sub-workgroups to address the community's concerns with blight and environmental degradation. Mustafa Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and Marsha Minter, National EJ IWG Program Manager were in attendance for the meeting. In addition, a community

spotlight was given to the Ivanhoe Neighborhood in Kansas City, Mo., presented by Ms. Margaret May, who at the time was the Chair of EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC).

In September 2016, the North Birmingham Community Coalition presented its Community Action Plan to the larger community and solicited additional support and partners to implement their priorities. As well, in December 2016, a meeting was held with key federal agency representatives, and City of Birmingham officials, to review progress and discuss next steps for the North Birmingham efforts. Current plans are to transfer primary leadership of the effort to the City of Birmingham to continue work on the smart goals and to support implementation of the North Birmingham Community Coalition Plan.

Recently, efforts related to this project were highlighted in a webinar presented by the National Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. The link to this webinar is

https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Whitlock(Tarver), Siobhan
Sent: Mon 1/9/2017 9:33:28 PM
Subject: North Birmingham Article - Needed by tomorrow

Hi Cynthia—

Can you please edit this write-up for the OEJS e-Newsletter please? We also need to update the title:

North Birmingham Interagency Working Group Convenes in Atlanta

EPA Region 4 hosted a meeting of the North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) in Atlanta, Ga, convening representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area. Over 130 people were in attendance for the meeting which included presentations outlining smart goals, progress thus far, and resources needed from the six sub-workgroups to address the community's concerns with blight and environmental degradation. Mustafa Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and Marsha Minter, National EJ IWG Program Manager were in attendance for the meeting. In addition, a community spotlight was given to the Ivanhoe Neighborhood in Kansas City, Mo., presented by Ms. Margaret May, current Chair of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC).

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice was established in 1994, under Executive Order 12898. The role of the EJ IWG is to guide, support and enhance federal environmental justice and community-based activities. In August 2014, EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies in the Atlanta region, began a Regional EJ IWG to assist with revitalization efforts in the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods in Jefferson County, Alabama.

Latoya's write-up:

The EPA is moving forward with a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental condition and potential environmental impacts, in certain areas of the North Birmingham, Fairmont, Collegeville, and Harriman Park neighborhoods, as well as portions of Five-Mile Creek and Harriman Park ditch, located in and around Birmingham, Jefferson County, A labama. This effort, which includes air, water and waste issues, is known as the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project.

While multiple programs participate on the various N. Birmingham Subgroups, one area where OEJS has had lead is in the co-leadership roles –along with staff from the Water Protection Division--in the Infrastructure, Parks, and Recreation Subgroup. Under this Subgroup, the following sustainability efforts in North Birmingham where realized: $42,000 in Stormwater/Green Project Funds were used to provide a technical assistance contract that provided the City of Birmingham's Stormwater Division with a detailed analysis of local climactic conditions, existing stormwater ordinances, and regional permitting examples, followed by recommendations specific to the City. Birmingham has since contracted to rewrite their codes and ordinances, using EPA's technical assistance recommendations to inform their decision making process.

The current status of all aspects of the North Birmingham project may be found at https://www.epa.gov/north-birmingham-project. This site also contains the most up-to-date fact sheets, Frequently Asked Questions, and resources for how you can get involved.

Also—the webinar recording has been uploaded to the website. Check it out: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg

Thanks!

Siobhan

Siobhan T. Whitlock, Ph.D. | Physical Scientist |
Office of the Regional Administrator | **Office of Environmental Justice & Sustainability**
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 | 61 Forsyth Street, SW | Atlanta, GA 30303
Voice: 404-562-8299 | Email: Whitlock.Siobhan@epa.gov

Robust Science, Clean Environment, Healthy Communities

Are you part of the 12% of EPA employees who have taken the Children's Environmental Health Training on EPA's eLearning Skillport site? If you haven't taken the training, either click on this link or paste this url into your web browser: https://epa.skillport.com/skillportfe/assetSummaryPage.action?assetid=_scorm12_epa_epa_ceh_fy12_fgc_enus.

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The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) presents

Access & Awareness Webinar Series

Established by Executive Order 12898, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) comprises 17 federal agencies and White House Offices that work together to guide, support and enhance environmental justice and community-based activities. Check out the EJ IWG Webpage for more information.

The EJ IWG is launching the Access & Awareness Webinar Series, a monthly event, to provide public access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. This series will help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating and what resources are available to anyone interested in improving the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

Webinar No. 1: Federal Agencies Convening for Environmental Justice: Connecting Communities to Green Space, Healthcare and Jobs

Date: 8/11/2016
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
Register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/federal-agencies-convening-for-environmental-justice-connecting-communities-to-green-space-tickets-26760830364

The first webinar of the series will provide an introduction to the Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group, co-chaired by the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House Council on Environmental Quality. It will include presentations from the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor and the Department of the Interior. These presentations will highlight agency programs and how they integrate important EJ principles to target underserved and overburdened communities.

Upcoming EJ IWG Webinars

Title: Increasing Awareness of Federal Grant and Resource Opportunities
Date: 9/8/2016
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
Purpose: An introduction on how to use the www.grants.gov website and current funding opportunities for communities facing environmental justice issues.

Title: Creating Safe and Healthy Environments for Children
Date: 10/13/2016
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
Purpose: Children's Health Month: Advancing the federal commitment of protecting children's environmental health and safety.

Title: Learning Together: Lessons Learned from Collaborative Place-Based Initiatives
Date: 11/10/2016
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
Purpose: Overview of the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration to showcase the importance of effective federal collaboration.

And make sure to subscribe to the EPA's Environmental Justice Listserv (https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=epa-ej) so that you can receive registration information on all our upcoming webinars and activities!

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Webinar No. 6: Discrimination Protections and Promising Practices in Federally Assisted Emergency Management

Date: 1/12/2017
Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
To register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/discrimination-protections-and-promising-practices-in-federally-assisted-emergency-management-tickets-28916895212

Description
In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and subsequent catastrophic events, the Federal government learned many critical lessons about how recipients of federal financial assistance engaged in emergency management activities can more effectively ensure that all members of the community receive access to information and services.

On August 16, 2016, the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Developmentand Transportation issued the first-ever, joint agency guidance to state and local governments and other entities involved in emergency management, services, and information-sharing that addresses nondiscrimination protections on the basis of race, color and national origin.

The goal of the joint agency guidance is to promote collaboration with and inclusion of all communities that may be affected by emergencies. Presenters will discuss Title VI nondiscrimination protections, its applicability (the distinction between federally assisted v. federally conducted programs and activities), and promising practices to ensure compliance in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. Presenters will also discuss the how legal aid organizations can help in emergencies and disasters. Lastly, a representative from an advocacy group will share the group's experience in ensuring nondiscrimination in postemergency recovery efforts and what more should be done.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

February
Title: *Whole Community Disaster Planning: Inclusive Approaches to Recovery and Preparedness*
Date: 02/09/2017
Time: 1:00-2:30pm EST
Purpose: This webinar will discuss whole community planning efforts to improve preparedness and recovery for all stakeholders, especially those unfamiliar with local planning processes.
To Register:

Subscribe to the EPA's Environmental Justice Listserv (https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=epa-ej) to receive registration information for upcoming webinars and activities!

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Pinkney, James
Sent: Wed 2/17/2016 8:37:34 PM
Subject: RE: IWG Meeting Press Release

Media Advisory:

EPA Hosts Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Meeting in Atlanta to address Concerns in North Birmingham Communities

Contact Information: James Pinkney, (404) 562-9183 (Direct), (404) 562-8400 (Main)
pinkney.james@epa.gov

(ATLANTA – February 17, 2016) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will host a Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Meeting (EJ IWG) on Thursday, February 18, 2016 in the Sam Nunn Federal Building in Atlanta, GA. The EJ IWG will bring together a host of federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area.

Who: USEPA, City of Birmingham and various federal, state and local partners

What: North Birmingham Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

When: Thursday, February 18, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM EST

Where: Sam Nunn Federal Building in Atlanta, GA

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) was established in 1994, under Executive Order 12898. The role of the EJ IWG is to guide,

support and enhance federal environmental justice and community-based activities. EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies in the Atlanta region, began a Regional EJ IWG focused on North Birmingham in August 2014. The goal of the Regional EJ IWG is to work with other federal agencies to assist with revitalization efforts towards making a visible difference in the communities impacted by potential environmental concerns, blight and degradation.

The North Birmingham IWG has embraced a coordinated approach to work with local stakeholders in developing plans to revitalize the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods in Jefferson County, Alabama.

The agenda will include updates from representatives from the National EJ IWG, the City of Birmingham and time for the agencies in attendance to share information on resources and technical assistance available to support the needs of North Birmingham.

Connect with EPA Region 4 on Facebook: www.facebook.com/eparegion4

And on Twitter: @EPASoutheast

###

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 3:12 PM
To: Pinkney, James <Pinkney.James@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: IWG Meeting Press Release

Hey,

Can you send me the final press release when you get a chance?

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Pinkney, James
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 2:50 PM
To: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>
Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Davis, Anita <Davis.Anita@epa.gov>; Lincoln, Larry <Lincoln.Larry@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: IWG Meeting Press Release

Went out this morning.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 17, 2016, at 1:49 PM, Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov> wrote:

When will the press release go out?

Thanks,

Brandi

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 7:49 PM
To: Pinkney, James <Pinkney.James@epa.gov>
Cc: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: IWG Meeting Press Release

Hi James,

Here are my edits to the press release.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Pinkney, James
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:46 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Cc: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>
Subject: IWG Meeting Press Release

Please review.

James Pinkney

EPA Region 4 Office of External Affairs

61 Forsyth Street SW | Atlanta, GA 30303

phone: 404.562.9183 | mobile: 404.695.5503

email: pinkney.james@epa.gov

Follow Region 4 on Twitter: www.twitter.com/EPASoutheast

and Facebook: www.facebook.com/eparegion4

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To: Tennessee, Denise[Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov]; Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Jones-Johnson, Shea
Sent: Tue 8/23/2016 3:54:07 PM
Subject: Information request: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group
INVITATION - Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group 29August2016 at EEOB350.pdf
EJ IWG Principals August 29 2016 Draft Agenda v082216.docx

Hello,

We recently received the agenda for the EJ IWG principals meeting next Monday in Washington, DC. It was decided today that Anne will be added to the agenda. I know it's short notice but it would be greatly appreciated if you could give Anne input on the items below:

1:40 Roundtable Discussion: Lessons Learned Through EJ Strategy Implementation and

Collaboration

Moderator: Mustafa Ali

The dialogue will be framed by the following questions:

1. What do you see as the remaining challenges/opportunities to advance EJ?

2. How would you address the above using your EJ Strategy, the EJ IWG, or other relevant tools?

3. What steps should the EJ IWG take in 2016 to facilitate those efforts in the next Administration? Do you see a need for the EJ IWG to provide agencies with language that could be used in their transition planning documents?

The following three speakers will each provide a 5-7 minute briefing to start the Roundtable discussion.

GSA: Madeline Caliendo, the Associate Administrator for Civil Rights and Katy Kale, Chief of Staff

DOJ: Eve Hill, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division

DOE: Thomas Johnson Jr., Associate Deputy Manager, Savannah River Site

Your input is requested by 10 AM on 8/25.

Thanks,

Shea

From: Nitsch, Chad **On Behalf Of** Ali, Mustafa
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 9:44 AM
To: Heard, Anne <Heard.Anne@epa.gov>
Cc: Jones-Johnson, Shea <Jones-Johnson.Shea@epa.gov>; Nitsch, Chad <Nitsch.Chad@epa.gov>; Minter, Marsha <Minter.Marsha@epa.gov>; Finley, Jeanine <finley.jeanine@epa.gov>; Hicks, Javoyne <Hicks.Javoyne@epa.gov>; Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: NEW DATE 29 August 2016: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group

Anne,

We'd be happy to have you at the Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJIWG) on August 29th at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington, DC. I've attached the original invite sent to the 17 agencies that are part of the EJIWG and the agenda. Please let me know if you are able to make it.

Blessings,

Mustafa Santiago Ali

Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

From: Nitsch, Chad **On Behalf Of** Ali, Mustafa
Subject: NEW DATE 29 August 2016: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working

Group

Good afternoon,

The White House's Council on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency have identified the new date for the Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group as Monday, August 29, 2016 from 1pm-3pm Eastern Time in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EEOB) 350. Please reply for your principal to Jeanine Finley at finley.jeanine@epa.gov as soon as possible. For those who don't already have clearance, use the following link to pass through security at the EEOB: https://events.whitehouse.gov/form?rid=8V8VFD3H6M. Meeting materials will be sent prior to the meeting.

Thank you,

Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

---

From: Ali, Mustafa
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2016 4:27 PM
To: 'francis_iacobucci@ios.goi.gov'; 'scheduling@ios.doi.gov'; 'Liza.Purcell@osec.usda.gov'; 'Bessie.l.meadows@usdoj.gov'; 'scluthe@doc.gov'; 'jayaratne.ladini@dol.gov'; 'Kimberly.Bender@sd.mil'; 'brenna.marron@dot.gov'; 'christian.warner@dot.gov'; 'Tia.Borders@ed.gov'; 'Jacqueline.Colli@va.gov'; 'francie.harris@hq.doe.gov'; 'syretta.dyson@gsa.gov'; 'jolene.lester@gsa.gov'; 'Julie.Herr@hhs.gov'; 'jeffrey.wexler@sba.gov'; 'Antoniewicz, Mark T. EOP/CEQ'; Machayo, Bo M. EOP/CEQ; Minter, Marsha; Nitsch, Chad; Finley, Jeanine; Tejada, Matthew; Vargas, Melissa; Morales, Esther; Azoolin, Liel
Subject: INVITATION: Principals Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group on 30 June 2016 at EEOB 350

Good afternoon,

Advancing environmental justice principles has been a priority for the federal government for more than 20 years. As we approach the final months of the Obama Administration, we have an opportunity to reflect on lessons learned and to identify what big challenges and opportunities remain. The Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and chairwoman of the Interagency Environmental Justice Working Group is pleased to invite the 17 involved agencies and departments to the second principals' meeting on June 30 at 10 a.m. in Room *350* of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. The discussion will focus on identifying the needs for a consistent approach to transition planning on environmental justice.

Your principals will be receiving a hard copy invitation soon. To expedite the process, we are sending this e-mail and attached invitation to the applicable scheduling offices. Please reply to Jeanine Finley at finley.jeanine@epa.gov.

Thank you,

Mustafa Santiago Ali, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator on Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Altidor, Kedesch (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thur 5/26/2016 5:58:20 PM
Subject: RE: IWG Meeting info

Thank you!

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia [mailto:Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2016 1:57 PM
To: Altidor, Kedesch (OS/OASH)
Subject: IWG Meeting info

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)

U.S. EPA

1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)

WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016

2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:

http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

2:10 EJ IWG Creating Change Through Collaboration

Mustafa Santiago Ali

Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

2:20 EJ IWG Update

Marsha Minter

Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA

- ○ Principals Meeting
- ○ Public Participation Committee
- ○ Cross Cutting Topics

2:30 Rural Committee Presentation

Lance Hendrix

Place-Based Initiatives Coordinator, Office of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Administrator, USDA

Link to the http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit

2:50 EJ 2020 Presentation - EPA's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan

Charles Lee

Deputy Associate Assistant Administrator for Environmental Justice, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, EPA

EJ 2020 pages: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-action-agenda

Blog link: https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/ej-ej2020-2/

3:20 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements:

o Nominate a White House Champion of Change for Climate Equity: Applications close Friday June 10th

https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/04/20/nominate-white-house-champion-change-climate-equity

o Apply to the Tribal EcoAmbassadors Program, Applications will close Friday June 17th

https://www.epa.gov/tribal/funding-opportunity-2016-2017-tribal-ecoambassadors-grant-program

o EPA Urban Waters Federal Partnership National Training Workshop 2016, July 26-27th

https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/urban-waters-national-training-workshop-2016

o Help Set HUDs Research Agenda: HUDs Office of Policy Development and Research is updating the Research Roadmap. Submit feedback by Friday May 27th

http://www.huduser.gov/forums/index.php?q=research_roadmap.html

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi
- Robert Garcia

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings

June 23, 2016

July 28, 2016

Attachments:

Rural Challenges and Summer Meals-USDA

Summer Food Service Program Factsheet- USDA

SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Principals Meeting

June 30th, 10am-12pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building

Room 350

1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:

Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)

and

Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)

By Friday, June 17th 2016 *COB*

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From: Martin, KarenL
Location: William Jefferson Clinton South Building - Conference Room 6204 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20004
Importance: Normal
Subject: EJ IWG Monthly Meeting Call-in - 1-866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Start Date/Time: Thur 5/26/2016 6:00:00 PM
End Date/Time: Thur 5/26/2016 7:30:00 PM
EJ IWG Meeting Agenda May 26 final.docx
SFSP-Fact-Sheet - Summer Meals.pdf
Summer in Rural Areas.pdf
SFSP-Fact-Sheet - Summer Meals.pdf
Summer in Rural Areas.pdf
EJ IWG Meeting Agenda May 26 final.docx
EJ IWG 4-28-16 Meeting Agenda notes.docx

Updated Meeting Invitation 5-26-16: Notes from 4-28-16 added

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC - Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm - 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
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Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

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Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA
- Principals Meeting
- Public Participation Committee
- Cross Cutting Topics

2:30 Rural Committee Presentation
Lance Hendrix

Place-Based Initiatives Coordinator, Office of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Administrator, USDA
Link to the http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit

2:50 EJ 2020 Presentation - EPA's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan
Charles Lee
Deputy Associate Assistant Administrator for Environmental Justice, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, EPA
EJ 2020 pages: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-action-agenda
Blog link: https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/ej-ej2020-2/

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- Robert Garcia

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
June 23, 2016

July 28, 2016

Attachments:
Rural Challenges and Summer Meals-USDA
Summer Food Service Program Factsheet- USDA

SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Principals Meeting
June 30th, 10am-12pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Room 350
1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
By Friday, June 17th 2016 *COB*

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6045
Washington, DC
Thursday, April 28, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

2:10 EJ IWG Update – Marsha Minter

- Over the past few months EJ IWG Subcommittees have been moving full steam ahead on developing infrastructure that will streamline processes. Three subcommittees have developed documents that will lend consistency to activities such as developing websites, webinars, and trainings.

- Marsha will distribute a table that lists our FY 2016 Priorities, it will enable us to track deliverables that come out of subcommittee activities. Marsha will also distribute a webinar request form and an informational sheet which will provide guidance on the responsibilities of subcommittee chairs.

2:20 EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update – Mustafa Santiago Ali

- The winners of the 2016 Goldman Environmental Prize were highlighted last week at EPA Headquarters.

- The tentative date for the Principles Meeting is either going to be June 23rd or June 30th.

- Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Butch Blazer is leaving USDA, his last day is May 13th. Mr. Blazer has been a large supporter of the EJ IWG.

- President Obama is planning to visit Flint, Michigan and we are hoping to have a EJ component to his visit.

Upcoming Activities:

- Principles Meeting
- Environmental Justice Champion of Change- tentatively September
- Funding and Resource Summit
- Climate Equity Champions of Change Nominations are open until June 10th

2:30 Title VI Subcommittee Presentation – DOJ Committee Chairs:
Daria Neal & Dylan de Kervor
Topics of discussion included: how civil rights (Title VI) offices interact with EJ

programming at various agencies; what opportunities exist for improving civil rights enforcement in the environmental justice context; how can advocates encourage collaboration between OCRs and EPA's Office of Environmental Justice; how civil rights complaints (Title VI, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing) are coordinated when multiple funding agencies are implicated; what opportunities exist for ongoing collaboration between EJ IWG and Title VI advocates.

- **Participating In-Person**
- ~~Erica Dupree, Energy Justice Network~~
- **Marianne Engleman-Lado, EarthJustice**
- **Christine Ernst, EarthJustice**
- **Steve Fischbach, Rhode Island Legal Services**
- **Megan Haberle, Poverty & Race Research Action Council**
- **Gregg Macey, Brooklyn Law School**
- **Vernice Miller-Travis, Miller-Travis & Associates**
- **Joe Rich, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights**
- ~~Rashida Tlaib, Sugar Law Center~~

- **Participating by Phone**
- **Marc Brenman, consultant**
- ~~Amy Laura Cahn, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia~~
- **Cesar De La Vega, The City Project**
- **Adrienne Hollis, WE ACT for Environmental Justice**
- **Sara Imperiale, Natural Resources Defense Council**
- ~~Dr. Charlotte Keys, Jesus People Against Pollution~~
- ~~Mark Magana, GreenLatinos~~
- ~~Vincent Martin, Human Synergy Works~~
- **Brent Newall, Center for Race Poverty and Enviro**
- **Omega Wilson, West End Revitalization Assoc.**
- **Chandra Taylor, Southern Environmental Law Center**
- **Karen Rotker, ACLU – Wisconsin**

Next Steps: The EJ IWG Title VI Subcommittee will remain regularly engaged with the coalition on the many challenges discussed around Title VI enforcement.

3:20 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S.EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
William Jefferson Clinton-South Building – Conference Room 6045
Washington, DC
Thursday, April 28, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy

- NEJAC applications due April 29 **www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/02/18/2016-03405/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council**
- TIGER applications are due no later than April 29, 2016 at 8 PM E.D.T. Additional details and webinars: https://www.transportation.gov/tiger
- Great Urban parks Campaign applications are due April 29 http://smartgrowth.org/great-urban-parks-campaign-green-infrastructure-in-underserved-communities
- 2016 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum, Aug. 15-18, Mohegan Sun Resort, Uncasville, CT: Call for Proposals due May 6, 2016, www.7.nau.edu/itep/main

Future Meeting Topic Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- EJ 2020

Community Spotlight Suggestions

- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi

EJ IWG Monthly Meetings/ Meeting Hosts
May 26, 2016
June 23, 2016

Attachments
EJ IWG March 24, 2016 Meeting Notes

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6402

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN: (b)(6) Personal Privacy
To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

2:10 EJ IWG Creating Change Through Collaboration
Mustafa Santiago Ali
Environmental Justice Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, EPA

2:20 EJ IWG Update
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice, EPA
- Principals Meeting
- Public Participation Committee
- Cross Cutting Topics

2:30 Rural Committee Presentation
Lance Hendrix
Place-Based Initiatives Coordinator, Office of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Administrator, USDA
Link to the http://www.fns.usda.gov/sfsp/summer-meals-toolkit

2:50 EJ 2020 Presentation - EPA's Environmental Justice Strategic Plan
Charles Lee
Deputy Associate Assistant Administrator for Environmental Justice, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, EPA
EJ 2020 pages: https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-action-agenda
Blog link: https://blog.epa.gov/blog/2016/05/ej-ej2020-2/

3:20 Next Steps/Announcements

Announcements:
- Nominate a White House Champion of Change for Climate Equity: Applications close Friday June 10th
https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/04/20/nominate-white-house-

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champion-change-climate-equity

- Apply to the Tribal EcoAmbassadors Program, Applications will close Friday June 17th
  https://www.epa.gov/tribal/funding-opportunity-2016-2017-tribal-ecoambassadors-grant-program

- EPA Urban Waters Federal Partnership National Training Workshop 2016, July 26-27th
  https://www.epa.gov/urbanwaterspartners/urban-waters-national-training-workshop-2016

- Help Set HUDs Research Agenda: HUDs Office of Policy Development and Research is updating the Research Roadmap. Submit feedback by Friday May 27th
  http://www.huduser.gov/forums/index.php?q=research_roadmap.html

Future Meeting Presentation Suggestions

- EPA EJ initiative on reducing blood lead levels in low-income and minority children
- MOA on Technical Assistance to Communities

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- Right to Root, Cat Goughnour
- Citizen Science Project in East Biloxi
- Robert Garcia

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings
June 23, 2016
July 28, 2016

Attachments:
Rural Challenges and Summer Meals-USDA
Summer Food Service Program Factsheet- USDA

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U.S. EPA
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SAVE THE DATE

Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Principals Meeting June 30th, 10am-12pm

White House, Eisenhower Executive Office Building
Room 350
1650 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20502

Purpose: Senior Leadership will come together to discuss sustainable approaches to environmental justice and the EJ IWG

To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
By Friday, June 17th 2016 *COB*

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA
1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

Thursday, May 26, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy
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U.S. EPA
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WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204

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To RSVP Please Email:
Jeanine Finley (finley.jeanine@epa.gov)
and
Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
By Friday, June 17th 2016 *COB*

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1. [redacted]

Natalie Ellington:
Since most of our environmental programs have been delegated to the states, in order to really advance EJ, states must be committed to advancing EJ too. States must be willing to acknowledge that the EJ issue(s) exists; train state employees on how to handle EJ communities; commit to meaningful & authentic community engagement; and build in accountability to ensure that environmental laws and regulations are applied equally across all communities, including overburdened and underserved communities.

Adequately resource (FTE and funding) environmental programs to address EJ issues. Working on EJ and local community issues takes time and resources for all stakeholders that are engaged in the process of tackling some of the most challenging environmental issues.

Other federal agencies need to have EJ performance measures too. Perhaps they do but at times, it seems other federal agencies are not as committed to EJ. Local community issues include a myriad of concerns and the authority to address the concerns usually is the responsibility of multiple federal agencies. Therefore, in order to truly advance EJ, commitment and accountability are needed across all agencies.

Cynthia Peurifoy:

Remaining challenges: Environmental Justice communities continue to suffer from disproportionate impacts without adequate resources and support, particularly at the local levels. So many of the challenges are brought about by local decisions. We must continue to work with our federal family and state and local partners to ensure continue capacity building and engagement of environmental justice communities.

Opportunities: The EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration (FY2016-2018) offers opportunities to for continued collaborative, capacity building and problem solving. Region 4 through its Regional IWG, CUPP and other efforts has greatly benefited from the collaborations. We have also had an opportunity to share our work and challenges, through presentations from our communities) NaTaki Jelks on Proctor Creek, Miles Ballogg on Brownfields to Healthfields opportunities, etc. The Regional IWG Committee has been supportive our North Birmingham IWG and is developing tools and resources that are helpful to our efforts.

2. [redacted]

Natalie Ellington:
Use every meeting and collaborative opportunity with states, local agencies and organizations, federal agencies, and private partnerships to talk about specific EJ concerns.

Where SEPs are being considered, include EJ components as a part of the negotiations

Continue to invest in the enhancement of EJSCREEN, expanding the water indexes

Continue to invest in R4's EJ Academy for external stakeholders and the EJ Training Curriculum for internal staff.

Cynthia Peurifoy: EPA's Leadership over the IWG efforts must continue. EJ 2020 will offer opportunities for EPA to further the relationship of federal agencies as we work to address environmental justice concerns and challenges. The Federal Plan in EJ 2020 offers opportunities to collaborate around goods movement, NEPA, revitalization and other areas important to achieving environmental justice for communities.

3. [redacted]

Most definitely. The IWG should continue to highlight its efforts and accomplishments and implementation of the Framework for Collaboration. Each agency should ensure that its EJ Strategies and the Framework are included in their transition documents. Providing a framework for each agency to follow would be helpful.

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To: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thur 11/17/2016 9:27:01 PM
Subject: RE: EJ IWG Regional IWG Subcommittee Meeting Notes

What's your extension?

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 3:41 PM
To: Erhunse, Adesuwa <erhunse.adesuwa@epa.gov>
Cc: Ortiz, Deborah <ortiz.deborah@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: EJ IWG Regional IWG Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Thanks! I really appreciate it. I had to leave the 2pm IWG Meeting at 3, would like to hear about the transition discussion that took place after I left. On the EJ 2020 Implementation call now. I'll give you a call when I'm done. Thanks!

From: Erhunse, Adesuwa
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 3:27 PM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Cc: Ortiz, Deborah <ortiz.deborah@epa.gov>
Subject: EJ IWG Regional IWG Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Hello Cynthia,

Deborah and I switched assigned meetings due to time conflicts. I was scheduled to participate in the EJ IWG at 2:00 PM , thus not able to participate in the 2:00 PM CIT Conference Planning Subcommittee meeting.

Below are my notes from the 1:00 PM Regional IWG Subcommittee meeting.

Webinar series/logistics Update (FY 16 Framework for Collaboration Goal)

Request for volunteers to present information at webinars beginning March 2017. Looking for commitment to serve as a person of contact and to develop and implement webinars; not just provide content topics

EJ Resource Terms Update (FY 16 Framework for Collaboration Goal)

The document will be sent out for a final review/ comment. Please send final comments, if applicable by COB on Monday, November 21, 2016

Review Draft FY 16 Accomplishments

Compile Regional IWG Model One-Pagers: It was suggested to extend the use of this document to communities/ citizens requesting assistance with learning best practices and lessons learned

Resource Guide: Developing a compendium of links, search terms for grants.gov and resources to be posted on the EJ IWG Website:

The Executive Order released on community solutions was released and suggested to include it as guide

EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series: FY 2016 topics include Federal Grants, Intro to the EJ IWG and Federal Collaboration:

Nothing to add, everyone agrees with proposed agenda

Review Draft FY 16 Priorities

Continue EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series: no change in objectives and goals

Continue Support to RIWGs: develop metrics in future but leave for now due to upcoming administration changes; develop tools to encourage regional coordination;

create and support collaborations

Expand Agency Participation in EPA EJ Academy: suggestion to establish a Federal EJ Academy Steering committee via the Region IWG committee

Adesuwa Erhunse, Ph.D. | Physical Scientist

Office of Environmental Justice & Sustainability

EPA Region 4 | Atlanta, GA 30303

404.562.8358 (office) | erhunse.adesuwa@epa.gov (e-mail)

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The ReGenesis Environmental Collaborative Partnership, Spartanburg, SC

In May of 2000, the ReGenesis Partnership was selected as an Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice pilot project. Below is background on the community driven redevelopment effort, capturing the pivotal role the Interagency Working Group Task Force agencies played in the success of the project.

After years of disinvestment, the 1990s found the Arkwright and Forest Park neighborhoods struggling. Urban renewal in the 1970s had decimated the community's formerly vibrant commercial core of 70 black-owned businesses. Economic revitalization initiatives that were improving the downtown areas of Spartanburg had not reached these communities. The only road into the communities was frequently blocked by standing trains, isolating them from other areas of the city. In addition, many residents had health concerns which they suspected were related to the presence of two hazardous waste sites and an active chemical manufacturing plant. These suspicions created high levels of tension and mistrust between community members and their industrial neighbors: a municipal landfill, an abandoned fertilizer plant and an active chemical manufacturer

In 1997, Harold Mitchell, a long-term community resident, founded ReGenesis. As efforts to assess and clean up contaminated sites began, ReGenesis represented neighborhood interests. Soon, the organization saw an opportunity to expand discussions with local government and environmental agencies to include equitable neighborhood revitalization. In 2000, the ReGenesis Environmental Justice Partnership was formed by representatives from ReGenesis, Spartanburg County, and the City of Spartanburg to promote equitable development for Arkwright and Forest Park. The Partnership became the focus of the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice, bringing a number of key agencies to the table to build capacity and help with local efforts. Key agencies involved were EPA, DOJ, DOE, HUD, DOI and HHS (HRSA).

Over the next decade, the Partnership worked with local residents to identify quality of life priorities for redevelopment and attracted millions of dollars for revitalization. Beginning with funding from the Environmental Protection Agency for site cleanup and redevelopment planning, the partnership has leveraged over $250 million dollars for neighborhood reinvestment. Achievements include:

- the development of over 500 new affordable/workforce housing units of housing,
- the establishment of the ReGenesis Community Health Center (which has grown to include five facilities and serves migrant health as well as school and behavioral health initiatives),
- the launch of the C. C. Woodson Community Center, a green recreational facility that received an award from the National Planning Council for Innovative Financing, and
- the creation of job opportunities for neighborhood residents in construction and at the nearby chemical manufacturing plant.
- Current efforts include plans to build a solar farm on the former City of Spartanburg landfill and an Urban Golf Course on the former IMC Fertilizer Site.

Additional information on the project can be found in the EJ Blog in Action Blog: A Dream Realized: Community Driven Revitalization in Spartanburg, at http://blog.epa.gov/ej/2014/08/a-dream-realized/

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To: Carey, Pat[Carey.Pat@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Fri 7/22/2016 6:29:37 PM

Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration in support of efforts to address concerns of overburdened communities at the regional, state and local levels.

Activity 2.1: Facilitate solution oriented work sessions with communities through the regional IWGs and other interagency efforts to support and address community issues as one federal family.

o Establish feedback process, including timeframe and commitment from agencies in response to community concerns and requests. (June 2016)

o Implement the solution oriented work sessions in EPA MVD communities in collaboration with Regional IWG and EPA MVD project staffs (August 2016)

o Partner with key federal agencies to deploy relevant resources, tools, and strategies (October 2016)

o Produce annual summary of work session outcomes and best practices (beginning 2017)

Activity 2.2: Leverage federal agency resources and technical assistance in communities based on regional efforts, such as MVD, Brownfields, Urban Waters, Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving, etc.

o Work with the EPA EJ IWG Committee, the Office of Sustainable Communities and others to identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged with specific EPA projects. (October 2016)

o Share the EJ IWG's revised and updated Community Based Federal Environmental Resource Guide (June 2016)

o Work with EJ 2020 Communities Workgroup to identify communities and align where EPA and multiple agencies are working together to address environmental justice concerns. (June 2016)

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD and other community based efforts projects

- Creation and dissemination of the federal resource guide

- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

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EJ 2020 FEDERAL AGENCIES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

I. Introduction

> Goal - To amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

Over twenty years of environmental justice practice has taught us that all federal agencies play a critical role in ensuring that we make a visible difference in communities overburdened with environmental and economic distress. In 1994, EO 12898 recognized the multi-faceted nature of environmental justice issues and called on every federal agency to "identify and address, as appropriate, the disproportionate human health and environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." EO 12898 created the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) to address these multiple concerns. Since then, robust EJ practice within communities and government agencies at all levels has produced further recognition that environmental justice is more than about ensuring that environmental burdens do not disproportionately affect areas of persistent poverty but also about creating opportunities to build healthy, wholesome, sustainable and resilient communities. We have learned that this is what communities want. This means promoting neighborhood amenities such as better housing, transportation, health care access, economic development, and green space. EPA will strengthen our working relationships with our sister federal agencies because responsibility for ensuring these benefits fall under their mandates.

II. Goal

Amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

III. Organizational Context

The federal agencies element of EJ 2020 is led by the Office of Land and Emergency Management, Region 4, and the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice. Because the EJ IWG is co-chaired by the Administrator of EPA and the Chair of the White House Council of Environmental Quality, the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and the Office of Environmental Justice play a special role in implementing this element.

In 2011, adopted the memorandum of understanding on E 12898 and the IWG on environmental justice. Identified the following agencies as covered agencies under the MOU: Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of the Interior, Department of Justice, Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Order applies to the following offices in the Executive Office of the President: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Office of the Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Policy, Office of the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, National Economic Council, and Council of Economic Advisers.

The Memorandum of Understanding established focus areas for the EJ IWG: (1) implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act; (2) implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; (3) impacts from climate change; and (4) impacts from commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement").

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In 2015, the EJ IWG adopted the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Framework for Collaboration to outline a plan for federal agencies to collectively focus on addressing the following five areas for the next three years: Impacts from Climate Change; Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement); National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples; and Rural Communities

IV. Strategies

Strategy 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

The IWG Framework for Collaboration defines goals and objectives for the next three years (2015-2018). It will advance federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resources communities. Two areas of priority focus for EJ 2020's support of the IWG Framework for Collaboration are NEPA and goods movement.

Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization on the regional, state and local levels.

Strengthening collaboration and coordination throughout the federal family on place-based projects and activities is important to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues in environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management and health disparities. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicate community- based programs to achieve long term revitalization, sustainability and enhance economic opportunities.

Strategy 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities and target attention and resources.

Strategy 4: Strengthen EPA's collaboration with the communities we serve and our government partners

V. Activities

Strategy 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

Activity 1.1: Provide leadership to finalizing and implementing the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration.

Activity 1.2: Improve the effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice issues in the NEPA process by promoting the use of *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews.*

- Training for and sharing of cross-department shared expertise among other federal agencies and NEPA practitioners (including supplemental material such as lexicon, cross-walk with CEQ regulations, repository of examples)
- Community/external stakeholder engagement
- Alignment with other (a) authorities (Title VI, planning) and (b) initiatives (goods movement, climate)
- Field application (comparative study with one project using Promising Practices and one using conventional approach)

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Activity 1.3: Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement (commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure) in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement

- Share findings of EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA programs and external partners
- Highlight key promising practices that would benefit EPA sponsored community based efforts
- Deploy promising practices among appropriate community based projects

Activity 1.4: Promote Integration of EJ Policy content, concepts and values among other federal community based programs and projects

- Document effective, innovative, and replicable approaches which promote sustainable community practices and highlight in Agencies' annual EJ progress reports. (Feb. 2016)
- Develop schedule of marketing and engaging other key federal agencies on the integration of EPA EJ Policy
- Execute marketing and engagement strategy and document efforts and results

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Measures:
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- Creation and dissemination of the federal resource guide
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

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Strategy 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities.

Activity 3.1: Create and include EJ Criteria in Grants and Cooperative Agreement scoring schemes in all Federal EJ IWG agencies' grants and cooperative agreement eligibility processes.

Develop generic EJ criteria options and share among federal agencies (April 2016)

- Develop and deploy broad, generic EJ criteria from (OBLR, OGC, OGD, Urban Waters) Grants and Cooperative Agreements EJ criteria language (April 2016)

Identify potential federal assistance efforts that could incorporate the generic language (June 2017)

- Identify assistance efforts that could incorporate the EJ language developed to support communities sustainability and equitable development (March 2016)
- Share the EJ language with federal agencies, and internally, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listserves, etc. (April 2016)
- Track the success agencies which add EJ language into funding opportunities. (June 2017)

Activity 3.2: Identify databases and other online tools (such as EJSCREEN, C-FERST, etc...) that support community-based efforts and share among federal agencies and with the public.

Create a federal agency-wide inventory (April 2016)

- Develop a central location for links to tools on OEI's webpage. (February 2016)
- EJ IWG will review existing tools/database list and request updates needed (February 2016)
- Create the federal tools inventory (April 2016)

Market the final product to federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public (May 2016)

- Disseminate the inventory through the IWG, ECOS, State and Tribal Governments, academia, and national community-based organizations (April 2016)

Track the utilization of the resources and tools in the inventory (May 2017)

- Create a process for agencies to add to inventory (February 2016)
- EPA maintains central website/document tools compilation. (May 2016)
- Request feedback from IWG members and others and update the inventory (May 2017)

Measures:

- Number of community-based tools/resources within EJ IWG agencies
- Number of trainings, facilitated and/or provided by EPA, that support communities
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Activity 3.3: Improve community awareness of environmental data to increase community and stakeholder involvement in decision-making by making data available to inform the process.

Identify key federal environmental data sources and systems (March 2016)

- Compile data sources and systems in a central location (March 2016)

Develop a marketing strategy for promoting the data sources (April 2016)

- Share data sources information with stakeholders including program offices and federal agencies through the Federal EJ IWG, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listserves, etc. (April 2016)

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Develop examples and models of data source use options and include in marketing efforts (July 2016)

- Capture examples of data source use options and internally through listserv announcements, blogs, conferences, and externally through the federal agencies' IWG, ECOS and other local, state and tribal entities (July 2016)

Track usage of data sources and use the information and gathered feedback for continuous improvement of the databases (May 2017)

- Track usage of the databases using the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network for the health and environmental data (March 2017)
- Share successes through the agency's social media (May 2017)

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD projects
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Number of federal agencies that incorporate the EJ criteria scoring language into their agencies' grants and cooperative agreements in the next year after and to what extent this was done

Strategy 4: Strengthen EPA's collaboration with the communities we serve and our government partners

Activity 4.1: Expand EPA's capacity to support communities by strengthening partnerships through the EJ IWG

- Identify Regional EJ IWG contacts, and engage EPA program staff in coordination with Regions for EJ IWG subcommittees (OEJ/Lead Region)
- Promote opportunities to increase EPA program office support to Regional offices in working with EJ IWG and addressing needs (OEJ/Lead Region)
- Increase coordination between agencies on community-based activities and training. (OEJ/OSC)

Activity 4.2: Advance consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA review process by implementing EJ and NEPA analytic methodologies

- Produce documents to assist in NEPA training and share the EJ IWG's NEPA Training Products with EPA NEPA practitioners (OEJ)
- Work with the EJ IWG NEPA Committee to strengthen community/external stakeholder engagement

Activity 4.3: Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement

- Share findings of EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA Regions and programs (OEJ)
- Work with EJ IWG Goods Movement Committee to select 1-2 communities with multiple federal agency involvement and apply a successful community-based concept/promising practice(s) (e.g. Brownfields to Healthfields) to address goods movement concerns. (OEJ, EJIWG)

Suggested Measure:

- Number of communities where Goods Movement and NEPA concepts were introduced and applied by federal agencies

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To: Tennessee, Denise[Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thur 2/25/2016 5:15:47 PM
Subject: Weekly

Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Meeting focused on North Birmingham

On February 18, 2016, EPA Region 4, hosted a Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Meeting (EJ IWG) focused on North Birmingham. The EJ IWG meeting brought together a host of federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area.

The meeting was attended by 130 people, which included a large number of folks from North Birmingham. Highlights of the meeting included an agency spotlight on the General Services Administration. The meeting was attended by representatives of several federal agencies, including Regional Administrators. As well, our community spotlight included a presentation by Ms. Margaret May, from the Ivenhoe Neighborhood Council in Kansas City, MO and the current Chair of EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council. The Senior Advisory to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and the National Program Manager for the IWG participated in the meeting and gave excellent feedback. The meeting included presentation of Smart Goals that were developed by the six workgroups and each workgroup met to discuss their goals further and finalize their work plans.

NEJAC

The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council will meet in Gulfport, MS on March 16 and 17, 2016. The meeting includes a dialogue with the Administrator and the Regional Administrator. The meeting with focus on Community Recovery and Revitalization, and will have panel related to the Gulf Coast, Resources and Technical Assistance, perspectives from Non-governmental Organizations, as well as private and governmental organizations. The meeting will be proceeded by a community meeting on Tuesday, March 15th. The meeting will also include updates from EPA on the Monitoring Workgroup, the Youth Perspectives Climate Justice Workgroup and EJ 2020 Action Agenda.

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To: Tarver, Siobhan[Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Wed 2/24/2016 3:24:06 PM
Subject: FW: IWG Meeting Press Release

Hey,

Here's the press advisory about last week's meeting. We had over 130 people in attendance, which included a large number of folks from North Birmingham, along with federal agency representatives and key local stakeholders. Highlights of the meeting include an agency spotlight on the General Services Administration. As well, our community spotlight included a presentation by Ms. Margaret May, from the Ivenhoe Neighborhood Council in Kansas City, MO and the current chair on the NEJAC.

The Senior Advisory to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and the National Program Manager on EJ participated in the meeting. They gave very positive feedback on the meeting and Region 4's effort to implement a Regional IWG.

Hope this helps! Let me know if you need anything else.

Cynthia

From: Pinkney, James
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 3:38 PM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: IWG Meeting Press Release

Media Advisory:

EPA Hosts Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Meeting in Atlanta to address Concerns in North Birmingham Communities

Contact Information: James Pinkney, (404) 562-9183 (Direct), (404) 562-8400 (Main)
pinkney.james@epa.gov

(ATLANTA – February 17, 2016) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will host a Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Meeting (EJ IWG) on Thursday, February 18, 2016 in the Sam Nunn Federal Building in Atlanta, GA. The EJ IWG will bring together a host of federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area.

Who: USEPA, City of Birmingham and various federal, state and local partners

What: North Birmingham Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice

When: Thursday, February 18, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM EST

Where: Sam Nunn Federal Building in Atlanta, GA

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) was established in 1994, under Executive Order 12898. The role of the EJ IWG is to guide, support and enhance federal environmental justice and community-based activities. EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies in the Atlanta region, began a Regional EJ IWG focused on North Birmingham in August 2014. The goal of the Regional EJ IWG is to work with other federal agencies to assist with revitalization efforts towards making a visible difference in the communities impacted by potential environmental concerns, blight and degradation.

The North Birmingham IWG has embraced a coordinated approach to work with local stakeholders in developing plans to revitalize the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods in Jefferson County,

Alabama.

The agenda will include updates from representatives from the National EJ IWG, the City of Birmingham and time for the agencies in attendance to share information on resources and technical assistance available to support the needs of North Birmingham.

Connect with EPA Region 4 on Facebook: www.facebook.com/eparegion4

And on Twitter: @EPASoutheast

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From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 3:12 PM
To: Pinkney, James <Pinkney.James@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: IWG Meeting Press Release

Hey,

Can you send me the final press release when you get a chance?

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Pinkney, James
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 2:50 PM
To: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>
Cc: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Davis, Anita <Davis.Anita@epa.gov>; Lincoln, Larry <Lincoln.Larry@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: IWG Meeting Press Release

Went out this morning.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 17, 2016, at 1:49 PM, Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov> wrote:

When will the press release go out?

Thanks,

Brandi

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 7:49 PM
To: Pinkney, James <Pinkney.James@epa.gov>
Cc: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: IWG Meeting Press Release

Hi James,

Here are my edits to the press release.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Pinkney, James
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2016 11:46 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Cc: Jenkins, Brandi <Jenkins.Brandi@epa.gov>
Subject: IWG Meeting Press Release

Please review.

James Pinkney

EPA Region 4 Office of External Affairs

61 Forsyth Street SW | Atlanta, GA 30303

phone: 404.562.9183 | mobile: 404.695.5503

email: pinkney.james@epa.gov

Follow Region 4 on Twitter: www.twitter.com/EPASoutheast

and Facebook: www.facebook.com/eparegion4

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Weekly Activity Report

Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability

Week of October 27, 2016

Check box directions—double click on the check-box and click "checked" on the default value in the pop-up box.

Potential or Expected Press Stories				
Topic	**Description and Contact**	**Milestones/Dates**	**Issues Mngmt Update?**	**RA Office Briefing Needed?**
			☐	☐

Contact with Elected Officials				
Topic/Location (if applicable)	**Description and Contact**	**Milestones/Dates**	**Issues Mngmt Update?**	**RA Office Briefing Needed?**
Southeast Brownfields Conference, October 17-19, 2016, Jacksonville, FL	Region 4's EJ Coordinator assisted with the planning and facilitation of several sessions including on Community Day, October 18, 2016 for the Conference. She served as a facilitator for the EJ Caucus and EJ Listening Sessions, as well as planned and moderated the Federal Interagency Working Group Panel Discussion, which included Marsha Minter, IWG Program Manager, Evelyn Britton, Manager of External Programs, Office of Civil Rights, General Services Administration, Jackie Romain, Special Initiatives Coordinator, USDA, and SE Regional Office. A number of Mayors from communities in Florida and other areas in the Region attended and shared how helpful the information was, particularly the Interagency Panel. As well, Mustafa Ali was the luncheon keynote speaker of Community Day, and received a standing ovation for his presentation. Finally, Sabrina Johnson, from the Office of Transportation and Air Quality attended the Conference and made a presentation on EPA's Near Port Community Capacity Building Project that		☐	☐

	was well received by participants. The Conference was well planned, well attended and received very positive feedback. Contact: Cynthia Peurifoy, x29649				

External Meetings/Conferences—include DD and/or events that involve RA/DRA					
Topic/Location	**Description and Contact**	**Milestones/Dates**	**Issues Mngmt Update?**	**RA Office Briefing Needed?**	**Open to Press?**
West Jefferson County Community Task Force (WJCCTF) 20th Anniversary Conference, Louisville, KY Baton Rouge, LA	OEJS staff spoke at the WJCCTF conference last week. Staff provided community members, state and local regulators, and non-profits an overview of the EJ2020 Action Agenda and the commitments included in the plan. The focus was on our shared responsibility to achieve significant environmental benefits in overburdened communities. OEJS also discussed the Future of EJ and the Business Community and focused on traditional outreach measures along with incorporating pollution prevention. Staff also provided the Key Note address at the conference and the topic was Tolerance is for Cowards: The Need to Understand Each Other. Contact: Denise Tennessee, 2-8460. Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy Leadership Summit attended with DRA. Preliminary release of SECAS Blueprint v1.0 for Southeast Natural Resource Leaders Group (SENRLG) Principals and the Directors of the Southeast Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA).	October 18, 2016 prerelease and all data available for access and review in spatial viewer on November 15. Soft release of tool in late January.	☐	☐	☐

Community Engagement Meetings					
Topic/Location	**Description and Contact**	**Milestones/Dates**	**Issues Mngmt Update?**	**RA Office Briefing Needed?**	**Open to Press?**
National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week Kick-off Event:	OEJS staff will be participating in the Chattanooga *soilSHOP* with Regional ATSDR Staff and the Tennessee Department of Health (TDoH) on October		☐	☐	☐

Chattanooga soilSHOP	22, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Eastside Elementary School. This event will kick-off *National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week* which is October 23-29. Stations will be set up by various organizations including the Tennessee State University Cooperative Extension and the University Of Tennessee Institute Of Agriculture to provide information on best practices for avoiding lead exposure and tips on how to garden safely. TDoH and the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department will be present to provide blood lead testing information and counselling for children identified with elevated blood lead levels. Governor Brian Halsam issued a proclamation in August for Observance of October as Lead Poisoning Prevention Month in Tennessee. In 2014, Tennessee identified 1900 children with blood lead levels greater than the intervention level recommended by the CDC. Eastside Elementary is located in a community with a predominantly low-income, minority population as well as some that are linguistically isolated. OEJS staff will engage with community members and disseminate information to raise awareness and understanding of environmental justice, community sustainability, and protecting children from environmental risks. Siobhan T. Whitlock, 2-8299				

Cross-Cutting Areas (MVD communities only)				
Topic/Location	**Description and Contact**	**Milestones/Dates**	**Issues Mngmt Update?**	**RA Office Briefing Needed?**
EJ IWG Access and Awareness Webinar Series – Collaborative Governance for Community	OEJS staff moderated the 3rd edition of the Access and Awareness Webinar Series, entitled *From Home to School and Back Again: Creating Safe and Healthy Environments for Children*; hosted by the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. More than 250 people joined the webinar via adobe connect or by phone. OEJS staff provided	November 10, 2016	☐	☐

Revitalization in North Birmingham	background on executive orders 12898 and 13045, and representatives from HHS, DOT, and EPA Region 5 provided information on technical assistance and federal resources that support children's environmental health in vulnerable communities. The IWG planning committee met on October 18, 2016 to discuss plans for webinar 4, *Working Together: Lessons Learned from Collaborative Placed-Based Initiatives*. OEJS staff will be moderating webinar 4 which will provide an overview of the *EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration*, and the role the Regional IWG Committee plays in regional engagement for place-based initiatives. RCRD staff, Brain Holtzclaw and Keriema Newman along with representatives from the City of Birmingham and the North Birmingham Community Coalition will share information about the North Birmingham IWG, highlighting brownfields revitalization. OEJS staff will coordinate with HQ-OEJ to develop a flyer to advertise the event, and setup recording of the webinar. The flyer will be distributed on the EJ Listerv next week. The webinar is scheduled for November 10, 2016 from 1-2:30 p.m. Contact: Siobhan T. Whitlock, 2-8299			

Hot Issues				
Topic/Location [redacted]	**Description and Contact** NA	**Milestones/Dates**	**Issues Mngmt Update?**	**RA Office Briefing Needed?**
National Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting, October 12-13, 2016, Arlington, VA	On October 12, Region 4's Environmental Justice Coordinator participated in the NEJAC Dialogue with Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. This provided an opportunity to share the Region's approach to creating a Regional Interagency Working group and our efforts focusing on North Birmingham. The panel also included Region 2's EJ Coordinator discussing their Regional IWG efforts. Other agencies participating included the U. S. Fish and Wildlife			

	Service, the U. S. Department of Justice, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The NEJAC membership was very responsive to the presentations, and indicated a desire to continue dialogue with the IWG at upcoming meetings. The meeting was very well organized and include dialogue with key agency leadership, from all national programs as well as a panel of Regional Administrators. There was also a panel of community voices that include community representatives from Flint, MI, Huntington and Charleston, W VA and Sandbranch, Texas. The presentations were very moving and demonstrated the need to continue to respond to communities who are experiencing environmental impacts. Another highlight of the meeting was a presentation from the NEJAC Youth Perspectives on Climate Change Workgroup. Finally, Region 4 has two new NEJAC members, Dr. Mildred McClain, Harambee House, Savannah, GA and Rita Harris, Sierra Club, Memphis, TN. They were both very engaged and obviously will bring great energy to the NEJAC. Contact: Cynthia Peurifoy, x229649			
OEJS Staff alongside HQ's OP discuss plans for Quitman, MS	On 10/18/16, OEJS staff participated in an introductory briefing call with Building Blocks grantee, Smart Growth America (SGA) alongside HQ's Office of Policy/OSC on the upcoming workshop plans for Quitman, MS. SGA will be offering a 1-day workshop entitled "Regional planning for small communities" designed to help small communities understand how to plan for and manage growth in a regional context and to identify where growth is most likely to occur and to create strategies for managing growth that preserve community character while enhancing economic competitiveness and quality of life. Meridian, MS is the closest major city to this small rural community and the 2-day event which will include a tour will take place 12/13 – 12/14, 2016. SGA has been closely coordinating with the Mayor of Quitman, Eddie Fulton as the point of contact for the meeting. Prior to the meeting, SGA would like technical support from EPA on	November 13/14 Workshop	☐	☐

	any "red flag" issues they need to be aware of, and suggestion on colleagues or partners that may need to participate. As a result of this meeting, the community of Quitman will come up with Next Step/Action Items and there will be a 1 month/6 Month / 1 Year Follow-up accountability report coordinated through SGA. The goal is to develop Quitman, MS in a sustainable way. Contact: Tami Thomas-Burton, 2-8027 or Rick Durbrow, 2-8286.			
Chattanooga, TN	Provided contact information for potential participants and additional logistical information to Smart Growth America in preparation for the "Planning for Economic and Fiscal Health" workshop that EPA's grantee will be bringing to Chattanooga, TN. Contact: Rick Durbrow, 28286 or Pam Swingle, 28482.	Workshop on October 26 and 27th		☐
Memphis, TN	Meeting with Local Foods/Local Places to prepare workshop agenda and finalize logistics information. Discussions included local farmers and community contacts review goals, and get invitations out.			
Proctor Creek and AI work presented during Conflict Prevention & Resolution Global Webinar event	On 10/19/16, OEJS staff alongside R7 staffer, Shawn Grindstaff presented by webinar their work and the first AI – Appreciative Inquiry project conducted in R4 as an innovative way to address ADR in a high priority Regional project. Proctor Creek is an MVD community and has an Urban Waters Federal Partnership designation. R4 found a need to respond to community leaders in Proctor Creek and their request to have a mechanism of communication concerning cross-agency (Federal/State/Local) projects and initiatives coming into a community which they had been historically disenfranchised from. A one day workshop was designed and conducted in 2014 to help the community participants and leaders design and create a "communications framework." for information exchange. AI is an approach that focuses on the root causes of success as opposed to the root causes of failure. It is a complete contrast to the traditional problem-solving methods in that we are use to. The "4 Ds" approach is an alternative roadmap to change and transformation from the well-known "plan, do,			☐

	check, act" paradigm for "fixing" and "managing" problems. R4 has already received interest from other Regions on duplicating this tool in communities as a result of the webinar. Contact: Tami Thomas-Burton, 2-8027 and Shawn Grindstaff (R7) 913-551-7274.			
Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement – Mississippi Conference of Black Mayors, Jackson, Mississippi	Decisions pertaining to the Mississippi Conference of Black Mayors, Jackson, Mississippi, are still pending that involves the Grants and Debarment Office and the Office of Inspector General. Contact: Deborah Carter, 2-9668			☐
Lovejoy Community, Florida	Mr. Barry Gray, Lovejoy Community, Okaloosa County, Fort Walton Beach, Florida, is requesting the EPA to get more involved to address the issues in the Lovejoy Community. He states because the community does not have an adequate Stormwater System, the community is repeatedly being impacted by industrial sites' toxic waste overflows. OEJS most recent communications with Mr. Gray concerning this matter occurred in 2014. Subsequently, a site visit and an evaluation of the area was conducted in 2014 by the Water Division. Contact: Deborah Carter, 2-9668			
Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Program – FY 2017 Request For Proposals	Communicated with the Greensboro Housing Coalition (Greensboro), Greensboro, North Carolina regarding the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Agreement's closeout requirements. In addition, closeout information was prepared and sent to Greensboro. Contact: Deborah Carter, 2-9668			
EJ Fundamentals Course – October 2016	OEJS staff facilitated the EJ Fundamentals Course on October 18-19, 2016. The Course was held at the Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center. The class was full with over 25 attendees representing the Department of Energy, the Federal Railroad Administration, the Sierra Club, Georgia WAND, Emory University student, EPA RCRA, Air, and Water staff, and other nonprofit organizations. Special presentations regarding the EJ			

	Academy and public participation were conducted by Gwen Smith, who is 2016 EJ Academy graduate, and Deborah Ortiz, 2016 EJ Academy graduate and OEJS New Hire. In addition, Javoyne Hicks greeted the class on behalf of the Regional Administrator. The Course was facilitated by OEJS staff and several EPA staff, Ntale Kajumba, Kim A. Jones, Ravi Rao, Deborah Carter and retired EPA staffer, Elvie Barlow, and retired ADEM staff, Elvin Lang. The 2017 schedule will be available by the end of November. Contact. Sheryl Good, 2-9559 and Siobhan T. Whitlock, 2-8299			
2017 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference	OEJS staff will be presenting a three-hour training at the 2017 New Smart Growth Conference in St. Louis, MO on February 5, 2017. The focus of the training will be on collaborative problem-solving using examples from the EJ Academy. OEJS staff have been meeting with Carlton Eley, OEJ-HQ, for the past several months to design the training. Other presenters for the training will be Chet Kibble, Chairman of the Memphis-Shelby County Lead Safe Collaborative and 2016 EJ Academy Graduate, and Costin Shamble, TitleVI/EJ Program Manager for Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). Denise Tennessee will moderate and Siobhan Whitlock will be a lead facilitator. Contact: Sheryl Good, 2-9559 and Siobhan T. Whitlock, 2-8299			
EJ Lean Solutions: SOPs, Definitions, & Training	OEJS Staff developed several products as a result of the EJ Lean event to decrease processing time of EJ complaints that come into OEJS. Staff has worked closely with OEJ to alter the National EJ Hotline Database to allow regional routing and reporting; to develop standard operating procedures along with operational definitions, and to train Database end-users. Because the EJ2020 Communities Implementation Plan, Action 1.2 sets out to Strengthen procedure and practices associated with collecting, following up on and responding to citizen complaints, many of the products developed from the R4 lean event are being folded into the required activities to meet the measures as outlined in Action 1.2. In addition, the time frames to complete such activities are also largely driven by the			

	short and long term due dates outlined in Action 1.2. Staff contact: Latoya Miller x29885 and Siobhan T. Whitlock, 28299			

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To: Nelson, Rosemarie[Nelson.RoseMarie@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Fri 5/13/2016 5:28:20 PM
Subject: RE: Multimedia Fact Sheet
OEJSNorthBirminghamFactSheet.docx

Hey,

Here's our revised language. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Nelson, Rosemarie
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2016 9:15 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: Multimedia Fact Sheet
Importance: High

Good morning,

Been out of the office all last week. Received your message today, for the last wording submitted by EJ on the multimedia fact sheet:

Thanks,

Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability

The OEJS is responsible for leading and coordinating the region's environmental justice and sustainability

programs. The mission of EPA's Environmental Justice Program is to raise awareness of environmental justice issues; identify, assess, address and respond to inequitable environmental impacts; focus resources on areas shouldering a disproportionate share of environmental harm; and communicate to the public about opportunities to get involved in environmental decision-making. This mission aligns with the Agency's overall mission of promoting and enhancing sustainable and resilient communities. The Director of this office reports directly to the Regional Administrator and is responsible for overseeing the implementation of Region 4's environmental justice and sustainability activities and for providing outreach to the Region's environmental justice groups and communities, and other external stakeholders, including federal, state, and local agencies, industry, academia, etc. OEJS plays a critical role in the implementation of Plan EJ2014 and the Interagency Working Group for Environmental Justice, as well as consultation activities throughout the region on technical issues in environmental justice communities.

OEJS will participate in the Regional Administrators' Partnership for Sustainable Communities Meeting on April 2014. Approximately 12 federal agencies in Region 4 will convene to discuss opportunities to continue collaboration underway through the Partnership for Sustainable Communities and to expand the partnership to include North Birmingham. The goal of the meeting is to partner; identify work priorities for the next two years and to embed the concept of working together and focusing general agency programs on helping communities achieve their priorities. The OEJS will follow up this meeting with hosting a Regional Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice in Atlanta to further discuss the needs of the North Birmingham Community. That meeting will be followed up with a tour of the area specifically for federal agency representatives who may be able to provide technical assistance and other resources to North Birmingham.

OEJS will provide support and leadership to activities associated with the

North Birmingham Community Coalition. OEJS staff planned a visit to Spartanburg, SC for the Coalition to learn from other communities facing similar environmental challenges. The visit was successful and the two communities continue to collaborate. Additional capacity building efforts will continue in an effort to help the Coalition's activities to become sustainable.

OEJS has also been selected to receive Office of Research and Development RESES funding for a project titled: Solution-Oriented Cumulative Risk and Near-Source Air Quality Assessments in Five Communities with Multiple Stressors, Stakeholders, and Potential Impacts. This project will introduce the community

to the ORD C-FERST tool and help them assess pollution risk. This project will run for a period of two years and implementation planning is just beginning.

OEJS provided information to the North Birmingham Community Coalition (Coalition) on the EPA Collaborative Problem Solving Request for Proposals, which closed on February 18, 2014. OEJS will also coordinate with the University of Alabama at Birmingham for the Coalition to access Public Health student interns to provide technical and administrative assistance to the Coalition as its develops its Action Plan.

Contact: Cynthia Peurifoy

Region 4 EJ Coordinator

Sheryl Good

~Rosemarie

Rosemarie Nelson, CM, MPA, MHRM

Superfund Division | Enforcement and Community Engagement Branch

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ¦ 61 Forsyth Street, SW ¦ Atlanta, GA 30303

404-562-8728 nelson.rosemarie@epa.gov
http://www.epa.gov/region4/superfund/

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Live Green.

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Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability

The Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability (OEJS) is located directly in the Office of the Regional Administrator (ORA) and plays a critical role in leading and coordinating the region's environmental justice and sustainability programs. The mission of OEJS is to promote sustainable communities that foster improvements in human health, the environment and economic well-being for all; with a focus on minority, low-income, tribal and vulnerable communities.

The OEJS participates with the North Birmingham Collaborative Project in a number of ways. One primary activity is through the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG). The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) facilitates the active involvement of all Federal agencies to implement Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations." Established through the Order, the EJ IWG provides a forum for Federal agencies to collectively advance environmental justice principles. The EJ IWG works as a federal family to increase local community capacity to promote and implement innovative and comprehensive solutions to environmental justice issues. In the case of the North Birmingham Collaborative, the OEJS is heavily involved in implementing a Regional Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (REJ IWG), focused specifically on North Birmingham. Since August 2014, EPA Region 4 has lead this effort which comprises several federal and state agencies, numerous City of Birmingham department heads and elected officials, along with community and other local stakeholders. The REJ IWG has focused its efforts on goals and priorities established in the North Birmingham Revitalization Plan, developed by the Northern Birmingham Community Coalition, as well as the priorities established by the City of Birmingham Northern Birmingham Community Framework Plan. The participation in the REJ IWG continues to grow. Smart goals have been established in a number of areas, along with activities being carried forward to build capacity and ensure community involvement. OEJS staff provide leadership to the REJ IWG along with the Superfund Division and the ORA.

OEJS has also concentrates on building community capacity and sustainability, by supporting the development and growth of the Northern Birmingham Community Coalition (NBCC). OEJS staff attend meetings, inform members of training and grant opportunities and maintains dialogue with NBCC members. OEJS also seeks opportunities to expose the NBCC membership and other key stakeholders to best practices that support their goals and their sustainability. OEJS also seeks opportunities to partner with other federal agencies to build capacity and seek solutions on behalf of the Northern Birmingham communities.

Contact: Cynthia Peurifoy
Region 4 EJ Coordinator

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To: William.Parker@birminghamal.gov[William.Parker@birminghamal.gov]
Cc: Naomi Gordon[naomi.gordon@birminghamal.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Fri 1/13/2017 6:09:35 PM
Subject: North Birmingham IWG Write-up

North Birmingham Interagency Working Group Continues to Make Progress

In August 2014, EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies, including HUD, HHS, HRSA, DOL, COE, DOT, ATSDR and CDC began a Regional EJ IWG to assist with revitalization efforts in the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods located in Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama. Prior to the establishment of the Regional IWG focused on North Birmingham, EPA engaged in a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental condition and potential environmental impacts in this area due to past industrial practices. This effort, which includes air, water and waste issues, is known as the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project.

Over the last two years, Regional Federal Agencies have worked closely with the City of Birmingham, the North Birmingham Community Coalition, and a host of other local stakeholders, to gather information about the area, set priorities, provide technical assistance and capacity building opportunities.

In February 2016, EPA Region 4 hosted a meeting of the North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) in Atlanta, Ga, reconvening representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area. Over 130 people were in attendance for the meeting which included presentations outlining smart goals, progress thus far, and resources needed from the six sub-workgroups to address the community's concerns with blight and environmental degradation. Mustafa Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and Marsha Minter, National EJ IWG Program Manager were in attendance for the meeting. In addition, a community spotlight was given to the Ivanhoe Neighborhood in Kansas City, Mo., presented by Ms. Margaret May, who at the time was the Chair of EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC).

In September 2016, the North Birmingham Community Coalition presented its Community Action Plan to the larger community and solicited additional support and partners to implement their priorities. As well, in December 2016, a meeting was held with key federal agency representatives, and City of Birmingham officials, to review progress and discuss next steps for

the North Birmingham efforts. Current plans are to transfer primary leadership of the effort to the City of Birmingham to continue work on the smart goals and to support implementation of the North Birmingham Community Coalition Plan.

Recently, efforts related to this project were highlighted in a webinar presented by the National Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. The link to this webinar is

https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg

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2nd Southeast Brownfield Conference

Hosted by Florida Brownfields Association

Unite - Collaborate - Revitalize

Tuesday, October 18, 2016, 10:30am to 11:50am: Omni Ballroom

Session 5C: Interagency Working Group Panel Discussion

The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) facilitates the active involvement of all Federal agencies to implement Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations." The EJ IWG plays a central role in creating healthy and sustainable communities by bringing together the federal family to address critical environmental justice issues. This session will provide an opportunity for participants to learn more about the resources that are available from key federal agencies that they can utilize in addressing local community concerns. Participants will be asked to create next steps that they will implement in their communities based on the information received as well as pose questions to the presenters.

Moderator: Cynthia Peurifoy, Environmental Justice Coordinator, EPA Region 4

- Co- Moderator and Presenter: Marsha Minter, Associate Director, EPA's Office of Environmental Justice, and Program Manager for the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG)
- M K. Evelyn Britton, Manager of External Programs, Office of Civil Rights, U. S. General Services Administration, Washington, DC
- Jackie Romain, Special Initiatives Coordinator, USDA, SE Regional Office, Food and Nutrition Service
- Kenneth M. Pinnix, Community Planning & Development Representative, Jacksonville Field Office, US Department of Housing & Urban Development

For more information on the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) visit:

https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg

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To: MURRAY, TERESA[Murray.Teresa@epa.gov]; Smith, Karen[Smith.Karen@epa.gov]; Robertson, Lakeshia[robertson.lakeshia@epa.gov]; Jackson, Felicia[Jackson.Felicia@epa.gov]; Terrell, Tina[Terrell.Tina@epa.gov]; Davis, Amber[Davis.Amber@epa.gov]; Jones, Christopher[Jones.ChristopherE@epa.gov]; Tarver, Siobhan[Tarver.Siobhan@epa.gov]; Good, Sheryl[Good.Sheryl@epa.gov]; burton.tamithomas@epa.gov[burton.tamithomas@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Wed 2/17/2016 7:30:48 PM
Subject: FW: REMINDER: Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Focused on North Birmingham, February 19, 2016, Please register by cob Friday, February 12, 2016

Here is the link to order lunch from Jason's Deli. Thanks!

From: U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia [mailto:invite@eventbrite.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 5:04 PM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: You're invited to Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental... (Feb 18, 2016)

Hello,
You are invited to the following event:

Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice -- Focused on North Birmingham

Event to be held at the following time, date, and location:

Thursday, February 18, 2016 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM (EST)

Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
2nd Floor Conference Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

View Map

Attend Event

The Region 4, Federal Interagency Working Group for Environmental Justice (R4 IWG) has embraced a coordinated approach to work with local stakeholders in developing plans to revitlize the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Fairmont, Collegeville and Harriman Park neighborhoods in Jefferson County, Alabama (a.k.a, North Birmimgham Collaboration Project). In order to make additional resources available to the community and achieve maximum coordination, subgroups comprised of various community, state, local and federal agencies were formed to discuss potential short-and long-term goals in addressing priority issues, identify technical assistance to help build capacity, and explore potential funding opportunities to support the needs of the North Birmingham communities. This effort has been identifed in the Making a Visible Difference initiative by EPA's Administrator. On February 18, 2016, we will hear from City of Birmingham officials, review progress and accomplishments, workgroups will meet with key agency representatives and we will hear from representatives from the National Interagency Workgroup Group on Environmental Justice.

EPA will use your registration information solely for this event. We will not share your information with any third party.

If you require special accomodations, please contact Cynthia Peurifoy, on 404-562-9649 or email Peurifoy.Cynthia@EPA.gov by Friday, February 12, 2016 to make arrangements.

LUNCH ORDERS: To EPA, Other Federal and State Agencies and others whose travel is not being funded by Councilor Parker, City of Birmingham:

Cynthia Peurifoy is putting together a Jason's Deli group order and wants you to be included!

* To **accept** the invitation and add to the order click here.

* To **decline** the invitation and let the Cynthia know click here.

IMPORTANT ORDER INFORMATION: Everybody is paying for his or her own lunch today. For your convenience, please pay online.

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Please Note: If you are travelling from Birmingham and your travel expenses are being covered by the City of Birmingham, Councilor Parker's office, your lunch is being ordered seperately. Please contact:

Naomi Gordon, MBA

Office of City Councilor William Parker, District 4

(c) 205-533-5085 or email: Naomi.Gordon@birminghamal.gov

Visiting the Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center

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You will need to show a photo ID to enter the building. Please allow for adequate time to go through Security when entering the facilities.

Continentail Breakfast will be available from 8:30am to 9:00am

We hope you can make it!

Cheers,
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia

This invitation was sent to Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov by U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia the organizer. To stop receiving invitations from this organizer, you can unsubscribe.

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To: Moses, Althea[Moses.Althea@epa.gov]; Darling, Corbin[Darling.Corbin@epa.gov]; Vaughn, Gloria[Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Fri 4/21/2017 7:13:36 PM
Subject: FW: EJ IWG email requesting information from COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS -

This is the email I mentioned from Marsha.

From: Minter, Marsha
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 6:21 PM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Whitlock, Siobhan <Whitlock.Siobhan@epa.gov>; Kedesch Altidor <Kedesch.Altidor@hhs.gov>; Ash, Christine <Ash.Christine@epa.gov>
Cc: Baietti, Joseph A (Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov) <Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov>
Subject: FW: EJ IWG email requesting information from COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS -

Greetings—thanks for joining the RIWG call today—Joey and I are trying to provide answers to the below questions sent from the EJ IWG Public Participation Committee. Can you assist with the data for Regions 2 and 4 by the end of next week?

We're happy to answer any questions or we can set up a phone interview. THANKS!!!!

Marsha & Joey

Please provide the following information noted in brackets for your Committee's work, as applicable:

1. **[INSERT #]** federal partners are working collaboratively in **[INSERT #]** communities addressing the following **[INSERT #]** areas/types of concerns: **[INSERT VERY SHORT PHRASES DESCRIBING EACH CONCERN].** We hope to expand that to **[INSERT #]** communities.

2. The EJ IWG has connected **[INSERT #]** communities with resources (state, local, other) to assist them in addressing the following **[INSERT #]** areas/types of concerns: **[INSERT VERY SHORT PHRASES DESCRIBING EACH CONCERN].** We hope to expand that to **[INSERT #]** communities.

3. The EJ IWG made **[INSERT #]** presentations and conducted **[INSERT #]**

training sessions at **[INSERT #]** conferences (or other events) across the country (where community engagement occurred).

4. The EJ IWG made **[INSERT #]** presentations and conducted **[INSERT #]** training sessions for **[INSERT #]** federal agencies (or state local governments).

- **Future Activities**

1. **If you plan to expand any of the activities listed above** in FY 2017 or FY 2018**, please very briefly indicate how** (i.e. expanding number of federal partners from 5 to 7) if you did not already include that information above.

2. **Please complete** the **EJ IWG Public Engagement Form** attached above if you have relevant events planned for FY 2017 or FY 2018 (form will also be available on the Public Participation Committee's Max.gov page).

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To: Yomi Noibi (b)(6) Personal Privacy
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Wed 2/17/2016 1:43:21 AM
Subject: RE: FW: REMINDER: Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Focused on North Birmingham, February 19, 2016, Please register by cob Friday, February 12, 2016

Hi Dr. Yomi,

I truly understand. Please send the information for the event that you would like for Mustafa to attend. I'll make sure that he gets it.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Yomi Noibi (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2016 9:43 PM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Cc: Yomi Noibi (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Subject: Re: FW: REMINDER: Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Focused on North Birmingham, February 19, 2016, Please register by cob Friday, February 12, 2016

Dear Cynthia,

I apologize that I will not be able to join you because of a prior engagement. I am always happy to talk with you and Mustapha.

Yomi

On Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at 8:07 PM, Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov> wrote:

Hello NaTaki and Dr. Yomi,

I trust you are doing well. I wanted to extend an invitation to you to participate in our North Birmingham IWG Meeting next week. Ms. Margaret May, from Kansas City and the current chair of the NEJAC is our keynote speaker and will share her story of the work she's done in her community. As well, Mustafa and Marsha will be here. I thought you might want to hear her presentation and I'm hoping to have the Birmingham community folks have an informal lunch with her, and would like for you to join them.

If you are able to come please let me know. I will cover you lunch, just let me know what you want from Jason's Deli.

I'm extending this invitation to you only, I don't want to take away from the focus on Birmingham but know that you will add to the conversation.

Thanks!

Cynthia

Ps. Mustafa will be here from Wednesday thru Saturday. Please send me the info on the events you would like for him to attend. Thanks!

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 7:58 PM
To: Brown, Yolanda <Brown.Yolanda@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: REMINDER: Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Focused on North Birmingham, February 19, 2016, Please register by cob Friday, February 12, 2016

FYI

Cynthia

Greetings,

If you are planning to attend next week's North Birmingham Interagency Working Group Meeting, please register using the "Attend Event" link below by close of business on Friday, February 12, 2016. Also, if you will be ordering lunch from Jason's Deli, and are not travelling with the City of Birmingham, please use the link below to place your lunch order by close of business of February 16, 2016.

I have attached the latest version of the meeting's agenda. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. We are looking forward to seeing you next week.

Thanks!

Cynthia

404-562-9649

From: U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia [mailto:invite@eventbrite.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 5:04 PM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
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Cheers,
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia

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Yomi Noibi, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Environmental Community Action Inc. (ECO-Action)

Atlanta, GA 30312

www.eco-act.org

404-584-6499

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To: Baietti, Joseph A[Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Fri 5/6/2016 3:42:30 PM
Subject: RE: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG Project)

Hey Joey,

Monday from 2 to 3 is fine.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Baietti, Joseph A [mailto:Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov]
Sent: Friday, May 06, 2016 10:39 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG Project)

Good morning Cynthia,

I am just checking in to see if Monday from 2pm – 3pm works for you?

Thanks,

Joey

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia [mailto:Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2016 2:22 PM
To: Baietti, Joseph A; Finley, Jeanine
Cc: Minter, Marsha
Subject: FW: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG Project)

Hello,

In response to Marsha's email below, here are some available time slots to conduct interviews with Region 4. Once we have a date and time established I will add additional regional folks who I think will be helpful.

Monday May, 9th: 2pm to 5:00pm

Tuesday, May 10th , 2pm to 4:00pm

Friday, May 13th, 10:00am to 12:00 noon

Please let me know if either of these times work for you.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: Minter, Marsha
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 3:47 PM
To: 'Kedesch Altidor' <Kedesch.Altidor@hhs.gov>; Ash, Christine <Ash.Christine@epa.gov>; Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>; Mcgarry, Barbara <McGarry.Barbara@epa.gov>; Wenstrom, Michael <Wenstrom.Michael@epa.gov>; Guadalupe.M.Herrera@hud.gov; Darling, Corbin <Darling.Corbin@epa.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Sunaree K <Sunaree.K.Marshall@hud.gov>; Baietti, Joseph A <Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov>; Finley, Jeanine <finley.jeanine@epa.gov>
Subject: Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG Project)

Happy Monday,

Hope this email finds you well. The EJ IWG has recently received requests for information and resources explaining how to start an environmental justice working group or committee that

focuses on tackling environmental justice concerns in their region/community. In an effort to create these resources, we want to capture your insight and highlight your model/approach to developing and implementing a federal family EJ working group. This project will also institutionalize your work in this area and assist others who can build upon your efforts and lessons learned. The EJ IWG identified the following three regional focused models/approaches:

1) Regional Interagency Working Group in EPA Region 2 (Kedesch Altidor, Christine Ash, Barbara McGarry)

2) Regional Interagency Working Group in EPA Region 4 (Cynthia Peurifoy)

3) EPA Region 8: North Dakota Tribal Meetings, EJ Working Group, Partnership for Sustainable Communities/EJ working group (Guadelupe Herrara, Michael Wenstrom, Corbin Darling)

All three working groups function differently and can demonstrate different approaches to addressing environmental justice concerns in a collaborative process. We would like to interview you as one of the regions who has created a successful regional environmental justice collaboration. With the information gathered from the interviews, we will develop fact sheets to provide options to the federal family for creating regional collaborative models.

Joey Baietti, from HUD, and Jeanine Finley, a new addition to the Office of Environmental Justice at EPA (cc'ed here,) are the project leads and will conduct the interviews. We plan to complete this project by September and the project leads would like to schedule the one hour interviews between May 2 and May 20, 2016. If you would like to be part of this exciting project (pretty please ●) reply to both of them with a few dates/ times that work best for you during this time period. Also, let us know if they should interview others in your region.

Prior to the interview, you will receive a copy of the questions. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment for advancing EJ principles!!

Take Care,

Marsha

Marsha Minter

Associate Director

US EPA

Office of Environmental Justice

(202) 566-0215

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To: Tommelleo, Nancy[Tommelleo.Nancy@epa.gov]; NAIMA HALIM-CHESTNUT (Halim-Chestnut.Naima@epa.gov)[Halim-Chestnut.Naima@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thur 4/28/2016 6:03:33 PM
Subject: RE: Today's National IWG Meeting -- Include Title VI Subcommittee Presentation

EJ IWG Monthly Meeting Call-in - 1-866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 11:20 AM
To: Tommelleo, Nancy <Tommelleo.Nancy@epa.gov>; NAIMA HALIM-CHESTNUT (Halim-Chestnut.Naima@epa.gov) <Halim-Chestnut.Naima@epa.gov>
Subject: Today's National IWG Meeting -- Include Title VI Subcommittee Presentation

Hi Ladies,

Sorry for the short notice but I thought you might want to listen in on today's National IWG Call. There is a Title VI discussion that will include a number of external stakeholders.

Thanks!

Cynthia

Agenda

- 2:00 Roll Call/Welcome

- 2:10 EJ IWG Update – Marsha Minter

•□□□□□□□□ 2:20 EPA EJ Senior Advisor Update – Mustafa Santiago Ali

•□□□□□□□□ 2:30 Title VI Subcommittee Presentation – DOJ Committee Chairs:

Daria Neal & Dylan de Kervor

Topics of discussion will include: how civil rights (Title VI) offices interact with EJ programming at various agencies; what opportunities exist for improving civil rights enforcement in the environmental justice context; how can advocates encourage collaboration between OCRs and EPA's Office of Environmental Justice; how civil rights complaints (Title VI, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing) are coordinated when multiple funding agencies are implicated; what opportunities exist for ongoing collaboration between EJ IWG and Title VI advocates.

- **Participating In-Person**
- Erica Dupree, Energy Justice Network
- Marianne Engleman-Lado, EarthJustice
- Christine Ernst, EarthJustice
- Steve Fischbach, Rhode Island Legal Services
- Megan Haberle, Poverty & Race Research Action Council
- Gregg Macey, Brooklyn Law School
- Vernice Miller-Travis, Miller-Travis & Associates
- Joe Rich, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights
- Rashida Tlaib, Sugar Law Center

- **Participating by Phone**
- Marc Brenman, consultant
- Amy Laura Cahn, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia

- Cesar De La Vega, The City Project
- Adrienne Hollis, WE ACT for Environmental Justice
- Sara Imperiale, Natural Resources Defense Council
- Dr. Charlotte Keys, Jesus People Against Pollution
- Mark Magana, GreenLatinos
- Vincent Martin, Human Synergy Works
- Brent Newall, Center for Race Poverty and Enviro
- Omega Wilson, West End Revitalization Assoc.
- Chandra Taylor, Southern Environmental Law Center
- Karen Rotker, ACLU - Wisconsin

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To: K. Evelyn Britton[evelyn.britton@gsa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Fri 2/12/2016 6:14:22 PM
Subject: RE: REMINDER: Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Focused on North Birmingham, February 19, 2016, Please register by cob Friday, February 12, 2016
MVD NBirmingham_factsheet-FINAL.PDF

Hi Evelyn,

Here's the Birmingham MVD Fact Sheet.

Thanks!

Cynthia

From: K. Evelyn Britton [mailto:evelyn.britton@gsa.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 11:35 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: REMINDER: Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Focused on North Birmingham, February 19, 2016, Please register by cob Friday, February 12, 2016

Hi Cynthia,

Thank you for clarifying that. Since the event is being held in Atlanta, which is home to GSA's Region 4 operations, OCR has reached out, as a courtesy, to our Region 4 Regional Administrator to invite his and/or his staff's participation.

We will be tel-conferencing with the RA from Region 4 this afternoon, and he may be the speaker during the Opening Session. I will know more after our tel-conference with him this afternoon, and will update you after the meeting.

Thanks much,

Evelyn

K. Evelyn Britton, Esq.

Branch Manager, External Programs Branch

Office of Civil Rights

General Services Administration

Washington, DC

Work/Cell: 601-410-3594

To learn more about how the principles of environmental justice are interwoven in much of GSA's work on a day to day basis, visit the EJ webpage

On Fri, Feb 12, 2016 at 10:12 AM, Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Evelyn,

I had actually planned to reach out to you today. Yes the meeting is on February 18th. Sorry for that error. Here is the draft agenda. Please send me your bio. Also, I'm attaching some information regarding North Birmingham and including the link to our website below. The workgroup presentations are completed yet but I will forward as soon as they are done. Please let me know if you need anything else. We are looking forward to seeing you next week.

Thanks!

Cynthia

http://www.epa.gov/north-birmingham-project

From: K. Evelyn Britton [mailto:evelyn.britton@gsa.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2016 10:58 AM
To: Peurifoy, Cynthia <Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: REMINDER: Region 4 Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Focused on North Birmingham, February 19, 2016, Please register by cob Friday, February 12, 2016

Hi Cynthia,

Just to confirm--in your Subject Line you state that the meeting is on February 19th; however, the agenda and our prior tel-cons referred to the date of the event to be February 18th.

Just want to confirm that it is February 18th.

K. Evelyn Britton, Esq.

Branch Manager, External Programs Branch

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Work/Cell: 601-410-3594

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The SNAFC is a 24-hour building. Visitor access hours are 8 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. on weekdays. There is limited access to the building after hours and on weekends. The main entrance to the building is located on Forsyth Street. Visitors must go through the metal detector, sign in with the security desk and be accompanied by an employee.

You will need to show a photo ID to enter the building. Please allow for adequate time to go through Security when entering the facilities.

Continentail Breakfast will be available from 8:30am to 9:00am

We hope you can make it!

Cheers,
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia

This invitation was sent to Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov by U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Atlanta, Georgia the organizer. To stop receiving invitations from this organizer, you can unsubscribe.

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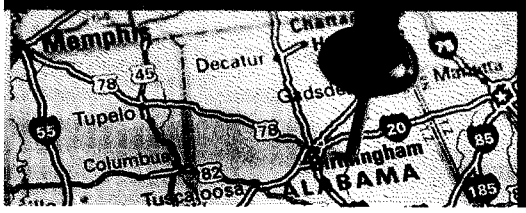
EPA

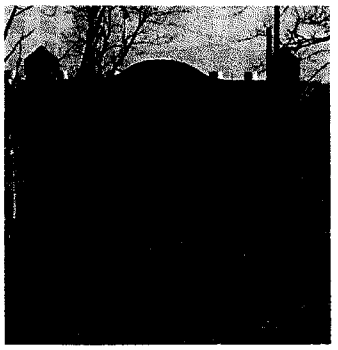
REG

MAKING A VISIBLE DIFFERENCE

NORTH BIRMINGHAM, AL



ABOUT THE COMMUNITY



North Birmingham is located within the City of Birmingham in Jefferson County, Alabama. The community is further subdivided into seven neighborhoods: Acipco-Finley, Collegeville, Fairmont, Harriman Park, Hooper City, North Birmingham and Pratt City. These neighborhoods are located in portions of the Village Creek and Five-Mile Creek watersheds. Most of the neighborhoods within North Birmingham originated as a series of company-built camps for industrial workers during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The small camps were clustered adjacent to the respective industries they supported and provided housing, educational opportunities and services to workers in the factories. Today, North Birmingham is environmentally overburdened due to both legacy pollution and continuing heavy industrial activity. Residents have articulated concerns about air quality, flooding, emergency egress, contaminated sites and industry compliance with environmental laws, among others.

EPA ACTIVITIES

EPA has taken a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental condition and potential environmental hazards in low-income and minority communities of North Birmingham, including the neighborhoods of

EPA's air program has deployed air monitors n
industrial sites adjacent to these neighborhood
is supporting community participation in com
air sensor training. EPA has also worked to fac
discussions between the North Birmingham Co
munity Coalition and the Local Emergency Pla
Committee concerning emergency egress issue
community.

EPA water engineers are in the process of custo
two planning tools, the National Stormwater C
tor and EnviroAtlas, to assist the City of Birmi
and Jefferson County in addressing flooding ar
luted stormwater.

EPA's cleanup of the 35th Avenue Superfund S
ongoing. EPA has sampled over 1,100 of the ap
imately 2,000 residential properties within the
area in North Birmingham. Based on the level a
of contamination found and other property-sp
factors, cleanup activities have been implement
phased approach. During Phases I and II, EPA
pleted cleanup on approximately 84 properties
is working on Phase III removal activities at about 33 properties. EPA is overseeing the excavation of lead-contaminated soil from over 50 properties, and are renewing ef-

Lastly, the EPA is conducting facility inspections and addressing compliance issues at several industrial facilities which are regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Clean Water Act and the Clean Air Act.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

EPA helped facilitate the formation of the Northern Birmingham Community Coalition to plan for the future. The Coalition includes neighborhood representatives as well as business, faith, and community leaders and government agencies. The communities of North Birmingham face many economic, environmental and social challenges. The Coalition seeks to bring together residents, community representatives and government agencies to address issues of environmental cleanup, enforcement and community investment. The EPA will work to forge a shared vision and action plan to create positive community change.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

EPA and a multitude of local, state and other federal partners are building capacity in the community and the City of Birmingham by providing training and technical assistance, and holding and/or participating in community meetings.

For example, the City of Birmingham is developing a comprehensive watershed plan for the Village Creek Watershed. The City is also looking for ways to incor porate green infrastructure throughout the watershed as a way of addressing flooding and polluted stormwa-

benefits of green versus gray infrastructure pra Further, remote sensing data collected by Jeffer County is being used to add a Birmingham con ty component to EPA's EnviroAtlas. The City v the results of the EnviroAtlas analysis in their g infrastructure planning processes to gain a bett derstanding of how its decisions can affect ecol and human health outcomes.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY

EPA Regional Administrator Heather McTeer convened the Interagency Working Group on I mental Justice (EJ IWG), to bring federal suppo address the myriad of needs in North Birmingh the larger City of Birmingham.

The EJ IWG builds on existing investments and brings new resources to the community, including technical assistance. Participating local agencies include: th of Birmingham, the Jefferson County Departm Health, the North Birmingham Community Co Alabama Department of Environmental Mana and Alabama Department of Transportation. F partners include: Department of Agriculture, F al Emergency Management Agency, Departme Commerce, Department of Education, Departr Energy, Department of Interior, Department o Department of Labor, Department of Transpor Health and Human Services, U.S. Department Housing and Urban Development, and the U.S Corps of Engineers. Additionally, EPA has ente Memorandums of Understanding with local co leverage or share resources.

Since the formation of the IWG, small working meet regularly to further define priority projec

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To: Carey, Pat[carey.pat@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Tue 4/19/2016 4:45:41 PM
Subject: This is what I had put together

Draft – 12/17/2015

EJ 2020 Public Comments -- FEDERAL AGENCIES

Prior to beginning work on the Federal Agencies Implementation Plan, the public comments related to federal agencies were reviewed. The plan was drafted in response to the comments, along with acknowledgement of ongoing and proposed activities of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice.

Comment:

All Federal agencies should follow the principles of environmental justice, not just the EPA. EPA should assist all agencies in implementing the Executive Order.

Response: This comment will be addressed by implementing a number of strategies. Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration in support of efforts to address concerns of overburdened communities at the regional, state and local levels will provide opportunities for integrating environmental justice principles into our work and to ensure that environmental justice community concerns are addressed. Also, Strategy 4: Strengthening EPA's collaboration with the communities we serve and our government partners will be helpful. Specifically, Activity 4.1: Expand EPA's capacity to support communities by strengthening partnerships through the IWG will provide an opportunity for EPA to assist other federal agencies in implementing the EJ Executive Order.

Comment:

EJ Communities also need assistance with finding and taking advantage of federal resources. EPA should create a single resource for communities to learn about all available opportunities and provide assistance with application and administration.

Response: There are numerous strategies and activities that are responsive to this comment. Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration in support of efforts to address concerns of overburdened communities at the regional, state and local levels will bring Activity 2.2: Leverage federal agency resources and technical assistance in communities based on regional efforts, such as MVD, Brownfields, Urban Waters, Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving, etc.

- Work with the EPA EJ IWG Committee, the Office of Sustainable Communities and others to identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged with specific EPA projects. (October 2016)

- Share the EJ IWG's revised and updated Community Based Federal Environmental Resource Guide (June 2016)

Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration in support of efforts to address concerns of overburdened communities at the regional, state and local levels will provide opportunities for integrating environmental justice principles into our work and to ensure that environmental justice community concerns are addressed.

Move Interagency Working Group (IWG activities from "listening session" to solutions workshops" with federal and state agencies at various levels of government providing the necessary resources and corrective actions measured at the community and tribal levels.

Comment:

EPA should collaborative with research agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute for Occupations Safety and Health, to obtain targeted research data to ensure its decisions regarding pesticide registration, risk assessments and worker safety standards are based on sound science that is free of industry influence.

Comment:

Environmental regulators are unlikely to be the sole source of support for overburdened communities. Coordination with education, housing, energy, disaster response and emergency preparedness, and other federal agencies will be critical to developing the most effective approaches to directing resources to communities in need.

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To: (b)(6) Personal Privacy (b)(6) Personal Privacy
Cc: Juarez, MariaElena[Juarez.MariaElena@epa.gov]; Wilson, Wenona[Wilson.Wenona@epa.gov]; Gogal, Danny[Gogal.Danny@epa.gov]; Robinson, Victoria[Robinson.Victoria@epa.gov]; Walts, Alan[walts.alan@epa.gov]; Ragland, Micah[Ragland.Micah@epa.gov]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Sat 4/2/2016 11:14:47 AM
Subject: EPA Follow-up Information As Discussed

Hello Pastor Shields,

Thank you for spending time with us earlier this week and discussing EPA's updates on the Flint Water response.

I am providing a link below to our Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) website.

The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) facilitates the active involvement of all Federal agencies to implement Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations." The order states that "Federal agencies must identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." There is a wealth of information on this site that should be helpful to you as you pursue your redevelopment plans. Please pay particular attention to the information under the resource tab.

https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/federal-interagency-working-group-environmental-justice-ej-iwg

Also, I added you to our Environmental Justice Listserve as we discussed. You will begin receiving information that includes available grant opportunities and webinars that should be helpful as well.

I will be in Flint until April 11th and an available to meet with you to discuss your redevelopment plans further. Feel free to contact me at 470-218-3307 or email me.

Thank you sir,

Cynthia Peurifoy

Environmental Justice Navigator

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Bcc: Peurifoy, Cynthia[Peurifoy.Cynthia@epa.gov]
To: King, Marva[King.Marva@EPA.GOV]
From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Tue 3/29/2016 8:05:24 PM
Subject: Re: Marva's quick thoughts of what she may say at Beverly Wright's HBCU conference

Yeah having a great experience so far.

Cynthia Peurifoy
Environmental Justice Coordinator
EPA Region 4
404-562-9649

On Mar 29, 2016, at 3:30 PM, King, Marva <King.Marva@EPA.GOV> wrote:

OK – I'll pull something out of the blog since nothing much is written yet on the workgroup.

Regarding other careers – I'll think about it – I was assuming no one really wanted to work for government with all this mess going on where we are thought about not doing our best for people. But – we'll think about how to revise and be more inclusive of extra careers beside government.

Heard from Victoria today and how much she loves having this first group (you especially) working with her ☺

Hugs,

Marva

From: Peurifoy, Cynthia
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 3:25 PM
To: King, Marva <King.Marva@EPA.GOV>
Subject: Re: Marva's quick thoughts of what she may say at Beverly Wright's HBCU

conference

This is great! I would suggest adding more about why climate justice is important, more about the charge for the NEJAC workgroup.

Not just government but whatever career they choice they should stay involved.

Cynthia Peurifoy

Environmental Justice Coordinator

EPA Region 4

404-562-9649

On Mar 28, 2016, at 4:17 PM, King, Marva <King.Marva@EPA.GOV> wrote:

Hi Mustafa, Matthew, Cynthia, and Marsha:

I only have 5-7 minutes to speak and wanted to send you what I was thinking about saying.

Please feel free to comment ☺

Hugs, Marva

Marva comments for 3/30/16

•□□□□□□ Recently I read an article by Professor Bob Bullard "Why

HBCUs must lead on Climate Justice" which talked about why this annual conference we are all participating in today was started three years ago.

•□□□□□□ He mentioned that most HBCUS are located in the southern part of our county – this area – where low-income and people of color communities are very vulnerable to flooding, hurricanes, sea-level rise, etc.,

•□□□□□□ Over the next four days you'll hear from leaders across the county about climate justice, environmental injustices, what some of us are doing about it, and how you can help.

•□□□□□□ On Saturday morning, my colleague and friend, EPA's AAA for EJ and Community Revitalization and the Senior Advisor to EPA's Administrator Gina McCarthy will provide an EPA overview of current activities around these concerns.

•□□□□□□ I will share two items that out Agency is currently doing:

o (a) Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) **Educate, Motivate, and Innovate (EMI) Initiative** –reaching out to our next generation of young climate-justice leaders attending Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). Early this month, they showcased five student-developed climate justice projects in the inaugural EMI Climate Justice Training Workshop – during the DC National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program. The emphasis was on the relationships between climate change, human health, traditional practices, economic development, and environmental justice; and

o (b) also this month the EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee enacted a Youth Perspectives on Climate Change Workgroup

•□□□□□□ **What I would like to leave with all of you – today – is the desire Mustafa and I have "to serve the public".** We were both mentored (20 years ago) in the Environmental Justice field by the first director of the Office of EJ – Dr. Clarice Gaylord – who assured that our office was a liaison office to the EJ communities.

•□□□□□□ As you can imagine 20 years ago it was a tenuous time with a great deal of distrust and unrest between government and community leaders. Some may think it hasn't changed much – but I assure you "we have come a long way baby".

•□□□□□□ Now we have good relationships with community leaders and debate both inside and outside the federal agencies to ensure we have meaningful community engagement. We make sure communities have a voice at the decision making table.

•□□□□□□ Working for the government and serving the public is not easy. It takes patience, courage, operating in the gray area in and around rules and policies, and making sure we get the work done for our communities.

•□□□□□□ What is crucial to getting the work done is our longstanding, trusted relationships with community leaders.

•□□□□□□ Because of those relationships we have achieved some

successes within the government: most recently with the Clean Power Plan rule

•□□□□□□ I encourage you – as students – to put aside any preconceived ideas you may have to work for government and think about it in another way. Look at it the way Mustafa and I do – it is an opportunity to work on the inside to serve the public.

•□□□□□□ We work across communities, across federal agencies, academia, and other partners to build lasting relationships and connections as we all work together in partnership to combat the issues of environmental injustice.

•□□□□□□ As the government workforce gets grayer and begin looking toward retirement - we need students (like you) committed to serving the concerns of EJ communities.

Be gentle with yourself,

Marva E. King, Ph.D.

Senior Policy Advisor

EPA's Office of EJ

WJC South 2224A

1200 Pennsylvania Av., NW (MC 2201)

Washington, DC 20460

Phone: 202-564-2599

Fax: 202-501-1107

Cell: 202-360-6053

"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style" – Maya Angelo

" The time is always right to do what is right" – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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FEDERAL AGENCIES

(Version 3: 01-22-16)

OBJECTIVE

Amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

Over twenty years of environmental justice practice has taught us that all federal agencies play a critical role in ensuring that we make a visible difference in communities overburdened with environmental and economic distress. In 1994, EO 12898 recognized the multi-faceted nature of environmental justice issues and called on every federal agency to "identify and address, as appropriate, the disproportionate human health and environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." EO 12898 established the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) to address these multiple concerns. Since then, EJ practice within communities and government agencies at all levels has produced further recognition that environmental justice is more than about ensuring that environmental impacts do not disproportionately affect areas of persistent poverty but also about creating opportunities to build healthy, wholesome, sustainable and resilient communities. We have learned that this is what communities seek. This means promoting neighborhood amenities such as better housing, transportation, health care access, economic development, and green space. Because these benefits fall under the mandates of our sister federal agencies, EPA will work to strengthen their capacity to address environmental justice.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

The federal agencies priority of EJ 2020 is led by the Office of Land and Emergency Management, Region 4, and the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice. Because the EJ IWG is co-chaired by the Administrator of EPA and the Chair of the White House Council of Environmental Quality, the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and the Office of Environmental Justice play a special role in implementing this priority.

In 2011, the heads of 17 federal agencies and White House offices signed the Memorandum of Understanding on EO 12898 and the EJ IWG (MOU). They committed the following organizations as covered agencies and offices under the MOU: Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Education, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Justice, Labor, Transportation, Veterans Affairs, the General Services Administration, White House Council on Environmental Quality, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

EO 12898 also applies to the following offices in the Executive Office of the President: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Office of the Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Policy, Office of the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, National Economic Council, and Council of Economic Advisers.

The MOU established focus areas for the EJ IWG: (1) considering EJ under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); (2) implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; (3) addressing impacts from climate change; and (4) addressing impacts from commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement").

In 2015, the EJ IWG adopted the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Framework for Collaboration, which outlines a plan for federal agencies to collectively focus on addressing five priority

areas for the next three years:

- Impacts from Climate Change;
- Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement);
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA);
- Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples; and
- Rural Communities.

STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Strategy 1: Address key environmental justice challenges in collaboration with government partners through the implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

The IWG Framework for Collaboration defines goals and objectives for the next three years (2015-2018). It will advance federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resourced communities. Two areas of priority focus for EJ 2020's support of the IWG Framework for Collaboration are NEPA and goods movement.

Action 1.1: Advance consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA review process by implementing EJ and NEPA analytic methodologies

The *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies for NEPA Review* is an important advance for considering environmental justice throughout the federal family. It was a significant effort under EPA's Plan EJ 2014 and we are building on it under EJ 2020. These promising practices for EJ analytic methodologies are significant beyond the practice of NEPA as they offer important models and lessons about how to address similar methodological challenges in EJ analysis for other areas. EPA's steps to carry out this Action include:

- Promote cross agency collaboration and training on NEPA by sharing EJ IWG's NEPA Training Products with other federal agencies and governmental partners (Office responsible and milestones for Tracking Table)
- Produce documents to enhance better understanding of EJ analytical methodologies for NEPA reviews (e.g. supplemental material such as lexicon, cross-walk with CEQ regulations, repository of examples) (Dec. 2016)
- Strengthen community and stakeholder engagement and understanding of EJ and NEPA by working with the EJ IWG NEPA Committee (e.g. outreach, training, technical assistance, citizens' guide) (Dec. 2016)
- Develop case studies on how EJ analytic methodologies for NEPA reviews have proven to be useful, particularly in issue areas of concern to communities (e.g, goods movement)
- Conduct applied research to evaluate the effectiveness of the promising practices for EJ analytic methodologies for NEPA review

Action 1.2: Identify and address potential adverse impacts from the commercial distribution of freight (goods movement) and related infrastructure (e.g., ports, rail yards, distribution centers) by

developing and implementing assessment and engagement tools and programs that promote emissions reductions, better planning and sustainable development practices, and enhance the health, safety, quality of life, and meaningful engagement of affected communities.

Goods movement (commercial distribution of freight) has emerged as an important cross-cutting area, as reflected in the EJ 2020 public comments (See cross-cutting issues in Overview Chapter). EPA will leverage its work in this area to assist other federal agencies who have responsibilities in the goods movement area. EPA's steps to carry out this Action include:

- Produce promising practices and lessons learned by focusing on community impacts from goods movement activities during the NEPA process. (Offices TBD) (Date TBD)
- Develop and implement assessment tools for reducing air pollution and other community impacts from goods movement activities, such as operational strategies (macro assessment) and data collection practices for ports (micro assessment), and use of decision support tools (e.g. C-LINE, C-PORT) by communities and government partners. (Offices TBD) (Date TBD)
- Develop and implement community engagement tools to support communities impacted by goods movement activities (*Ports Primer, EJ Primer,* and *Community Action Roadmap*) and an online community of practice for communities, government partners and others. (Offices TBD) (Date TBD)
- Maximize leveraging opportunities for pilot projects and other place-based efforts (e.g. Brownfields to Healthfields) in communities impacted by goods movement and by collaborating with communities and government partners to seek solutions through community-based problem solving efforts. (Offices TBD) (Date TBD)
- Continue to provide funding opportunities for overburdened communities to remove older diesel engines from operation through the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant program. (Offices TBD) (Date TBD)
- Consider forthcoming recommendations from the Mobile Source Technical Review Subcommittee (MSTRS) of the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee (CAAAC) on development of an EPA-led voluntary environmental port initiative and how to effectively measure air quality and GHG performance of ports and/or terminals within ports, as these recommendations relate to overburdened communities.
- Work with EJ IWG Goods Movement Committee to select 1-2 communities with multiple federal agency involvement and apply a successful community-based concept/promising practice(s) (e.g. Brownfields to Healthfields) to address goods movement concerns. (Office TBD) (Date TBD)

Action 1.3 Promote integration of EJ concepts, policies and values among other federal community based programs and projects

- Document effective, innovative, and replicable approaches which promote sustainable community practices and highlight in Agencies' annual EJ progress reports. (Feb. 2016)
- Develop schedule of marketing and engaging other key federal agencies on the integration of EPA EJ Policy
- Execute marketing and engagement strategy and document efforts and results

Strategy 2: Work with the EPA regional offices to foster on-the-ground federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization at the regional, state and local levels.

Strengthening collaboration and coordination throughout the federal family on place-based projects and activities is important to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. These issues include environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management, and health disparities. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicates community-based programs to promote long term-revitalization, economic opportunity, equitable development and sustainability.

Action 2.1: Cultivate and strengthen interagency partnerships in the EPA regional offices that directly support on the ground work in communities.

Deliverables, Offices/Regions Responsible, and Milestones:

- Identify Regional EJ IWG contacts (OEJ) (March 2016)
- Identify ongoing or upcoming work in the EPA regions that could benefits from cross agency support to address critical community issues.
- Consider focusing on the 50 MVD communities as a pilot.
- Develop a best practices document in 2020 based on the cross agency pilots in the MVD communities.
- Solicit and engage EPA program staff in coordination with Regions for EJ IWG subcommittees (OEJ/Lead Region) (May 2016)
- Identify opportunities to increase EPA program office support to Regional offices in working with EJ IWG and addressing needs (OEJ/Lead Region) (Dec. 2016)
- Increase coordination between agencies on community-based activities and training. (OEJ/OSC) Jan 2017

Action 2.2: In collaboration with regional IWGs and other interagency efforts, facilitate solution oriented roundtables with overburdened communities to support and address community issues as one federal family.

In order to efficiently and effectively respond to community concerns and requests, EPA will develop a strategic feedback process, which would include creating a timeframe and obtaining commitment from agencies by June 2016. In August 2016, EPA will collaborate with staff from Regional IWG and EPA MVD projects to implement the solution oriented roundtables in EPA MVD communities. EPA will conduct outreach and build relationships to partner with key federal agencies to disseminate relevant resources, tools, and strategies to overburdened communities in October 2016. In the beginning of 2017, EPA will evaluate outcomes of the roundtable sessions to produce an annual summary and collection of best practices.

Action 2.3: Leverage federal agency resources and regional efforts that provide technical assistance, such as MVD, Brownfields, Urban Waters, Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving, etc., to support overburdened communities.

In conjunction with EPA EJ IWG Committee, the Office of Sustainable Communities and other federal workgroups, EPA will identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged for specific EPA projects in overburdened communities in October 2016. In June 2016, EPA will create and implement a communications plan (outreach, follow up, etc.) to disseminate the updated EJ IWG's Community Based

Federal Environmental Resource Guide to key partners and overburdened communities. EPA will partner with the EJ 2020 Communities Workgroup to identify overburdened communities and align efforts where EPA and multiple agencies are working together to address environmental justice concerns in June 2016.

Action 2.4: Examine 10 locations, with ongoing Agency work, where EPA has brought together the expertise and resources of various federal agencies to address critical community issues and identify key lessons learned from federal interagency collaboration.
EPA often plays the role of a convener of federal agencies in communities where we are addressing multiple environmental and human health issues. Working with other federal agencies in a community is often done on an ad hoc basis and without an established protocol. Over the coming years, EPA will examine one community in each region where EPA and other federal agencies are working together to address key community concerns. By 2020, EPA will develop a best practices document from interagency work in communities and share it within the Agency, with our governmental partners, and with the public.

Strategy 3: Identify, develop and share EPA and other federal agency environmental justice tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities and target attention and resources.

Since the signing of Executive Order 12898 in 1994 federal agencies have developed tools for considering environmental justice in our programs and policies. However these efforts have been very disparate and uncoordinated. EJ 2020 seeks to use the EJ IWG and other groups to ensure more consistent consideration of environmental justice tools across the federal family, to coordinate the development and usage of tools, and to improve the sharing of information on available tools with the public.

Action 3.1: Develop EJ criteria for inclusion in the scoring schemes for all Federal EJ IWG agencies' grants and cooperative agreements eligibility processes.

Develop generic EJ criteria options and share among federal agencies (April 2016)
- Develop and deploy broad, generic EJ criteria from (OBLR, OGC, OGD, Urban Waters) Grants and Cooperative Agreements EJ criteria language (April 2016)

Identify potential federal assistance efforts that could incorporate the generic language (June 2017)
- Identify assistance efforts that could incorporate the EJ language developed to support communities sustainability and equitable development (March 2016)
- Share the EJ language with federal agencies, and internally, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listservs, etc. (April 2016)

Track and share information on the agencies which add EJ language into funding opportunities. (June 2017)

Action 3.2:
Advance the development and cross agency use of tools (such as EJSCREEN, C-FERST, etc...) that support federal environmental justice efforts and share information with the public.

Create a federal agency-wide inventory of online EJ tools and databases (April 2016)
- Develop a central location for links to tools on OEI's webpage. (February 2016)

- EJ IWG will review existing tools/database list and request updates needed (February 2016)
- Create the federal tools inventory (April 2016)

Market the final product to federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public (May 2016)

- Disseminate the inventory through the IWG, ECOS, State and Tribal Governments, academia, and national community-based organizations (April 2016)
- Develop examples and models of data source use options and include in marketing efforts

Track the utilization of the resources and tools in the inventory (May 2017)

- Create a process for agencies to add to inventory (February 2016)
- EPA maintains central website/document tools compilation. (May 2016)
- Request feedback from IWG members and others and update the inventory (May 2017)

Support the cross agency development of EJ tools.

Identify opportunities to share or consolidate related EJ tool efforts.

Share information on available tools with the public via.....

Action 3.3: Improve community awareness of environmental data to increase community and stakeholder involvement in decision-making by making data available to inform the process.

Identify key federal environmental data sources and systems (March 2016)

- Compile data sources and systems in a central location (March 2016)

Develop a marketing strategy for promoting the data sources (April 2016)

- Share data sources information with stakeholders including program offices and federal agencies through the Federal EJ IWG, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listserves, etc. (April 2016)

Develop examples and models of data source use options and include in marketing efforts (July 2016)

- Capture examples of data source use options and internally through listserv announcements, blogs, conferences, and externally through the federal agencies' IWG, ECOS and other local, state and tribal entities (July 2016)

Track usage of data sources and use the information and gathered feedback for continuous improvement of the databases (May 2017)

- Track usage of the databases using the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network for the health and environmental data (March 2017)
- Share successes through the agency's social media (May 2017)

MEASURES

To be determined

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Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice: Regional Interagency Working Group

Lessoned Learned in Interagency Collaborations for Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898

Since the signing of the Executive Order 12898 "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations" federal agencies have committed to ensuring their respective programs do not lead to disproportionally adverse environmental or health impacts on low-income communities and communities of color. E.O. 12898 directed the federal government to form an Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG).

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Interagency Collaboration

The EJ IWG is an effort to keep the priorities and concerns of communities impacted by environmental injustice at the forefront across the federal government. The EJ IWG helps the federal government do a better job of coordinating and collaborating to address complex, multi-sector environmental justice challenges.

Regional Effort

By increasing collaboration among federal agencies, the EJ IWG can help to reduce duplication at the national level. While working at the federal level is vitally important, agencies recognize that responding to the needs of communities impacted by environmental injustice ultimately happens at the local level. Therefore, federal agencies and staff must develop frameworks and best practices for regional and local collaborations that can effectively respond to local needs. To this end, regional staff from across the country have developed their own approaches and frameworks for carrying out interagency collaborations for environmental justice.

This document captures the lessons learned from interagency working groups at the regional level. The working groups interviewed were comprised of a mix of federal staff with a background in working with community-based initiatives, stakeholder outreach and interagency place-based initiatives. The goal of this document is to provide a tool to federal staff that are interested in establishing an interagency collaboration for environmental justice.

Approaches to Interagency Collaboration

The process of collecting these lessons included carrying out interviews with federal staff that are involved in interagency collaborative efforts all over the country. Over the course of the interview process it was found that interagency collaborative groups were divided into two major categories that guided how they chose to carry out their work. The two categories are detailed below.

Lessons Learned

Initiative-Driven Approach

The first category can be described as formal, structured collaboration that is driven by a specific issue or initiative that federal staffers want to address. These lessons learned are meant to highlight successful strategies used by existing regional working groups. They are meant to be suggestions, not rules to establishing a collaboration around EJ issues.

Group Structure

1. **Multiple agency representation** - having a variety of different backgrounds and skills represented at the beginning of group conception allows for a broad range of ideas for understanding and addressing EJ issues.
    i. The range of group members could include local, state and federal level staff, as well as community organizations, advocacy groups, and philanthropy.
2. **Delineated team structure**- easier for groups to make decisions, divide up work, and ensure continuity in the group's mission.
3. **Create formal work plans and objectives**- helps to direct the group and ensure all group members have a clear understanding of the group's mission.
    i. Plans should be created as an initial activity for the group to collectively identify common interest, experience, and objectives.
    ii. Plans should state the metrics that will be used to track the group's progress on established short term and long term goals.
4. **Regularly scheduled meetings**- maintain member engagement and keep the group on track for completing its deliverables.

Goals and Activities

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5. **Use specific goals established by agency initiatives** - apply an EJ lens to existing agency priorities can help determine group objectives.
    i. Using existing agency priorities gives a group a formal charge while also holding the group accountable to their outcomes.
6. **Share resources and information** - builds capacity and allows for cross-cutting activities with other groups and organizations.

Communication

7. **Create specific page or website to collect documents and resources**- a centralized place for the group's materials helps with organization and historic preservation.
8. **Create local buy-in**- communicate regularly with grantees, city level staff, and local officials.

Lessons Learned

Stakeholder Driven Approach

The second category is an informal, ad-hoc collaboration that is driven by a specific need that is expressed from a stakeholder group. Informal approach provides more flexibility to address community issues as they arise and helps support the establishment of a high level of stakeholder trust and open communication. These lessons learned are meant to highlight successful strategies used by existing regional working groups. They are meant to be suggestions, not rules to establishing a collaboration around EJ issues.

Group Structure

1. **Be Flexible** - informal collaboration is determined by identifying which partners are most appropriate based on:
   i. needs expressed by the communities
   ii. what each partner can bring to the effort
2. **HQ & Regional Coordination** – regional interagency working groups determined that when working informally they benefited from more consistent support and coordination of activities with HQ staff. HQ support included:
   i. Facilitating connections with partners across various agencies
   ii. Scheduling regular meetings
3. **Identify Relevant Laws and Mandates** - an understanding of the laws and mandates that govern the responsibilities among different federal, state, local and tribal agencies can help locate appropriate partners and potential funding opportunities
   i. Laws: Regulatory and Statutory Requirements
   ii. Mandates: Presidential Executive Orders, Directives and Memorandums

Goals and Activities

4. **Conduct a needs assessment-** community groups should lead the identification of needs and challenges. The needs assessment can:
   i. Identify possible interventions
   ii. Identify possible partners
   iii. Improves trust
   iv. Builds foundation for future engagement

Communication

5. **Stay Engaged:** These activities help to build trust with stakeholders and communities when carried out consistently over time.
   i. Outreach
   ii. Capacity building
   iii. Listening sessions
6. **Share Information** - communicate early and often with local groups and community stakeholders to keep them informed and engaged with processes that may impact them to address necessary issues.

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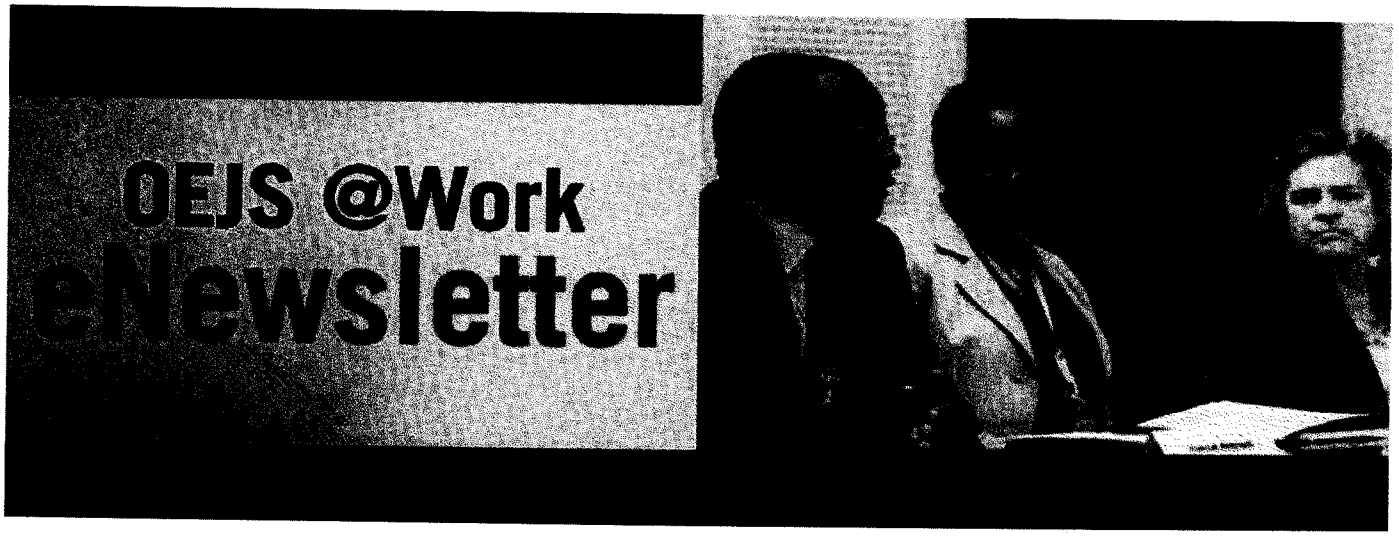
To: Tennessee, Denise[Tennessee.Denise@epa.gov]
From: Whitlock(Tarver), Siobhan
Sent: Thur 1/12/2017 11:36:41 PM
Subject: Draft eNewsletter



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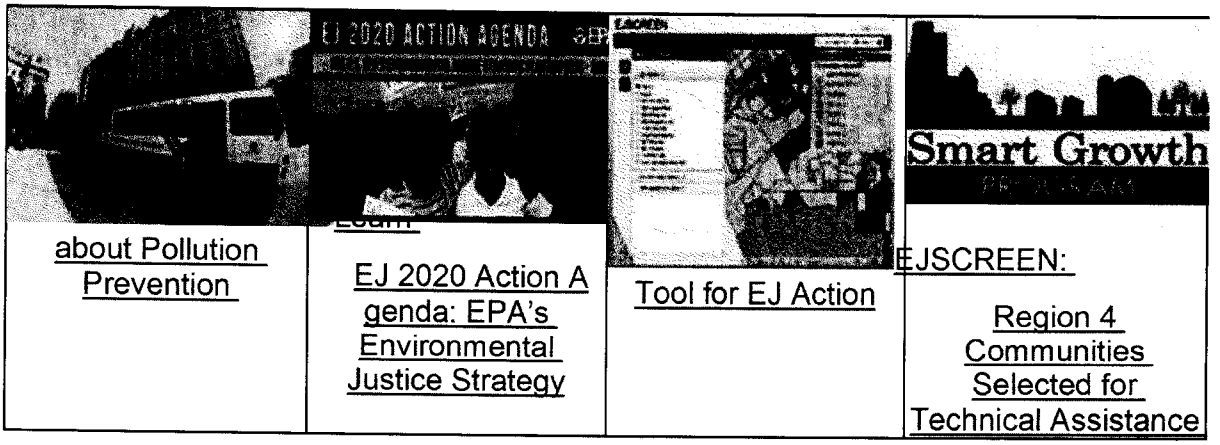
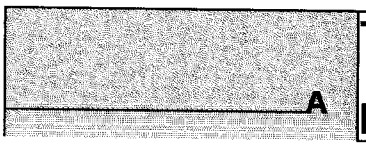
Program Highlights



about Pollution Prevention	EJ 2020 Action Agenda: EPA's Environmental Justice Strategy	Tool for EJ Action	EJSCREEN: Region 4 Communities Selected for Technical Assistance



Top Stories

EJ Integration and Community-Driven Efforts

bout the Region 4 Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability

The EPA Region 4 Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability (OEJS) is located directly in the Office of the Regional Administrator (ORA) and is responsible for leading and coordinating the region's environmental justice and sustainability programs.

The mission of OEJS is to promote sustainable communities that foster improvements in human health, the environment and economic well-being for all; with a focus on minority, low-income, tribal and vulnerable communities.

OEJS serves Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Six Tribes.

Upcoming Events

Feb 2-4, 2017:

2017 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference, St. Louis, MO

Feb 3-4, 2017: OEJS EJ Academy Module 6, Atlanta Metropolitan State College, Atlanta, GA

Mar 4-5, 2017: OEJS EJ Academy Module 7, Atlanta Metropolitan State College, Atlanta, GA **Mar 7-8, 2017, Southface Greenprints Conference, Atlanta, GA** **Mar 8-10, 2017: National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program , Washington, DC** **Mar 15-19: HBCU Climate Change Conference, New Orleans, LA** **Mar 28-30, 2017: 2017 National Lead and Healthy Housing Conference, Indianapolis, IN** **April 24-25, 2017 Break the Cycle 12: Reducing Children's Environmental Health Disparities and Promoting Health**	

Equity, Atlanta, GA April 30, 2017: OEJS EJ Academy Graduation, Atlanta, GA May 3-6, 2017: 10th Annual National Conference on Health Disparities, New Orleans, LA May 6-9, 2017: APA National Planning Conference New York, NY June 25-28, 2017: 2017 Summer Specialty Conference on Climate Change Solutions: Collaborative Science, Policy and Planning for Sustainable Water Management, Tyson, VA July 10-13, 2017: NEHA 2017 AEC and HUD Healthy Homes Conference, Grand Rapids, MI	

in the news

EPA's top official commits to doing right by communities of color (EJ 2020)

Watch Inspiring Climate Action Videos: Interactive Map with Global Youth Video Competition Entries

States Tailor Their Message to Spread Environmental Justice

Resources

Access The EPA Blog

EPA EJ Program

EPA Smart Growth

EPA P2 Program

Office

of Environmental justice & Sustainability staff Denise Tennessee, **OEJS Director** Karen Smith, **Office Assistant** **EJ & COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY** Deborah Carter, **EJ Grants Coordination** Adesuwa Erhunse, **EPA State Liaison—FL** Sheryl Good, **EPA State Liaison—KY** Latoya Miller, **EPA State Liaison—SC** Deborah Ortiz, **EPA State Liaison—MS** Cynthia Peurifoy, **EPA State Liaison—NC** Tami Thomas-Burton,	

EPA State Liaison—AL, GA

Siobhan Whitlock,

EPA State Liaison—TN

POLLUTION PREVENTION

Pamela Swingle,

P2 Program Management

Daphne Wilson,

P2 Grants Coordination

We encourage you to share the Region 4 OEJS@ Work eNewsletter. To join the OEJS listserv, email **R4OEJS@ epa.gov**.

Connect with EPA Region 4 on Facebook: www.facebook.com/eparegion4

And on Twitter: @EPA Southeast

North Birmingham Interagency Working Group Continues to Make Progress

In August 2014, EPA Region 4, along with other federal agencies, including HUD, HHS, HRSA, DOL, COE, DOT, ATSDR and CDC began a Regional EJ IWG to assist with revitalization efforts in the North Birmingham area, specifically, the Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park neighborhoods located in Birmingham, Jefferson County, Alabama. Prior to the establishment of the Regional IWG focused on North Birmingham, EPA engaged in a coordinated approach to evaluate the environmental condition and potential environmental impacts in this area due to past industrial practices. This effort, which includes air, water and waste issues, is known as the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project.

Over the last two years, Regional Federal Agencies have worked closely with the City of Birmingham, Jefferson County, the North Birmingham Community Coalition, and a host of other local stakeholders, to gather information about the area, set priorities, provide technical assistance and capacity building opportunities.

In February 2016, EPA Region 4 hosted a meeting of the North Birmingham Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) in Atlanta, Ga, reconvening representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, along with community residents and other key stakeholders to specifically focus on issues affecting the North Birmingham area. Over 130 people were in attendance for the meeting which included presentations outlining smart goals, progress thus far, and resources needed from the six sub-workgroups to address the community's concerns with blight and environmental degradation. Mustafa Ali, Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and Marsha Minter, National EJ IWG Program Manager were in attendance for the meeting. In addition, a community spotlight was given to the Ivanhoe Neighborhood in Kansas City, Mo., presented by Ms. Margaret May, who at the time was the Chair of EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC).

In September 2016, the North Birmingham Community Coalition presented its Community Action Plan to the larger community and solicited additional support and partners to implement their priorities. As well, in December 2016, a meeting was held with key federal agency representatives, and City of Birmingham officials, to review progress and discuss next steps for the North Birmingham efforts. Current plans are to transfer primary leadership of the effort to the City of Birmingham to continue work on the smart goals and to support implementation of the North Birmingham Community Coalition Plan.

Recently, efforts related to this project were highlighted in a webinar presented by the National Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. The link to this webinar

can be found on the EPA EJ IWG webpage.

To learn more about the North Birmingham Environmental Collaboration Project please visit: North Birmingham Collaboration Project. This site also contains the most up-to-date fact sheets, frequently Asked Questions, and resources for how you can get involved.

Health Impact Assessment Conducted in MVD Community

Region 4 completed one of the first ever "EPA-led" Health Impact Assessment (HIA) case studies in the Proctor Creek Community located in Atlanta, Ga. The project, known as the *Boone Blvd Green Street HIA,* examined both the positive and negative health impacts within a half-mile of the proposed project area. R4's Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability (OEJS) alongside EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) partnered to explore the use of the HIA in examining the potential effects and distribution of a policy, plan, or project on the health of a population. The purpose of this HIA was to help inform the City of Atlanta's decision on whether to implement the proposed project as designed, and to provide an avenue for A LL stakeholders including this low-income, minority community to be engaged in the decision-making process.

The Proctor Creek Watershed HIA considered the potential effect of the green infrastructure project on a number of health determinants, including water quality, flood management, climate, air quality, traffic safety, nature contact, noise exposure, accessibility, crime, social capital, and household and community economics. Results suggest the green infrastructure project will have a positive impact on health overall. Key recommendations include ongoing community support and engagement in all phases of the green street installation. The Proctor Creek Watershed HIA full report is available on the EPA website.

Pollution Prevention

Safer Choice Partner of the Year Award

The third annual Safer Choice Partner of the Year Awards will recognize program participants for advancing the goal of chemical safety through exemplary participation in or promotion of the Safer Choice program. EPA will present at least one award in each of these five categories:

- Product Manufacturers
- Purchasers and Distributors
- Retailers
- Supporters
- Innovators

Within these categories, EPA may give additional awards in the subcategories of "small business" and "sustained excellence." Two submissions were received from Region 4 stakeholders. Award winners will be announced at a ceremony in late spring of 2017 in Washington, D.C. Visit the Safer Choice Program site for more information.

Pollution Prevention Keep America Beautiful

EPA releases Pollution Prevention (P2) and Source Reduction Assistance (SRA) grant funds to states and tribal government entities to deliver technical assistance and training to businesses. The intent of this effort is to assist state, tribal governments, and universities to encourage businesses to adopt environmental strategies and solutions that significantly reduce or eliminate waste from the source. These grants fund projects that support the P2 Program's National Emphasis Areas – 1) Climate Change Mitigation/Prevention of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, 2) Food Manufacturing and 3) State or Community Approaches to Hazardous Materials Source Reduction. 2016 A wardees will be announced late summer.

For more information, visit the EPA Pollution Prevention Grant Programs website.

Environmental Program Spotlight

New Source Water Protection Mapping Tool for Communities

The EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (OGWDW) released the Drinking Water Mapping Application for Protecting Source Waters (DWMAPS), a web-based, user-friendly tool for mapping potential sources of contamination to drinking water supplies to the public in February of 2016. With DWMAPS, EPA seeks to provide the best available GIS-based information on activities affecting sources of drinking water.

DWMAPS can provide drinking water professionals, Source Water Collaboratives, watershed groups, and others with information to update source water assessments and prioritize source water protection measures in any location or watershed in the country. DWMAPS helps users to:

□□□□□□□□□ **Identify potential sources of contamination** in locations defined by users;

□□□□□□□□□ **Evaluate accidental spills and releases**, identifying where emergency response resources for accidental releases must be readily available; and

□□□□□□□□□ **Promote integration of drinking water protection activities with other environmental programs** at the EPA, state, and local levels.

Access the DWMAPS Tool, and download the user guide for more information.

Partnership and Collaborative Efforts

OEJS Launches Environmental Justice Academy

OEJS developed the Environmental Justice Academy (EJA) to educate leaders from communities facing environmental injustices. Launched in September 2015, the academy provides community-based leaders with skills to articulate and identify environmental challenges in their community, advocate for their needs, and work collaboratively with their organization, community and other partners to address the barriers.

EJA is utilizes a facilitated, hands-on learning approach that incorporates:

- EPA's Collaborative Problem Solving Model,
- the Appreciative Inquiry Philosophy, and
- Smart Growth Building Blocks Process and Leadership principles.

Participants meet one weekend a month for nine months, and are exposed to several different topics through lectures from subject-matter experts, interactive exercises, and experiential learning. The first cohort of 23 graduated in May 2016. Many of the graduates have accomplished several goals and have realized many successes as it relates to establishing new partnerships, acquiring additional sources of revenue, and improving their ability to manage their programs and organizations. The 2017 cohort includes 16 community leaders from Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina. The 2017 class participates in very similar activities as its predecessors; however, they have the benefit of interacting with the 2016 EJA graduates; meeting at Atlanta Metropolitan State College, through a partnership with the College and Underserved Partnership Program; and participating in several special webinars, field trips, and lectures.

The EJ Academy continues to grow and improve. EPA Region 4's goal is to provide the EJ Academy to all EJ communities across the country. In order to meet that goal, the EJ Academy Team promotes the EJ Academy by presenting at National Conferences and webinars; partnering with organizations such as the U.S. Department of Energy, Emory University, the Allen University EJ Institute, and many others; and hopes that it can be replicated across the Agency, other federal agencies, and academic institutions.

The call for applications for the 2018 Class will be announced in June 2017.

Announcements and Resources

FY2017 EJ Small Grants Request for Proposals is Now Open

The Environmental Justice Small Grants Request for Proposals (RFP) is open from November 1, 2016 to January 31, 2017. EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants Program provides financial assistance to community-based organizations, and local and tribal governments working on projects to address environmental and public health concerns. EPA will award grants that support activities designed to empower and educate affected communities and to identify ways to address environmental and public health concerns at the local level. Approximately 40 one-year projects will be awarded at up to $30,000 each nationwide.

The full 2017 RFP can be found on the EPA Environmental Justice website. Additional information about the RFP and the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program can be found under the "Request for Applications" tab on the Environmental Justice Small Grants Program webpage.

Application Deadline: January 31, 2017, 11:59 PM (EST)

Applicants are invited to participate in conference calls with EPA to address questions about the EJSG Program and this solicitation. Interested persons may access the pre-application assistance calls by dialing 1-866-299-3188 and entering the code 202-564-0152 when prompted.

Last Pre-Application Assistance Call: January 24, 2017, 7-8:30 PM (EST)

Solar in Your Community Challenge: Apply Today

To spur solar adoption in low-income and minority communities, the Department of Energy launched the $5 million Solar in Your Community Challenge, which expands solar access to Americans who have been left out of the growing market. Teams that successfully demonstrate new ways of opening up solar for low- and moderate-income communities will be eligible to compete for the grand prize of $500,000.

Are you interested in having your community participate in this challenge? Visit the Solar in Your Community Challenge Site to learn more.

Early Application Deadline: January 6, 2017

Regular Application Deadline: March 17, 2017

Challenge Begins: May 2017

Apply Now: FY2017 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant

The Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) Grants are provided to eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to develop environmental programs that recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents of communities affected by brownfields and other environmental contaminants with the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in the environmental field and in assessment and cleanup work taking place in their communities. Each Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) grant may be funded up to $200,000 over a three-year period. **All proposals must be submitted electronically through grants.gov. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.**

Application Deadline: February 24, 2017, 11:59 PM (EST)

Siobhan

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Robust Science, Clean Environment, Healthy Communities

Are you part of the 12% of EPA employees who have taken the Children's Environmental Health Training on EPA's eLearning Skillport site? If you haven't taken the training, either click on this link or paste this url into your web browser:
https://epa.skillport.com/skillportfe/assetSummaryPage.action?assetid=_scorm12_epa_epa_ceh_fy12_fgc_enus.

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The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) presents

Access & Awareness Webinar Series

Established by Executive Order 12898, the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) comprises 17 federal agencies and White House Offices that work together to guide, support and enhance environmental justice and community-based activities. Check out the EJ IWG Webpage for more information.

The EJ IWG is hosting the Access & Awareness Webinar Series, a monthly event, to provide public access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues. This series will help the public gain a deeper understanding of how federal agencies are collaborating and what resources are available to anyone interested in improving the health, quality-of-life, and economic opportunities in overburdened communities.

UPCOMING EJ IWG WEBINARS

January

Title: *Discrimination Protections and Promising Practices in Federally Assisted Emergency Management*
Date: 01/12/2017
Time: 1:00-2:30pm EST
Purpose: Discussing new guidelines and resources to protect against discrimination and promote the inclusion of all vulnerable communities in federally assisted emergency management and related activities.
To register:

Webinar No. 5: Brownfields to Healthfields: Championing the Triple Bottom Line (Health, Environment and Economy) for Community Infrastructure

12/8/2016
1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern
To register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brownfields-to-healthfields-championing-the-triple-bottom-line-health-environment-and-economy-for-tickets-29302619925

Description

This webinar will share an inventive strategy that advances health, economic and environmental vitality in overburdened and underserved populations, with a special focus on rural communities. Viewers will gain a better understanding of the *Brownfields to Healthfields* approach which remediates and transforms brownfields by increasing access to health care, recreation, healthy foods, renewable resources, education and jobs.

Presenters will feature a success story in Central Appalachia by the University of Pikeville (Pikeville, KY) that leveraged health, environmental, and economic resources to establish a health center on a former brownfields site. Also, a panel of federal agencies will highlight resources available to implement the *Brownfields to Healthfields* model which promotes healthy, equitable, sustainable and resilient communities for overburdened and underserved populations.

Subscribe to the EPA's Environmental Justice Listserv (https://lists.epa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=epa-ej) to receive registration information for upcoming webinars and activities!

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To: Fleming-Williams, Carolyn A. EOP[Carolyn_A_Fleming-Williams@omb.eop.gov]
Cc: Minter, Marsha[Minter.Marsha@epa.gov]; Finley, Jeanine[finley.jeanine@epa.gov]
From: Whitlock, Siobhan
Sent: Thur 6/22/2017 4:09:39 PM
Subject: Follow-up to Request: EJ IWG

Hi Carolyn,

Per your request, I'm providing the EJ IWG Feature for inclusion in the post-call notes for this week's innovation exchange. I will send additional information next week including the Adobe Connect link, resource documents, etc.

Hello Community of Practice Colleagues:

Join us on Tuesday, July 11th at 1:00 PM, EST, for an Innovation Exchange on the **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Committee of the Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG)** collaborative efforts to promote the consistent, effective, and efficient consideration of Environmental Justice in the NEPA review process. The NEPA Committee will facilitate a session on the Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews (Promising Practices Report, March 2016). Since March 2016, the NEPA Committee has been conducting training sessions and briefings to increase awareness and use of the Promising Practices Report by federal agencies. The EJ IWG works as a federal family to advance greater federal agency collaboration to leverage resources for capacity building and economic investments in minority, low-income, rural, indigenous and tribal communities.

Our Speakers:

- Suzi Ruhl, Immediate Past Co-chair, NEPA Committee, Senior Attorney Advisor, Office of Environmental Justice, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- Denise Freeman, Co-chair, NEPA Committee, Environmental Protection Specialist, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, U.S. Department of Energy

- Cynthia Huber, Co-chair, NEPA Committee, Senior Counsel, Environment and Natural

Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice

Thanks again for the opportunity! Let me know if you need anything else.

Best,

Siobhan

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Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice: Goods Movement Committee

Goods Movement Committee Charter

November 2016

The Goods Movement Committee (GMC) is tasked by the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJIWG) to develop a strategy for addressing the negative impacts to Environmental Justice (EJ) communities in the vicinity of commercial transportation corridors.

To complete a viable strategy, the GMC must:

- Define the threats to EJ residents from commercial corridors,
- Identify or validate the geographic extent of negative impacts by threat,
- Identify effective mitigation for each threat, and
- Identify agency resources available to communities to implement mitigation.

GMC members serve as the representatives of their agencies. Their responsibilities include:

- Contributing their particular expertise to group discussions and products to create the most comprehensive and workable solutions,
- Vetting Committee proposals with their internal leadership and clearance channels to gather broader agency positions and begin building support,
- Distributing GMC products and guidance thru their agency channels to promote solutions for impacted communities.

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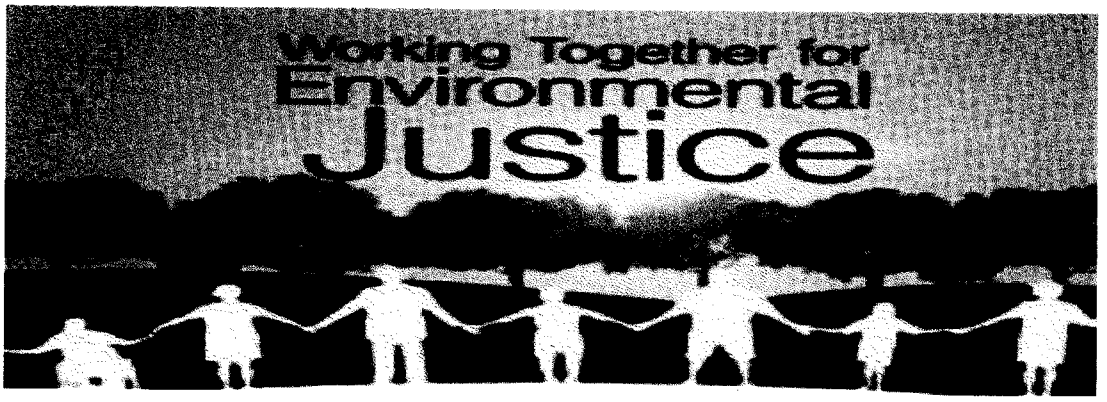

MAKING A VISIBLE DIFFERENCE IN OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES
EJ IWG Focus Area Issue Template
(FY 2015-2018)

Role/Time Commitment of Agency Representative: Leads, directs, and/or participates in Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) Goods Movement Committee (Committee) activities to facilitate: 1) appropriate consideration by Federal agencies of potential environmental, human health, impacts of goods movement activities on minority, low-income, and tribal/indigenous populations; and 2) meaningful engagement with minority, low-income, and tribal/indigenous populations potentially affected by goods movement activities.

The time commitment is approximately 8 -16 hours/month but may vary depending upon Federal priorities.

Background: The EJ IWG identified goods movement as one of four areas of focus in the *Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898* (Aug. 2011) (EJ MOU). The *Charter for Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice* (Sep. 2014) (EJ IWG Charter) states "the Interagency Working Group will create standing and select committees to help carry out its responsibilities under the Executive Order. The members of the committees will consist of Senior Leadership Representatives, Senior Staff Representatives, and other persons put forth by an agency. The Interagency Working Group will create, revise, or terminate Select Committees as appropriate." The Goods Movement Committee was established under the purview of the EJ IWG, pursuant to the EJ MOU and EJ IWG Charter.

Goods movement was also the focus of a US EPA National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) Report, *Reducing Air Emissions Associated with Goods Movement: Working Toward Environmental Justice* (Nov. 2009) (Report). In the Report, the NEJAC defined the term 'goods movement' as the "distribution of freight (including raw materials, parts and finished products) by all means of transportation including marine, air, rail, and truck." The Committee is currently utilizing this definition of 'goods movement.' The Committee is also relying on the Report's identification of goods movement facilities to include "seaports, airports and land ports of entry (border crossings), rail yards, and rail lines, highways, and highway truck traffic roads,

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and warehouse and distribution centers."

Goods movement activity in the U.S. is anticipated to increase significantly in the future, and the adverse environmental and human health impacts from current and future goods movement activities tend to fall disproportionately on minority, low-income, and tribal/indigenous populations (i.e., overburdened communities). Through inter-agency collaboration, the Committee will work to identify best practices and align Federal resources for responsibly and sustainably moving the Nation's goods movement efforts forward in a manner that addresses the concerns of overburdened communities.

Purpose: The goals of the Committee are to support federal agencies' initiatives to:

1. Mitigate environmental, human health, impacts of commercial transportation and supporting infrastructure (i.e., goods movement) that potentially impact overburdened communities, while ensuring efficient movement of goods; and
2. Assure that overburdened communities are afforded opportunities to engage with the Federal government on goods movement-related programs, policies and activities.

Key Focus Activities:

1. Identify and engage in (as appropriate) opportunities to better meet the goals of the Committee as described herein (e.g., facilitating consideration of stakeholders health, safety, quality of life, and meaningful engagement during federal goods movement-related actions) and the mission of the EJ MOU listed Agencies;
2. Facilitate meaningful engagement with stakeholders throughout the Federal goods movement decision-making processes, as appropriate;
3. Increase transparency and accountability of Federal agencies' goods movement-related activity, as appropriate;
4. Enhance interagency collaboration, as appropriate and in accordance with legal authorities;
5. Facilitate the improvement of research and data collection methods related to goods movement and overburdened communities;
6. Support the development and implementation of tools and methodologies to measure goods movement related cumulative impacts and risks (e.g., health impact assessments; and
7. Facilitate the engagement, support, and utilization of intra- and inter-agency efforts, federal advisory committees and other entities.

Deliverables/Products: The Committee will :

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1. Provide input and expertise to agencies, interagency groups and other entities, as appropriate, during the development of regulations, guidance and other materials related to goods movement and overburdened communities;
2. Identify and develop, as appropriate, best practices, check-lists, training materials and other products, the development of which should be informed by the Committee's policy and place-based work and other efforts;
3. Coordinate with the other committees of the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice;
4. Identify agency goods movement efforts;
5. Support a minimum of one agency effort to integrate environmental justice into a goods movement related program, policy or activity;
6. Expand education and awareness of Federal efforts to evaluate cumulative impacts and risk from goods movement activities; and
7. Develop a stakeholder outreach strategy.

Measures: (How will success be measured?): Successful completion of the deliverables/products 1-7 above.

Annually, the Committee will review and document progress. Progress will be shared with EJIWG members for inclusion in Agency EJ Annual Progress Reports.

Meeting Schedule: Monthly

IWG Reporting: (How the committee reports out to EJ IWG): Update provided at monthly EJ IWG meeting

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Proposed Consensus Decision Making Model

Consensus is defined as agreement by at least 3/4 of the Goods Movement Committee (GMC) members and no members opposed. Abstentions do not count toward the determination of consensus.

Decision Making

A. A problem statement that describes the situation to be resolved or question to be answered must be distributed to the GMC members at least two weeks prior to a GMC meeting.

a. Tasks or questions referred for study should be written into the action items for the meeting in which they were discussed.

B. The response to the task must include a recommendation to be considered by the GMC members. The GMC members should discuss the response at the next appropriate meeting.

a. Upon receiving a decision paper in response to a task, the GMC members should review the document and its recommendation, discuss the findings and alternatives, and vote on the proposal.

b. If a consensus decision is made it must be documented and archived on a page dedicated to decisions on the GMC MAX.GOV interagency website.

c. If a consensus decision is not reached the task or question should be referred back to the assigned person or subcommittee for further research, resolution and resubmission of the decision paper.

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA

1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
WJC, South Building, Washington, DC – Conference Room 6204
Thursday, February 23rd, 2017
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Call-in: 866-299-3188 PIN (b)(6) Personal Privacy

To follow presentation slides, here is the webinar room link for the IWG meeting:
http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/ejwebinarroom/

Agenda

2:00 **Roll Call/Welcome**

2:10 **Opening Remarks**
Matthew Tejada
Director, Office of Environmental Justice; EPA

2:15 **Updates**
Marsha Minter
Associate Director, Office of Environmental Justice; EPA

- NEJC Training Conference
- FY 16 Accomplishment Reports
- Monthly Meetings
- Subcommittee Recruitment
- Public Participation Committee Activities

2:30 **Presentation and Discussion: Federal Collaboration on Addressing Lead Disparities**

- Overview of President's Task Force on Environmental Health Risks & Safety Risks to Children (Lead Subcommittee and Federal Strategy) Sandra Howard, HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
- EJ 2020 and Lead Disparities Initiative – Amanda Hauff, EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
- HUD Lead Initiative – Chris Trent, HUD Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes
- Open Discussion/Q & A

3:15 **Agency/Committee Announcements**

Upcoming Events

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Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG)
U.S. EPA

1200 Penn. Ave. N.W. (Note please allow time to go through security)
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- **EJ IWG Presentations at NEJC Conference:**

March 9th:

EJ IWG Presentation: 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Environmental Justice, the Federal Family, and Indigenous Communities, Federal Perspectives

EJ IWG, NEPA & EJ (London Room II): 10:00 a.m. — 12:15 p.m. Leveraging Federal Resources to Advance Community Environmental, Economic and Health Vitality

March 10th:

EJ IWG Educate, Motivate, Innovate Workshop (Grand Ballroom Salon E): 9:30 a.m. — 12 Noon, Building the Next Generation of Climate Justice Leaders

EJ IWG Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and Environmental Justice Workshop/Training Module (Grand Ballroom Salon E) 1:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Advancing Communities Through the Environmental Justice Academy 11:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

- **American Public Health Association Webinar: Climate Justice: Local, Tribal, Global and Generational, Feb. 27, 2017 1:00pm – 2:45 pm**

- **EJ IWG Access & Awareness Webinar Series: March 9, 1-2:30 pm Women and Environmental Justice: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gender-and-environmental-justice-tickets-31463559353**

- **Community Involvement Training (CIT)** Requests for Proposal for the *Bringing People Together: 20 Years Investing in Communities* Conference August 2017 in Kansas City, MO. The CIT brings together EPA staff, partners and the communities they serve to provide training on tools and techniques to address all aspects of public outreach and engagement. The training is designed for EPA staff, state, local, tribal and other federal partners who plan and implement environmental community involvement activities engagement, partnership, stewardship, outreach, and education programs. **To Submit a Presentation Proposal:** Please contact Jasmin Muriel via email at muriel.jasmin@epa.gov to receive the Call for Proposal form. Please return the completed form to Jasmin Muriel by **Wednesday, March 8, 2017.**

Upcoming EJ IWG Monthly Meetings

March 23rd
April 20th (Earth Day Recognition)
4th Thursday thereafter

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ıGENCY WORKING GROUP on ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (IWG) COMMITTEE ROSTER
October 2016
EJ IWG Program Director: Marsha Minter (202) 566-0215

EJ IWG Program Coordinator: Jeanine Finley (202) 566-2195
Authority: Charter for Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Section 10: Committees

STANDING COMMITTEE (Permanent)	**COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN/CO-CHAIRMAN**	**PURPOSE**	**AGENCY REPS**	***MEETING SCHEDULE***
Strategy and Implementation Progress Report Committee	EPA Marsha Minter (Minter.Marsha@epa.gov) DOJ Cynthia Ferguson (Cynthia.Ferguson@usdoj.gov)	Serves as a resource for federal agencies as they review, update, or develop their environmental justice strategy, and the annual implementation progress reports. Works with agencies to help coordinate programs, policies, and activities. Coordinates EJ IWG Sr. Leadership Meetings. Manages implementation of the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration and standard operating procedures.	GSA, DOI	*2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ 10:30am*
Title VI of the Civil Rights Act	DOJ Daria Neal (Daria.Neal@usdoj.gov)	Serves a resource to help agencies connect their civil rights enforcement responsibilities with their other efforts to achieve environmental justice.	DHS, DOT, USDA, EPA, HUD, GSA Interior, DOE, HHS, NPS	*Every Other Month*
Regional IWG	EPA Marsha Minter (Minter.Marsha@epa.gov) HUD Joey Baietti (Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov)	Provides targeted and coordinated technical assistance, develops relationships between federal field and regional staff, and develops best practices for prioritizing EJ concerns. Develops community resource materials. Strengthens education, training, and/or engagement on EJ among local and state agencies.	HHS, GSA, USDA, DOJ, DOI	*1st & 3rd Thursday @ 1pm*

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\GENCY WORKING GROUP on ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (IWG) COMMITTEE ROSTER
October 2016

EJ IWG Program Director: Marsha Minter (202) 566-0215

EJ IWG Program Coordinator: Jeanine Finley (202) 566-2195

STANDING COMMITTEE (Permanent)	**COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN/CO-CHAIRMAN**	**PURPOSE**	**AGENCY REPS**	***MEETING SCHEDULE***
Public Participation	DOJ Cynthia Ferguson (Cynthia.Ferguson@usdoj.gov) EPA Marsha Minter (Minter.Marsha@epa.gov)	Increases transparency, language accessible outreach and addresses technological barriers. Develops listening sessions and opportunities for public input. Facilitates collaboration and public participation with federal agencies and external stakeholders. Utilizes traditional means of communication and social media to build participation, Helps coordinate responses to public input.	GSA, DHS, DOI	*2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ 10:30am*
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	DOE Denise Freeman (Denise.Freeman@hq.doe.gov) DOJ Cindy Huber (Cynthia.Huber@usdoj.gov) USDA	Improves effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice principles in the NEPA process by sharing promising practices and lessons learned developed by federal departments and agencies.	GSA, DHS, DOI	*4th Mondays @ 3:00pm*

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EJ IWG Program Director: Marsha Minter (202) 566-0215

EJ IWG Program Coordinator: Jeanine Finley (202) 566-2195

STANDING COMMITTEE (Permanent)	COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN/CO-CHAIRMAN	PURPOSE	AGENCY REPS	*MEETING SCHEDULE*
Impacts from Climate Change	EPA Valerie Zartarian (Zartarian.Valerie@epa.gov) HUD Christ Trent (Chris.B.Trent@hud.gov)	Supports collaboration Across federal agencies and with communities with EJ concerns around climate change-related issues including facilitating consideration of vulnerable populations in agency climate Adaptation activities; providing information, services, and data to help make communities more resilient; providing relevant tools, systems, and policies to communities and businesses to mitigate impacts on natural resources and human health due to climate change; and ensuring two-way communication around climate-change related issues. Implements the	CEQ DOC/NOAA HHS USDA	*1st and 3rd Thursdays @ 11am*

	EJ IWG Program Director: Marsha Minter (202) 566-0215 EJ IWG Program Coordinator: Jeanine Finley (202) 566-2195	Educate, Motivate and Innovate (EMI) Project.		

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To: Neal-Reeves, Sonya - NRCS, Washington, DC[sonya.neal-reeves@wdc.usda.gov]; Baietti, Joseph A[Joseph.A.Baietti@hud.gov]; Finley, Jeanine[finley.jeanine@epa.gov]; Whitlock, Siobhan[Whitlock.Siobhan@epa.gov]
Bcc: OER line 3_7080986[OERline3_7080986@hud.gov]

;;;;;
;;;;;
Hi--Here's the webinar description and the speakers should address: 1) Current work, 2) How they became involved, 3) How to engage other youth

Webinar No. 10:

A Seat at the Table: Young People Working Together for Environmental Justice (draft title)

Date: 9/14/2017

Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern

Description:

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) recognizes the key role that young adults play in bringing awareness to environmental and public health impacts. Young people are ready to lead by offering innovative perspectives on environmental justice challenges that incorporate social mobility, infrastructure development and economic revitalization. It is essential that youth have a seat at the table and help inform the hard decisions impacting communities today. The EJ IWG wants to increase awareness about youth driven projects across the country providing better support to communities, especially in minority, low-income, rural, indigenous and tribal communities.

Join this webinar to hear from *xx* emerging young adult environmental champions that are developing holistic approaches to challenging problems. Learn more about effectively engaging and working collaboratively with youth on disaster preparedness, urban and environmental planning among other issues. Explore how their organizations are working to leverage resources to support local communities and improve technical assistance.

Here are the PROPOSED speakers:

- Eriqah R. K. Vincent, National EcoLeaders Coordinator (NEJAC Youth Workgroup member)

eforeman817@gmail.com

Eriqah R. K. Vincent is a 2010 departmental honors graduate of Spelman College, with a B.A. in Comparative Women's Studies. She currently works for National Wildlife Federation as the National EcoLeaders Coordinator. She is a Youth and Young Professional Speaker with the Diverse Environmental Leaders National Speakers Bureau. After discovering her passion working as an advocate in the environmental movement, Eriqah will enroll in grad school this fall to begin working towards a Master's of Public Policy with a Concentration in Non-Profit Management.

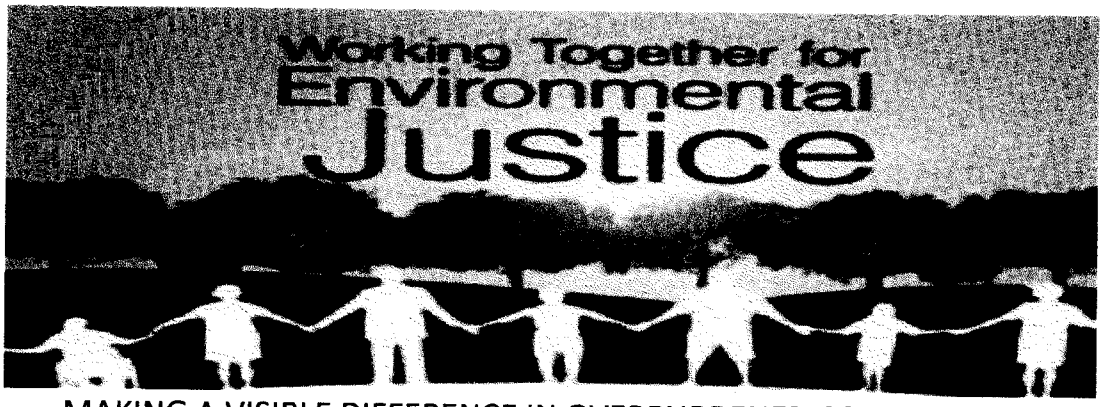
- Carol E. Ramos-Gerena (2017 EMI student)

Urban and Environmental Planning, University of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras Campus

carol.ramos1@upr.edu

Working on "Community Food Security in Underused Spaces in Urban Public Housing in Puerto Rico"

- VISTA STUDENT (TBD/Cheryl Kelly)



MAKING A VISIBLE DIFFERENCE IN OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES

DRAFT (3-22-16)
Rural Communities
EJ IWG Focus Area
CHARTER (2015-2018)

Chairpersons:

The Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group (EJ IWG) Rural Communities Focus Area Network will be co-chaired by the following Federal agencies:

1) Department of Agriculture – Mike Martinez, Arthur Blazer, Caitlin Gregg
2) US Environmental Protection Agency – Suzi Ruhl, Marsha Minter

Role/Time Commitment of Agency Representative:

Each agency representative will be expected to participate fully in the meetings and discussions of the committee, share information on agency perspectives, experiences, policies, programs, and activities pertinent to the work and priorities of the committee.

Authority:

Executive Order 12898, "*Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*" ("Order"), issued February 11, 1994, requires each agency that is covered by the Order to "make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." Sec. 1-101

In 2011, seventeen Federal agencies signed the *Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice and Executive Order 12898* (MOU). The MOU:

1) declared the continued importance of identifying and addressing environmental justice considerations in agency programs, policies, and activities as provided in Executive Order 12898, including as to agencies not already covered by the Order;
2) renewed the process under Executive Order 12898 for agencies to provide environmental justice strategies and implementation progress reports;
3) established structures and procedures to ensure that the Interagency Working Group operates effectively and efficiently; and
4) identified particular areas of focus to be included in agency environmental justice efforts.

Through the MOU, the EJ IWG adopted the *Charter for Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice* ("Charter"). The Charter states that the "**Interagency Working Group will create standing and select committees to help carry out its responsibilities under the Executive Order**. The members of the committees will consist of Senior Leadership Representatives, Senior Staff Representatives, and other persons put forth by an agency. The **Interagency Working Group will create, revise, or terminate Select Committees as appropriate**." *Charter*, Para. 10. (emphasis added)

Purpose

Supports efforts to: ensure equity, and collaboration between federal agencies and rural environmental justice communities, develop economic opportunities so rural overburdened communities are self-sustaining and economically thriving, and coordinate federal agency investments to further holistic community-based solutions that reduce environmental justice issues.

Pillars

1. **Capacity Building:**
    a. Grant writing capacity
2. **Economic Development**
    a. Capital agency coordination – Treasury, HUD, SBA, Commerce, RD
    b. Clean Sector Jobs
3. **Youth**
    a. CUPP
4. **Human Health**
    a. Access to Heath Care
    b. Health Care Delivery
    c. Health Policy
    d. Health Equity

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   e. Nutrition and Food Security
   f. Exposure to indoor contaminants: lead, radiation, radon, ...
5. **Environment**
   a. Pollution
   b. Exposure to Contaminants
   c. Built Environment/Infrastructure
   d. Quality of Life

Potential Focus Activities:

Assessment:

1. Promising Practices and Lessons Learned[1] – Existing Federal agencies' policies for addressing the environmental justice interests of federally recognized tribes and other indigenous peoples will be identified, collected, reviewed, and discussed among the agencies to identify promising practices/lessons learned and share technical resources. The Committee will review the history and process used by agencies to develop their policies, and identify principles in the policies that are either already being implemented by Federal agencies or may be considered for implementation.
2. Develop Web-based Rural EJ Resource Collection.
3. Document existing regional and community service networks
4. Describe sectors where federal rural work is already underway, and EJ can be added (identify the Rural/EJ Nexus).
5. Build out comprehensive list of prior and existing efforts for inclusion in this document or appendices.
6. Sharing of success stories/lessons learned/promising practices Committee Rural Resources Guide – similar to IWG's program guide listing programs that serve EJ communities, each participating member of this committee should outline the programs that serve rural communities and provide a companion program guide for the communities we serve and participating partners.
7.

Collaboration:

8. Addressing Specific EJ Issues – The Committee will facilitate collaborative and coordinated Federal interagency efforts to address, as appropriate, EJ issues raised during-EJ IWG listening sessions held in 2012 – 2014.

[1] This supports implementation of the Order Sec. 102-1 (b) (2) "coordinate with, provide guidance to, and serve as a clearinghouse for, each Federal agency as it develops an environmental justice strategy as required by section 1-103 of this order, in order to ensure that the administration, interpretation and enforcement of programs, activities and policies are undertaken in a consistent manner."

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9. Cross-Cutting Issues – Grant Writing (USDA OAO/NIFA), Youth Issues, IWG
10. Other Opportunities – The Committee will discuss other opportunities for greater coordination and collaboration among Federal agencies for addressing and identifying environmental justice issues affecting Rural Communities.
11. Develop model policies and procedures for youth employment projects using federal funding.

Outreach:

12. Training – The Committee will identify and pursue opportunities for cross-agency and external training on: applying for federal grants, train the trainers, ...
13. Public Meetings – The Committee may hold public meetings as appropriate to further the mission of the EJ IWG. *See* Order Sec. 5-5(d).
14. Communications and Outreach – The Committee will explore existing and new mechanisms to communicate with rural communities and Tribal Governments to educate and inform them on agency activities and resources and to enlist their input on community issues and needs.
15. Launch Rural EJ Resource Collection.
16. RHP Grantee webinar for radiation exposure
17. Webinar Series – resources, capacity building,
18. Sharing of success stories/lessons learned/promising practices Committee Rural Resources Guide – similar to IWG's program guide listing programs that serve EJ communities, each participating member of this committee should outline the programs that serve rural communities and provide a companion program guide for the communities we serve and participating partners.

Policy:

On the Ground Projects

19. brownfields

Tribal:

Deliverables/Products:

Actions:

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1. Develop Strategic Work Plan
2. Consider incremental steps
3. Place Based- (i.e. Puerto Rico, Indian Country, Colonias, Alaska, Pine Ridge, Promise Zones)
4. Execute on enduring priorities
5.

Outcomes

6. Strong partnerships and collaboration
7. Outcomes that are measurable and quantifiable
8. Agency reports on contracts, grants and loans
9. # of jobs created
10. # of partnerships
11. Health metrics
12. Environmental metrics
13. Addresses end-user input
14. Cross-agency synergies

Measures: (How will success be measured?)

Success will be measured as follows:

1. Participation level of the Committee members in the meetings
2. Development and implementation of Committee projects and activities, as identified in the Committee's Annual Work Plan
3. Feedback from capacity-building partners.
4. What does success look like after 1 year/2years/3 years?
5. ST/LT outcomes

Meeting Schedule:

The Committee will meet at least monthly, but may meet more frequently as needed.

IWG Reporting: (How the committee reports out to EJ IWG)

The Committee will provide an oral report on the progress of the Committee quarterly, and provide additional periodic reports to the EJ IWG as requested by the chairperson of the EJ IWG. In December of each year, the Committee will also provide the chairperson of the EJ IWG with a written end-of-year summary of the status of the Committee.

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Appendix I - Existing/Proposed Agency Representatives:

Each Federal agency listed below will designate at least one representative to serve on the Committee. The role of the agency representative will include conveying input from the agency's leadership to the Committee.

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1. Department of Agriculture – ● OGC - Caitlin Gregg (Caitlin.Gregg@ogc.usda.gov); ● *NRCS* - Jackie Davis-Slay (Jacqueline.Davis-Slay@wdc.usda.gov); ● *RD* - Gary Bojes (Gary.Bojes@wdc.usda.gov); Meghan Walsh Meghan.Walsh@wdc.usda.gov ; Irene Langan_ Irene.Langan@wdc.usda.gov ; ● *FSA:*● J. Latrice Hill (Latrice.hill@wdc.usda.gov) ● Katina Hanson – DAFP (Katina.hanson@wdc.usda.gov)● Carl Butler (Carl.butler@wdc.usda.gov) ● Russ Clanton (Russ.clanton@wdc.usda.gov) ● Cynthia Cuellar (Cynthia.cuellar@wdc.usda.gov); ●*OAO* – Kenya Nicholas, (Kenya.Nicholas@osec.usda.gov); ● *ERS* - Robert Gibbs, (RGIBBS@ers.usda.gov); ● *ARS/NAL* Louise Reynnells (Louise.Reynnells@ARS.USDA.GOV); ● USFS - Tasha LoPorto (tloporto@fs.fed.us) ● Joanna Mounce Stancil (joannastancil@fs.fed.us); ● NIFA - Tim Grosser (TGROSSER@nifa.usda.gov), ● Brent Elrod (belrod@nifa.usda.gov) ●FNS – Tameka Owens, tameka.owens@fns.usda.gov
2. Department of Commerce – Linda Belton (linda.belton@noaa.gov)
    a. Minority Business Development Agency -
    b. Economic Development Administration -
3. Department of Defense – *try Office of Economic Adjustment*
4. Department of Education – Andrea Falken (Andrea.Falken@ed.gov)
5. Department of Energy – Douglas MacCourt (douglas.maccourt@hq.doe.gov), David Conrad (david.conrad@hq.doe.gov)
6. Department of Health and Human Services – HRSA/ACF, Allison Hutchings (AHutchings@hrsa.gov), Katherine Lloyd (KLloyd@hrsa.gov)
7. Department of Homeland Security/FEMA –
8. Department of Housing and Urban Development –
9. Department of the Interior – Kim Lambert (kim_lambert@fws.org)
10. Department of Justice –ENRD; Cynthia Ferguson (cynthia.ferguson@usdoj.gov)
11. Department of Labor –
12. Department of State –
13. Department of Transportation –
14. Environmental Protection Agency –Deanne Grant (Grant.Deanne@epa.gov); Michael Burns (Burns.Michael@epa.gov) ; Suzi Ruhl (ruhl.suzi@epa.gov); Marsha Minter (minter.marsha@epa.gov)
15.
16. GSA – Christy Jackiewicz (Christy.Jackiewicz@gsa.gov); Evelyn Britton (Evelyn.Britton@gsa.gov); Dewayne Harley (Dewayne.Harley@gsa.gov)
17. White House Domestic Policy Council –
18. White House Rural Council –
19. Small Business Administration –
20. Department of Treasury
21. Federal Reserve
22. Americorps/Vista

Appendix II - Existing Federal Interagency Agency Workgroups/Taskforces:

Capacity Building:

The following Federal interagency work groups and committees exist:

- Among the existing initiatives and partnerships (May 2014)
    - Rural Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge,
    - Stronger Communities Together Initiative
    - Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership,

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- StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity, and
- Promise Zones.

Deputy Under Secretary for **USDA Rural Development** Doug O'Brien "talked about how each of these efforts – which involved collaboration among agencies or among agencies and private or public organizations – have helped leverage resources more effectively and led to capacity building, infrastructure and technology development, and increased economic activity and job growth." http://sustainableagriculture.net/blog/regional-rural-dev-hearing/

- **WH Rural Council** - To address challenges in Rural America, build on the Administration's rural economic strategy, and improve the implementation of that strategy, the President signed an Executive Order establishing the White House Rural Council: https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/rural-council

- **Rural Infrastructure Opportunity Fund.** The U.S. Rural Infrastructure Opportunity Fund represents a new approach to catalyzing private investment in infrastructure projects in rural America. CoBank, a national cooperative bank serving rural America and a member of the Farm Credit System, is the fund's anchor investor, committing $10 billion to get the fund off the ground. Capitol Peak Asset Management will manage the new fund and work to recruit more investors to add to CoBank's initial commitment. The Rural Infrastructure Opportunity Fund will allow America's rural economy to continue its forward momentum by enhancing access to capital for rural infrastructure projects and speeding up the process of rural infrastructure improvements. https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/fact_sheet_increasing_investment_rural_america.pdf

- **The College/Underserved Community Partnership Program (CUPP)** provides a creative approach to partnering and delivering technical assistance to small underserved communities from local colleges and universities at no cost to the communities. By leveraging existing EPA partnerships with colleges and universities, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, the program combines environmental justice concerns and mission related objectives of multiple agencies with core curriculum objectives of local colleges and universities.

  Communities benefit from the investment of innovative technical assistance and approaches provided by top students attending academic institutions in the southeast. Students benefit by utilizing their learned curriculum to gain practical experience that can served as a resume builder, while earning course credit (s) through their academic

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institution. Federal agencies benefit from the interagency collaboration by seeing an improvement in the effective and efficient use of resources. http://www2.epa.gov/communityhealth/collegeunderserved-community-partnership-program

- **USDA StrikeForce Initiative** – In 2010, Secretary Vilsack established USDA's StrikeForce Initiative for Rural Growth and Opportunity to address the specific challenges associated with rural poverty. Since then, StrikeForce teams have collaborated with more than 500 community partners and public entities across twenty states to bring targeted assistance to rural areas experiencing chronic poverty. StrikeForce efforts have helped direct over $16 billion in investments to create jobs, build homes, feed kids, assist farmers, and conserve natural resources in the country's most economically challenged areas. In 2015, StrikeForce expanded to include Oklahoma and Puerto Rico. Now, USDA StrikeForce teams operate in 880 counties in 21 states and Puerto Rico. http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=STRIKE_FORCE

Economic Development:

- **"Made in Rural America" Initiative.** Specifically, the President has instructed his Rural Council – in coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Small Business Administration, the Export-Import Bank, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and other agencies – to commit to connecting more rural businesses of all types to export information and assistance through a comprehensive strategy. The "Made In Rural America" export and investment initiative is charged with bringing together federal resources to help rural businesses and community leaders take advantage of new investment opportunities and access new customers and markets abroad. With more than 95 percent of the world's consumers living outside the United States, companies across the country are seizing the opportunity to make global sales. Ensuring that rural companies, including manufacturers and service providers, can capitalize on international opportunities to grow their business is key to advancing economic growth in rural areas – and a strong rural economy is essential to our nation's overall economic health. http://business.usa.gov/rural-exporting#

  http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2014/02/0019.xml&navid=NEWS_RELEASE&navtype=RT&parentnav=LATEST_RELEASES&edeployment_action=retrievecontent

- **Biomass Research and Development Initiative** The Department of Agriculture and the Energy Department will make up to $8.7 million available through BRDI in fiscal year 2015. Collaboration between the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department

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of Agriculture on a Biomass Research and Development Initiative (Initiative) is directed under various statutory authorities, primarily the *Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (FCEA)* and the *Energy Policy Act of 2005*. The technical areas the Initiative is legislatively directed to address are feedstocks development; biofuels and biobased products development; and biofuels development analysis.

- **Local Foods, Local Places** helps communities create walkable, healthy, economically vibrant neighborhoods through the development of local food systems. The program is supported by EPA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the Delta Regional Authority (DRA), and the White House Rural Council. http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places

- The Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2) initiative, first announced in July 2011, seeks to strengthen neighborhoods, towns, cities, and regions around the country by enhancing the capacity of local governments to develop and execute their economic vision and strategies, providing necessary technical assistance and access to federal agency expertise, and creating new public and private sector partnerships. http://www.eda.gov/challenges/sc2challenge/index.htm

- **Power Initiative**: Communities and regions that have been negatively impacted by changes in the coal economy -- including mining, coal fired power plants and related transportation, logistics and manufacturing supply chains -- can apply for resources to help strengthen their economies and workforces. Funds are available for a range of activities, including:
  - Developing projects that diversify local and regional economies, create jobs in new and/or existing industries, attract new sources of job-creating investment and provide a range of workforce services and skills training;
  - Building partnerships to attract and invest in the economic future of coal-impacted communities;
  - Increasing capacity and other technical assistance fostering long term economic growth and opportunity in coal-impacted communities.

  https://www.eda.gov/power/

- **Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership** (IMCP) program is an initiative designed to revolutionize the way federal agencies leverage economic development funds. It encourages communities to develop comprehensive economic development strategies that will strengthen their competitive edge for attracting global manufacturer and supply chain investments. Through IMCP, the federal government is rewarding best

practices – coordinating federal aid to support communities' strong development plans and synchronizing grant programs across multiple departments and agencies. Non-designated communities nationwide can learn from the best practices employed by these designated communities to strengthen American manufacturing.

Youth:

- Community Underserved Partnership Program **(CUPP)** USDA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency today formalized a cooperative relationship for environmental justice and community development. "This partnership helps under-served communities access resources for addressing important issues to improve their long term viability," said Georgia USDA Rural Development Director, Quinton Robinson. 01/14/2015 http://www.rd.usda.gov/newsroom/news-release/usda-epa-and-community-colleges-partner-positive-impact-address-persistent

- **Generation Indigenous Native Youth Challenge**: The Generation Indigenous Native Youth Challenge invites Native youth and organizations across the country to become a part of the Administration's Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) initiative by joining the National Native Youth Network — a White House effort in partnership with the Aspen Institute's Center for Native American Youth and the U.S. Department of the Interior. https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/02/12/white-house-launches-generation-indigenous-native-youth-challenge

- **My Brother's Keeper Initiative:** The MBK Community Challenge encourages communities (cities, rural municipalities, and tribal nations) to implement a coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young people to ensure that they can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born. Nearly 200 mayors, tribal leaders, and county executives across 43 states and the District of Columbia have accepted the MBK Community Challenge. https://www.whitehouse.gov/my-brothers-keeper

- **WH Rural Impact initiative on Children and Poverty** - Rural Impact is a new effort from the White House Rural Council to address the challenge of rural child poverty by bringing together federal agencies and public and private resources. https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/04/13/opportunity-all-white-house-rural-council-launches-rural-impact-effort-help-rural-ch

- **Rural Impact County Challenge.** Recognizing the critical role local officials play in the lives of rural families and leveraging their ability to innovate, the White House Rural Council and the National Association of Counties have come together to issue the Rural Impact County Challenge to advance counties' efforts to reduce the number of rural

children and families living in poverty. This national initiative challenges local leaders to pass county resolutions identifying rural child poverty as a priority, and develop or refine an actionable plan that can be used to deliver impact for high-need rural children and families. https://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2016/02/23/working-hand-hand-county-leaders-build-brighter-future-rural-kids-and-families-0?platform=hootsuite

- **21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC)**
  The 21CSC is a national effort to put America's youth and veterans to work, protecting, restoring and enhancing America's great outdoors. The 21CSC grew out of the President's America's Great Outdoors initiative, recognizing the need for job opportunities for youth and returning veterans, for restoration of our natural resources, to connect Americans to the country's lands and waters, to effectively recruit the next generation of public employees, and to develop the next generation of conservation stewards. To learn more about the initiative and to become a 21CSC member organization, please see the Federal Register Notice from July 1, 2013. In addition, the Employment and Training Administration released Training and Employment Notices and conducted a webinar related to Partnering to Create or Expand Summer Youth Employment Opportunities on Public Lands.

- **Allied Health Access (AHA) Guidebook: How to Develop Programs for Youth in Allied Health Careers**
  The health care industry as a whole and especially the allied health care sector has great promise for employing youth and young adults. To learn about strategies and resources to create or expand programs and services leading to allied health opportunities for youth and young adults, see The Employment and Training Administration's (ETA's) Allied Health Access (AHA) Guidebook: How to Develop Programs for Youth in Allied Health Careers at: http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/attach/TEN/ten2010/ten10-10a1.pdf. Understanding more about specific occupations in allied health is a first step in determining what the opportunities are in the field. ETA developed a podcast series, available at https://www.workforce3one.org/view/1001126246478856468/info , to provide practical information about allied health occupations in order to assist both young adults and workforce staff in developing a career plan.

- **Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC)**
  The FLEC was established by Congress in 2003 and is comprised of representatives of more than 20 federal agencies. It is chaired by the Secretary of the Treasury and the vice chair is the Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. One of FLEC's primary responsibilities is to coordinate the work of the federal government to promote financial literacy and education for all Americans. The FLEC has selected a strategic focus on "Starting Early for Financial Success," for the coming years, based on recognition of the importance of establishing good financial knowledge and behaviors early in life for achieving long-term personal financial well-being and the overall economic health of the nation.

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- **Federal Partners in Transition (FPT) Workgroup**
  First formed in June 2005, the Federal Partners in Transition is a workgroup, led by senior federal officials, with representatives of several federal agencies, including Departments of Labor, Education, Health and Human Services, and the Social Security Administration, involved in transition of youth with disabilities from school into post-secondary education, work, and independent living.

- **Interagency Forum on Disconnected Youth**
  Across the U.S., there are approximately 6.7 million disconnected youth - young people ages 14-24 who are homeless, in foster care, involved in the justice system, or are out of school or out of work. The Interagency Forum on Disconnected Youth (IFDY), comprised of agencies from across the Federal Government including the Department of Labor, was established in March 2012 to improve educational, employment and other key outcomes for this population through interagency collaboration. In June 2012, the IFDY issued a Request for Information (RFI) on Disconnected Youth to gather information on strategies to improve services for disconnected youth. The IFDY is using the responses to the RFI as well as feedback from key stakeholders to assess how the Federal Government can best support states and localities in serving disconnected youth.

- **The Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs (IWGYP)**
  The IWGYP workgroup is composed of representatives from 18 federal agencies that support programs and services focusing on youth. The IWGYP promotes the goal of positive, healthy outcomes for youth in four significant ways: Create and Support FindYouthInfo.gov; Create and Support YE4C.gov; Identify and Disseminate Promising and Effective Strategies; and Promote Enhanced Collaboration.

- **Office of Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council**
  Reintegration of Ex-Offender staff in the Division of Youth Services have worked closely with staff at Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to develop a letter encouraging Administrative Judges in each jurisdiction; the Executive Director of each State's Juvenile Justice agency; each State's Juvenile Justice Specialist, the State Advisory Group and the State Advisory Chair encouraging local support for the Civic Justice Corp (CJC) projects and assistance in the referral of potential participants to the CJC program. Additionally, OJJDP staff participated in the Department of Labor-sponsored CJC kick-off meeting to be hosted at DOL in Washington DC.

- **Federal Interagency Reentry Council**
  This council is chaired by Attorney General Eric Holder. The mission of the Council is to: make communities safer by reducing recidivism and victimization, assist those returning from prisons and jails in becoming productive citizens, and save taxpayer dollars by lowering the direct and collateral costs of incarceration. The U.S. Department of OL has been an active member since the implementation of this coordinating body. DOL staff are members of the employment barriers, women and reentry, juvenile reentry, grants

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management subcommittees.

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- Green Ribbon Schools
- Greenstrides.org

Coordination:

- **Strengthening Statistics Through the Interagency Council on Agricultural & Rural Statistics** The Biofuels Data Sources matrix provides access to selected sources of economic data on biofuels from the U.S. Government. Data come from the Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of Energy (DOE), Census Bureau, International Trade Commission, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The matrix contains a compendium of market data on supply, use, price, and other data related to biofuels, biofuel feedstocks, and petroleum products. http://www.ers.usda.gov/about-ers/strengthening-statistics-through-the-interagency-council-on-agricultural-rural-statistics/biofuels-data-sources.aspx

Human Health:

- **Better Data to Improve Behavioral Health** 03/03/2015 Some communities and populations are harder to reach than others when conducting surveys. In a collaborative spirit, SAMHSA formed an Interagency Agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to expand and connect more effectively with people across the United States. The two federal agencies are building upon existing networks with regional, state, and local public service organizations supported by USDA to develop a better understanding of key factors involved in collecting and reporting behavioral health care data in rural communities. The program, known as Community Assessment and Education to Promote Behavioral Health Planning and Evaluation (CAPE), also works with communities to better identify local behavioral health issues. HHS (SAMHSA), USDA (NIFA) http://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2015/03/03/better-data-to-improve-behavioral-health/

- **U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness - Federal Resources for Rural Communities** The federal government is committed to providing resources and support to the 51 million Americans living in nonmetropolitan areas. We've compiled program information from four major Departments that have targeted programs for rural America. These resources have far-reaching goals and audiences, from those living on Tribal lands to Veterans. USDA, HUD (ONAP), VA, DOI (BIA), HHS (ORHP) http://usich.gov/issue/rural_homelessness/federal_resources_for_rural_communities/

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- **Zero Food Waste Initiative** - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy announced the United States' first-ever national food waste reduction goal, calling for a 50-percent reduction by 2030. As part of the effort, the federal government will lead a new partnership with charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, the private sector and local, state and tribal governments to reduce food loss and waste in order to improve overall food security and conserve our nation's natural resources. The announcement occurs just one week before world leaders gather at the United Nations General Assembly in New York to address sustainable development practices, including sustainable production and consumption. http://www.usda.gov/oce/foodwaste/

- Feds Feed Families - Launched in 2009 as part of President Obama's *United We Serve* campaign, Feds Feed Families was designed to help food banks and pantries stay stocked during summer months when they traditionally see a decrease in donations and an increase in need. In Washington, D.C., the Capital Area Food Bank receives collections and distributes them through its network of more than 500 partner organizations. Through the amazing generosity of federal employees, since 2009 the food drive has collected **nearly 39 million pounds of food** for those in need. Last year alone, more than **14.8 million pounds** were donated and provided to food banks and pantries. Even as the economy grows stronger, there are still too many people struggling to put food on the table. http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=feds-feed-families

- **Local Foods, Local Places** helps people create walkable, healthy, economically vibrant neighborhoods through the development of local food systems. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), EPA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), and the Delta Regional Authority (DRA), with support from the White House Rural Council. Local Foods, Local Places aims to boost economic opportunities for local farmers and businesses, improve access to healthy local food, and promote childhood wellness. http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places

- In 2010, the Obama Administration announced the **Healthy Food Financing Initiative** (HFFI), which brings grocery stores and other healthy food retailers to underserved urban and rural communities across America. Residents of these communities, which are sometimes called "food deserts," typically rely on fast food restaurants and convenience stores that offer little or no fresh food. Through programs at the U.S. Departments of Agriculture (USDA), Treasury and Health and Human Services (HHS), HFFI is an over $400 million initiative that expands access to nutritious food in these communities through efforts such as developing and equipping grocery stores, small retailers, corner stores and farmers markets selling healthy food.

  http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/programs/community-economic-development/healthy-food-financing

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Environmental Justice:

- EJ IWG - The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) was established in 1994 under Executive Order (EO) 12898 PDF. The role of the EJ IWG is to guide, support and enhance federal environmental justice and community-based activities. The EJ IWG is comprised of 17 federal agencies and White House offices. http://www3.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/interagency/index.html

- IJ IWG NEPA Committee –

- EPA Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee (FRRCC) http://www2.epa.gov/faca/frrcc#main-content

- **White House Legal Aid Interagency Roundtable** - Federal programs that are designed to help the most vulnerable and underserved among us may more readily achieve their goals if they include legal aid among the range of services they provide.

  By encouraging Federal departments and agencies to collaborate, share best practices, and consider the impact of legal services on the success of their programs, the Federal Government can enhance access to justice in our communities. The LAIR shall work across executive departments, agencies, and offices to:

  (i) improve coordination among Federal programs that help the vulnerable and underserved, so that those programs are more efficient and produce better outcomes by including, where appropriate, legal services among the range of supportive services provided;
  (ii) increase the availability of meaningful access to justice for individuals and families, regardless of wealth or status;
  (iii) develop policy recommendations that improve access to justice in Federal, State, local, tribal, and international jurisdictions;
  (iv) assist the United States with implementation of Goal 16 of the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and
  (v) advance relevant evidence-based research, data collection, and analysis of civil legal aid and indigent defense, and promulgate best practices to support the activities detailed in section 4(a)(i)-(iv).

  https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/09/24/presidential-memorandum-establishment-white-house-legal-aid-interagency

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Environmental Health:

- Brownfields to Healthfields - The number of communities that conduct health pilot

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activities at brownfield and land reuse sites is low, mostly because communities do not understand what types of activities EPA, health departments, or ATSDR can conduct. To help communities learn more about how EPA, health departments, or ATSDR can helphttp://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/brownfields/overview.html

- Assistance to Climate Action Champions for Leadership on Climate Change - the Administration also announced new resilience funding opportunities available to local communities across the country, including those designated as Climate Action Champions https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/12/03/fact-sheet-16-us-communities-recognized-climate-action-champions-leaders
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Appendix III - Background (past efforts, community interest, etc.):

Capacity Building:

- **Empowerment Zone (EZ), Enterprise Community (EC) , and Renewal Community (RC) Initiatives** Introduced **in 1993**, the Empowerment Zone (EZ), Enterprise Community (EC) , and Renewal Community (RC) Initiatives sought to reduce unemployment and generate economic growth through the designation of Federal tax incentives and award of grants to distressed communities. Local and State governments and Tribal nations interested in participating in this program were required to present comprehensive plans that included the following principles:
    - Strategic Visions for Change,
    - Community-Based Partnerships,
    - Economic Opportunities, and
    - Sustainable Community Development.

  Communities selected to participate in this program embraced these principles and led projects that promoted economic development in their distressed communities.

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/economic development/programs/rc

- **Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones** - USDA sponsored pilot for rural revitalization and community development in REAP Zones. The REAP Initiative was established to address critical issues related to constraints in economic activity and growth, low density settlement patterns, stagnant or declining employment, and isolation that has led to disconnection from markets, suppliers, and centers of information and finance. The REAP Zones were extended through **September 2012.** http://www.occ.gov/topics/community-affairs/resource-directories/rural-economic-development/index-rural-economic-development.html

- **National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP)** is a national initiative administered by USDA which uses state collaborative to bring together key rural players in their states to address critical rural community concerns. The NRDP highlights effective strategies for rural community and economic development and also maintains a web clearinghouse on rural development. What is today referred to as the National Rural Development Partnership was first called, in **1990,** the President's Initiative on Rural America. In 2009, there were 28 federally recognized SRDCs. http://www.rd.usda.gov/files/USDARD-NRDP.pdf

Environmental Health:

- **American Heritage Rivers** - The American Heritage Rivers Protection Program initially was created by an Executive Order, Number 13061, signed by President Bill Clinton on September 11, 1997. **14 Rivers were chosen July 1998.** http://clinton2.nara.gov/CEQ/Rivers/ Establishment of an Interagency Committee. There is hereby established the American Heritage Rivers Interagency Committee (``Committee''). The Committee shall have two co-chairs. (a) The Committee shall be composed of the following members or their designees at the Assistant Secretary level or equivalent: (1) The Secretary of Defense; (2) The Attorney General; (3) The Secretary of the Interior; (4) The Secretary of Agriculture; (5) The Secretary of Commerce; (6) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; (7) The Secretary of Transportation; (8) The Secretary of Energy; (9) The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; (10) The Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; (11) The Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts; and (12) The Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Humanities. http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-1998-title3-vol1/html/CFR-1998-title3-vol1-eo13061.htm

Youth:

- **USDA and Education Host White House Rural Council Meeting, Sign Interagency Agreement to Promote Career Pathways and Postsecondary Education** (APRIL 18,

2012) The U.S. Departments of Education and Agriculture have teamed up to enhance agricultural education and related programs that promote postsecondary and career pathways, including teaching, according to an interagency agreement to advance agricultural education. U.S. Education and Agriculture Secretaries Arne Duncan and Tom Vilsack announced the agreement

- "Agricultural education is central to the future of American prosperity," Secretary Duncan said. "Many Americans may not realize that agriculture supports 1 in 12 jobs across the nation. For the U.S. economy to continue to rebound and grow, agriculture has to help lead the way."
- The agreement calls for the Departments to exchange a variety of information and participate in joint activities, including webinars, conferences, outreach materials, and helping each other identify industry-validated standards, assessments, best practices, accreditations, and certifications.
- The Departments also will work jointly to find and use pathways and career programs of study that can prepare students for rewarding careers related to agriculture, food and natural resources.
- http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/usda-and-education-host-white-house-rural-council-meeting-sign-interagency-agreement-promote-career-pathways-and-postsecondary-education

Energy Efficiency:

- **Recovery through Retrofit** In May 2009 Vice President Biden charged the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) with developing a proposal for Federal Action that will grow green job opportunities and boost energy savings by retrofitting homes for energy efficiency • In response, CEQ has facilitated an interagency process to develop a report with recommendations with specific Federal actions addressing barriers to the development of a national-scale home retrofit market • The CEQ RTR Team is comprised of multiple Federal Agencies including Energy, Agriculture, Labor, Housing, EPA and others http://www.waptac.org/data/files/Website_Docs/events/conferences/2011-DOE-National-Conference/Wednesday/W38-Federal-Partnerships-Inter-Agency-Efforts-Moore.pdf

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Appendix IV - Definition of Rural

USDA

- 2008 Farm Bill – Section 6018(a)(13)
  - (A) – In General – "the terms 'rural' and 'rural area' mean any area other than— '(i) a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants; And '(ii) any urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town described in clause (i)."
  - (B) – Water and waste disposal grants and direct guaranteed loans – "the terms 'rural' and 'rural area' mean a city, town, or unincorporated area that has a population of no more than 10,000 inhabitants."
  - (C) – Community Facility Loans and Grants – "the terms 'rural' and 'rural area' mean any area other than a city, town, or unincorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants."
- 2008 – Section 6018(a)(13)(D, E) – Exceptions to above default rule
  - Two categories – Statutory language limits exclusion of:
    - Whole municipalities when there are areas that appear as narrow "strings" of development at the outskirts of urbanized areas, often extending along

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highways

- "Secretary shall exclude any cluster of census blocks that would otherwise be considered not in a rural area only because the cluster is adjacent to not more than 2 census blocks that are otherwise considered not in a rural area under this paragraph"
- Plain speak = Once a string of development narrows to the point that it is only two census blocks wide, the string should be "snipped", allowing areas beyond it to be considered eligible for business development programs

- Areas that remain "rural in character" – 6018(a)(13)(D)(i)
  - I – An area that has 2 points on its boundary that are at least 40 miles apart and is not contiguous or adjacent to a city or town that has a population of greater than 150,000 inhabitants
  - II – Notwithstanding any of the description of the above, the Under Secretary has discretion to label an area as rural if the Secretary determines it is rural in character
  - Plain speak = Congress recognized there might be limited instances in which pockets of rurality exist within a municipality that otherwise would be excluded (adjacent to a city of greater than 50,000) – two fact patterns:
    - Large urbanized areas that could encompass multiple municipalities, but is not proximate to any city larger than 150,000 total population
    - Places within an urbanized area that are within one-quarter mile of an eligible rural area\
  - Decision made solely by Under Secretary for Rural Development who is expressly precluded from delegating the matter to anyone else

- Housing Act of 1949 – Also dealt with rural in character
  - Programs authorized by Title V are available in any town, village, city, place that is not part of or associated with an urban area and:
    - Is rural in character with a population of less than 10,000 or
    - Is not contained within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and has a serious lack of mortgage credit with a population between 10,000-20,000
  - "Grandfather" clause allows communities with populations between 10,000-25,000 to remain eligible after becoming part of an MSA if they are still "rural in character"
    - Definition of rural in character = Determined by the respective state director for Rural Development (as opposed to Under Secretary in the Farm Bill)
- Rural Electrification Act of 1936 – Section 13
  - Municipalities with a total population not more than 20,000
  - (3) – Rural area is:
    - (A) any area described in section 343(a)(13)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(C))
    - (B) any area within a service area of a borrower for which a borrower has an outstanding loan made under titles I through V as of the date of enactment of this paragraph.

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- Plain speak = Rural Electric Cooperatives which still had an outstanding loan with RUS at the time and had been eligible under the prior definition retained their eligibility – once rural, always rural.

- Map of rural areas: http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/rural-economy-population/rural-classifications/what-is-rural.aspx

USDA Economic Research Services

- Rural = nonmetropolitan counties that aren't part of large labor market areas (metropolitan areas) and include some combination of:
  - open countryside,
  - rural towns (places with fewer than 2,500 people), and
  - urban areas with populations ranging from 2,500 to 49,999
- Uses **RUCAs (rural-urban continuum codes)** to classify U.S. census tracts using measures of population density, urbanization, and daily commuting.
  - 0-3 = metropolitan, 4-9 = non-metropolitan (rural)
  - Essentially relies on how closely a community is linked to socio-economically larger urban centers
- http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-commuting-area-codes.aspx

US Census Bureau

- Census solely relies on population size and density when classifying areas as rural
- Two types of urban areas:
  - Urbanized Areas (UAs) of 50,000 or more people
  - Urban Clusters (UCs) of at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people.
    - Population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile AND surrounding census blocks w/ an overall density of at least 500 people per square mile
- Rural encompasses all population, housing, and territory not included within an urban area or urban cluster.
- http://www.census.gov/geo/reference/ua/urban-rural-2010.html

More On RUCAs:

- RUCAs are a census tract-based taxonomy that utilizes the standard Census Bureau urban area and place definitions in combination with work commuting data to characterize the nation's Census tracts regarding their rural and urban status and functional relationships
- Provides sub-county alternative
- Takes functional relationships, population, and population density into account
- Scheme allows better targeting
- Taxonomy is ongoing, multipurpose, objective, and rigorous

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

- Metropolitan Statistical Areas have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties.

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- In 2013, OMB defined metropolitan (metro) areas as broad labor-market areas that include:
  - Central counties with one or more urbanized areas; urbanized areas (described in the next section) are densely-settled urban entities with 50,000 or more people.
  - Outlying counties that are economically tied to the core counties as measured by labor-force commuting. Outlying counties are included if 25 percent of workers living in the county commute to the central counties, or if 25 percent of the employment in the county consists of workers coming out from the central counties—the so-called "reverse" commuting pattern.

- Micropolitan Statistical Areas have at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties.
  - Nonmetropolitan counties are outside the boundaries of metro areas and are further subdivided into two types:
    - Micropolitan (micro) areas, which are nonmetro labor-market areas centered on urban clusters of 10,000-49,999 persons and defined with the same criteria used to define metro areas.
    - All remaining counties, often labeled "noncore" counties because they are not part of "core-based" metro or micro areas;
- Map of metro and nonmetro areas: http://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/rural/maps/CBSA09.pdf (2009)
- Map from 2013 (for hospitals, but shows metro/nonmetro areas: http://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/rural/maps/CAH_063013.pdf

US Dep't of Veteran Affairs – Office of Rural Health

- Uses the RUCA system (developed by USDA and HHS)
  - http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes/documentation.aspx

Dep't of Education – National Center for Education Statistics

- Rural Locales:
  - Fringe = Census-defined rural territory that is less than or equal to 5 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is less than or equal to 2.5 miles from an urban cluster
  - Distance = Census-defined rural territory that is more than 5 miles but less than or equal to 25 miles from an urbanized area, as well as rural territory that is more than 2.5 miles but less than or equal to 10 miles from an urban cluster
  - Remote = Census-defined rural territory that is more than 25 miles from an urbanized area and is also more than 10 miles from an urban cluster
- Unlike the previous classification system that differentiated towns on the basis of population size, the urban-centric system differentiates towns and rural areas on the basis of their

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proximity to larger urban centers.
  - Dep't is focused on identifying rural schools in relatively remote areas vs those that may be located just outside an urban center

Dep't of Transportation

- Rural – "usually refers to areas with population less than 5,000"
- Rural Area – "Outside the limits of any incorporated or unincorporated city, town, village, or any other designated residential or commercial area such as a subdivision, a business or shopping center, or community development."
  - Include all areas of a state outside of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved adjusted census boundaries of small urban and urbanized areas.

EPA

- County is considered "rural" if:
  - It does not contain a metropolitan statistical area with a population greater than 250,000, and
  - The U.S. Census Bureau does not designate more than 50 percent of the population as "urban."

HHS – Office of Rural Health Policy (ORHP)

- Anything located outside of a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or in a rural census tract of a MSA
  - OMB determines MSA's
    - One city w/ population of 50,000 or more
    - Urbanized area (define by Census) w/ population of at least 50,000 and total MSA population of at least 100,000
  - Delineations -- http://www.census.gov/population/metro/data/def.html
  - Maps: https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/maps (each state or topic showing rural areas)

FORHP's definition of "rural" is adapted from the U.S. Census Bureau. Due to the fact that entire counties are designated as Metropolitan when, in fact, large parts of many counties may be rural in nature, FORHP sought an alternative method of looking at sub-county sections of these Metropolitan counties that would allow sections to be designated rural. The Goldsmith modification was originally developed and used to identify rural Census tracts in large Metropolitan counties.

- All non-metro counties
- All RUCA tracts 4-10 in metro counties
  - RUCA tracts 4-10: large town census tract; census tract strongly tied to large metro; census tract weakly tied to large town; small town census tract; census tract strongly tied to small town; census tract weakly tied to small town; isolated smaller rural census tract

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- Certain RUCA tracts (over 400 sq miles, fewer than 35 people per sq mile, and RUCA 2-3) in metro counties
    - RUCA tracts 2-3: census tract strongly tied to urban core, census tract weakly tied to urban core

Using FORHP's definition, around 57 million people live in rural areas covering approximately 84% of the land area of the United States.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) – Explains how the many different definitions of rural can lead to coverage of many parts of areas

- Uses definitions based on RUCAs to define rural areas within OMB Metropolitan or Non-metropolitan Counties. Therefore, because CMS and FORHP use different definitions of rural, *RHCs could be located in an area identified as rural by CMS and identified as non-rural by the FORHP.*
    - Another example of different definitions that may cause confusion are found in the eligibility requirements of programs sponsored by the USDA-Rural Development (USDA-RD). Their programs base eligibility on the total population of a city, town, or unincorporated area. Several programs have an eligibility limit of 50,000 people; however, there may be an additional restriction regarding proximity to a municipality greater than 50,000. Many of these programs are used for business development. The USDA-RD Community Facilities Loan and Grant program, a program that supports rural healthcare projects, uses a more restrictive definition of rural. The eligibility limit is a city, town, or an unincorporated area with a population that is 20,000 people or less. Other USDA-RD programs have an even greater restrictive definition that confines eligibility to those municipalities of 10,000 or less.
    - There may be many areas within this same "metropolitan" county that would be classified as rural by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FORHP) definition that uses a more site-specific census tract population within a county. These rural areas within a metropolitan county may be eligible for rural targeted programs. Large counties with great expanses of rural areas are frequently found in the Midwest and the Western portion of the United States.

Appendix V - What is Rural EJ (based on Team discussions)

- Outreach
- Inclusion
- Clean Power
- $37 Billion in Annual Investments for Rural Business, Utilities, Housing and Community Facilities
- Federal Technical and Financial Assistance
- Leveraging Resources
- Non-Discrimination
- Research
- Culturally Relevant Assistance and Information

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- Measuring Change
- Sustainable Federal Relationships
- Health Equity
- Quality of Life
- Sustainable Energy and Natural Resources Development
- Place-Based Projects
- Grants to Communities-in-Need
- Sustainable Capacity
- Civil Rights Enforcement
- Solving Root Problems
- Collaborative Federal Leveraging of Resources
- Modification of Underperforming Policies and Practices
- Access to Resources Previously Not Available
- Addressing Drought and Climate Change Risks
- Removal of Barriers to Federal Program Access
- Ensuring Access to Essential Services
- Sustainable Economic Development
- Mitigate Historical Challenges for Socially Disadvantaged Populations
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EJ 2020 FEDERAL AGENCIES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

I. Introduction

> Goal - To amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

Over twenty years of environmental justice practice has taught us that all federal agencies play a critical role in ensuring that we make a visible difference in communities overburdened with environmental and economic distress. In 1994, EO 12898 recognized the multi-faceted nature of environmental justice issues and called on every federal agency to "identify and address, as appropriate, the disproportionate human health and environmental effects of its programs, policies and activities on minority populations and low-income populations." EO 12898 created the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) to address these multiple concerns. Since then, robust EJ practice within communities and government agencies at all levels has produced further recognition that environmental justice is more than about ensuring that environmental burdens do not disproportionately affect areas of persistent poverty but also about creating opportunities to build healthy, wholesome, sustainable and resilient communities. We have learned that this is what communities want. This means promoting neighborhood amenities such as better housing, transportation, health care access, economic development, and green space. EPA will strengthen our working relationships with our sister federal agencies because responsibility for ensuring these benefits fall under their mandates.

II. Goal

Amplify EPA's impact in overburdened communities by strengthening collaboration and coordination on environmental justice issues among all federal agencies.

III. Organizational Context

The federal agencies element of EJ 2020 is led by the Office of Land and Emergency Management, Region 4, and the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice. Because the EJ IWG is co-chaired by the Administrator of EPA and the Chair of the White House Council of Environmental Quality, the Senior Advisor to the Administrator on Environmental Justice and the Office of Environmental Justice play a special role in implementing this element.

In 2011, adopted the memorandum of understanding on E 12898 and the IWG on environmental justice. Identified the following agencies as covered agencies under the MOU: Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of the Interior, Department of Justice, Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Order applies to the following offices in the Executive Office of the President: Office of Management and Budget, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Office of the Deputy Assistant to the President for Environmental Policy, Office of the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, National Economic Council, and Council of Economic Advisers.

The Memorandum of Understanding established focus areas for the EJ IWG: (1) implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act; (2) implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; (3) impacts from climate change; and (4) impacts from commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure ("goods movement").

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In 2015, the EJ IWG adopted the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice Framework for Collaboration to outline a plan for federal agencies to collectively focus on addressing the following five areas for the next three years: Impacts from Climate Change; Impacts from Commercial Transportation (Goods Movement); National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); Native Americans/Indigenous Peoples; and Rural Communities

IV. Strategies

Strategy 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

The IWG Framework for Collaboration defines goals and objectives for the next three years (2015-2018). It will advance federal agency collaboration to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in overburdened and under-resources communities. Two areas of priority focus for EJ 2020's support of the IWG Framework for Collaboration are NEPA and goods movement.

Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration on community revitalization on the regional, state and local levels.

Strengthening collaboration and coordination throughout the federal family on place-based projects and activities is important to supporting holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues in environmental protection, housing, transportation, economic development, energy policy, natural and cultural resources management and health disparities. Through EJ 2020, EPA will implement a strategy that amplifies the efforts of the EJ IWG and complements rather than duplicate community- based programs to achieve long term revitalization, sustainability and enhance economic opportunities.

Strategy 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities and target attention and resources.

Strategy 4: Strengthen EPA's collaboration with the communities we serve and our government partners

V. Activities

Strategy 1: Facilitate EPA's implementation of the EJ IWG FY 2016-2018 Framework for Collaboration.

Activity 1.1: Provide leadership to finalizing and implementing the EJ IWG Framework for Collaboration.

Activity 1.2: Improve the effective, efficient and consistent consideration of environmental justice issues in the NEPA process by promoting the use of *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews*.

- Training for and sharing of cross-department shared expertise among other federal agencies and NEPA practitioners (including supplemental material such as lexicon, cross-walk with CEQ regulations, repository of examples)
- Community/external stakeholder engagement
- Alignment with other (a) authorities (Title VI, planning) and (b) initiatives (goods movement, climate)
- Field application (comparative study with one project using Promising Practices and one using conventional approach)

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Activity 1.3: Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement (commercial transportation of freight and supporting infrastructure) in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement

- Share findings of EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA programs and external partners
- Highlight key promising practices that would benefit EPA sponsored community based efforts
- Deploy promising practices among appropriate community based projects

Activity 1.4: Promote Integration of EJ Policy content, concepts and values among other federal community based programs and projects

- Document effective, innovative, and replicable approaches which promote sustainable community practices and highlight in Agencies' annual EJ progress reports. (Feb. 2016)
- Develop schedule of marketing and engaging other key federal agencies on the integration of EPA EJ Policy
- Execute marketing and engagement strategy and document efforts and results

Strategy 2: Foster federal interagency collaboration in support of efforts to address concerns of overburdened communities at the regional, state and local levels.

Activity 2.1: Facilitate solution oriented work sessions with communities through the regional IWGs and other interagency efforts to support and address community issues as one federal family.

- Establish feedback process, including timeframe and commitment from agencies in response to community concerns and requests. (June 2016)
- Implement the solution oriented work sessions in EPA MVD communities in collaboration with Regional IWG and EPA MVD project staffs (August 2016)
- Partner with key federal agencies to deploy relevant resources, tools, and strategies (October 2016)
- Produce annual summary of work session outcomes and best practices (beginning 2017)

Activity 2.2: Leverage federal agency resources and technical assistance in communities based on regional efforts, such as MVD, Brownfields, Urban Waters, Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving, etc.

- Work with the EPA EJ IWG Committee, the Office of Sustainable Communities and others to identify existing resources and programs that can be leveraged with specific EPA projects. (October 2016)
- Share the EJ IWG's revised and updated Community Based Federal Environmental Resource Guide (June 2016)
- Work with EJ 2020 Communities Workgroup to identify communities and align where EPA and multiple agencies are working together to address environmental justice concerns. (June 2016)

Measures:
- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD and other community based efforts projects
- Creation and dissemination of the federal resource guide
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Strategy 3: Identify, develop or share EPA and other federal agency data, resources and tools with the public in ways which meaningfully support community based projects, programs and initiatives and which maximize leveraging opportunities.

Activity 3.1: Create and include EJ Criteria in Grants and Cooperative Agreement scoring schemes in all Federal EJ IWG agencies' grants and cooperative agreement eligibility processes.

Develop generic EJ criteria options and share among federal agencies (April 2016)
- Develop and deploy broad, generic EJ criteria from (OBLR, OGC, OGD, Urban Waters) Grants and Cooperative Agreements EJ criteria language (April 2016)

Identify potential federal assistance efforts that could incorporate the generic language (June 2017)
- Identify assistance efforts that could incorporate the EJ language developed to support communities sustainability and equitable development (March 2016)
- Share the EJ language with federal agencies, and internally, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listservs, etc. (April 2016)
- Track the success agencies which add EJ language into funding opportunities. (June 2017)

Activity 3.2: Identify databases and other online tools (such as EJSCREEN, C-FERST, etc...) that support community-based efforts and share among federal agencies and with the public.

Create a federal agency-wide inventory (April 2016)
- Develop a central location for links to tools on OEI's webpage. (February 2016)
- EJ IWG will review existing tools/database list and request updates needed (February 2016)
- Create the federal tools inventory (April 2016)

Market the final product to federal, state, and local government agencies, and the public (May 2016)
- Disseminate the inventory through the IWG, ECOS, State and Tribal Governments, academia, and national community-based organizations (April 2016)

Track the utilization of the resources and tools in the inventory (May 2017)
- Create a process for agencies to add to inventory (February 2016)
- EPA maintains central website/document tools compilation. (May 2016)
- Request feedback from IWG members and others and update the inventory (May 2017)

Measures:
- Number of community-based tools/resources within EJ IWG agencies
- Number of trainings, facilitated and/or provided by EPA, that support communities
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Leveraged resources that are connected to EPA community based projects

Activity 3.3: Improve community awareness of environmental data to increase community and stakeholder involvement in decision-making by making data available to inform the process.

Identify key federal environmental data sources and systems (March 2016)
- Compile data sources and systems in a central location (March 2016)

Develop a marketing strategy for promoting the data sources (April 2016)
- Share data sources information with stakeholders including program offices and federal agencies through the Federal EJ IWG, using the EJ SharePoint site, conference calls, emails, various listserves, etc. (April 2016)

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Develop examples and models of data source use options and include in marketing efforts (July 2016)

- Capture examples of data source use options and internally through listserv announcements, blogs, conferences, and externally through the federal agencies' IWG, ECOS and other local, state and tribal entities (July 2016)

Track usage of data sources and use the information and gathered feedback for continuous improvement of the databases (May 2017)

- Track usage of the databases using the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network for the health and environmental data (March 2017)
- Share successes through the agency's social media (May 2017)

Measures:

- Number of plans reviewed and connections made to EPA MVD projects
- Creation of the federal resource guide and dissemination to EPA programs
- Number of federal agencies that incorporate the EJ criteria scoring language into their agencies' grants and cooperative agreements in the next year after and to what extent this was done

Strategy 4: Strengthen EPA's collaboration with the communities we serve and our government partners

Activity 4.1: Expand EPA's capacity to support communities by strengthening partnerships through the EJ IWG

- Identify Regional EJ IWG contacts, and engage EPA program staff in coordination with Regions for EJ IWG subcommittees (OEJ/Lead Region)
- Promote opportunities to increase EPA program office support to Regional offices in working with EJ IWG and addressing needs (OEJ/Lead Region)
- Increase coordination between agencies on community-based activities and training. (OEJ/OSC)

Activity 4.2: Advance consideration of environmental justice in the NEPA review process by implementing EJ and NEPA analytic methodologies

- Produce documents to assist in NEPA training and share the EJ IWG's NEPA Training Products with EPA NEPA practitioners (OEJ)
- Work with the EJ IWG NEPA Committee to strengthen community/external stakeholder engagement

Activity 4.3: Promote awareness of and solutions to community based environmental challenges associated with Goods Movement in and through overburdened communities and communities enduring adverse health impacts as a result of goods movement

- Share findings of EJ IWG Goods Movement reports and research with EPA Regions and programs (OEJ)
- Work with EJ IWG Goods Movement Committee to select 1-2 communities with multiple federal agency involvement and apply a successful community-based concept/promising practice(s) (e.g. Brownfields to Healthfields) to address goods movement concerns. (OEJ, EJIWG)

Suggested Measure:

- Number of communities where Goods Movement and NEPA concepts were introduced and applied by federal agencies

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Accessible, Aware, Accountable

EJ IWG Regional Engagement (FY 17-18)

Chairpersons: EPA (Marsha Minter)/HUD (Joey Baietti) in HQ, but will vary by region.

Role/Time Commitment of Agency Representative: 1-hr meeting twice per month, strategic planning, action item followup (3-5 hrs/month)

Background (Provide a brief background: Required by MOU, Community interest, etc.):
Beginning in 2011, the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) has held a series of listening sessions and community meeting across the country. Among the issues raised was the need for the federal government to act in a coordinated manner when engaging with communities. In addition, as many EJ community members and organizations lack funds to travel to Washington, D.C., federal regional and field staff are in the best position to engage with EJ communities on a regular basis. In recent years, EPA Regions IV and II, with partnership from HHS and others, have coordinated regional EJ meetings in their regions, with representation across many IWG agencies. In Region IV, this also resulted in a targeted engagement in Birmingham, AL. In Region II, the collaborative has selected 5-6 communities to engage with as a federal family. Over the past three years, various IWG members have expressed interest in expanding these regional efforts. In addition, the EJ IWG has emphasized the need to have robust follow up with communities who raised concerns during the original listening sessions and to document the impacts of those engagements. Also, as tricky EJ concerns are raised about major infrastructure projects, federal coordination in the field is crucial to effectively addressing them in a coherent manner.

At the same time, since the first listening sessions took place, a number of interagency and place-based efforts have emerged that the EJ IWG should be aware of (more details below):

- The **Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC)**
- **Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2)**
- **Urban Waters Federal Partnership**
- **Promise Zones**
- **Strikeforce**
- **HUD Community Needs Assessments (HUD CNAs)**
- **EPA Making a Visible Difference in Communities**
- **Ladders of Opportunity sites**
- **Local Foods, Local Places**

Given this robust array of federal agency and interagency efforts focused on sustainability, distressed communities, poverty, and economic mobility, it is crucial that any EJ IWG effort in

the regions complements rather than duplicates or complicates these existing efforts. Put another way, we must seek to avoid burning out field and regional staff on interagency meetings or confusing community leaders about the purpose of or link between federal efforts around technical assistance and support. In addition, leveraging rather than duplicating efforts allows staff to work more efficiently and effectively. Some regions are already aligning PSC and EJ IWG efforts. For example, the Region IV effort has been linked with the PSC activities in that region and the Region II effort engages a number of the same players. To that end, an overarching question for this effort is whether it makes more sense for regional IWGs to create new structures in the field or to augment/ supplement existing structures of existing place-based or interagency efforts.

To that end, a headquarters based regional engagement team for the EJ IWG would serve to assist regionally-based IWGs with connecting to other IWGs or to additional agencies not currently represented in the field. They can help share best practices between regions or identify common challenges being faced by the regional IWGs. The team can also share information on current EJ IWG priorities and activities with the regional staff. In addition, the headquarters-based team will interact with other place-based initiatives in order to provide them information and resources to incorporate environmental justice into their work.

FY 16-18 Framework for Collaboration:
RIWG Committee Purpose:

In the field (based on existing Region 2 & 4 efforts):

- Provide targeted and coordinated technical assistance to communities with EJ Concerns
- Expand the EJ knowledge of federal regional and field staff
- Strengthen education, training and/or engagement on EJ among local and state agencies
- Infuse EJ principles into existing interagency and place-based efforts
- Develop best practices for triaging and handling EJ concerns in the field and identifying each agency's roles and limitations
- Identify clear field-based points of contact for EJ
- Develop relationships between federal field and regional staff tasked with EJ-related responsibilities

In headquarters:

- Ensure effective coordination between Regional IWGs and the EJ IWG in HQ
- Provide place-based efforts with information on environmental justice concepts and resources
- Update Environmental Justice resource compendium
- Track resource expenditures/FTEs?

Key Focus Activities:
In the field:

- Will be regionally specific but will include:
  - technical assistance
  - increasing EJ community awareness about federal programs

In headquarters:

- Share best practices between regions
- Identify appropriate HQ policy and program contacts to assist field IWGs
- Identify and raise up common challenges faced by regional IWGs
- Disseminate information on current EJ IWG priorities and activities
- Update Environmental Justice resource compendium

FY 17 Deliverables/Products:

- Access & Awareness Webinar Series (Goal 1)
- Webinar Resources Tools

Products to Consider:

- Updated Community-based Federal EJ Resource Guide
- Quarterly reports on community-specific engagements
- Identified protocols for handling EJ concerns raised in the field
- Documented answers to common questions about the federal role in EJ and opportunities and limitations of engagement (in collaboration with other IWG committees)

Measures: (How will success be measured?):

- Number of issues resolved in each community selected
- Increase in field staff understanding of EJ issues
- Increase in field staff relationships with other feds working on EJ
- At least 2 instances of positive feedback from EJ community organizations or members in each region on the collaborative effort
- Sustained follow-up after initial engagements
- Number of downloads of revised resource guide

Existing Federal Interagency Agency Workgroups/Taskforces:

- The **Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC)** has developed a robust regional structure with collaborations between EPA, HUD, and DOT staff in all ten regions. Many of these collaborations also involve other federal agencies like HHS and FEMA who are also involved in the EJ IWG. At the same time, while the PSC field staff collaborations focus on sustainability work, they may not all focus specifically on EJ issues or EJ communities.

- **Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2)** - The Strong Cities, Strong Communities Initiative (SC2) supports President Obama's agenda to build ladders of opportunity for all Americans who are working hard to make it to the middle class. Through historic investments and partnerships, SC2 is helping the communities that were hardest-hit by the recession. The Obama Administration launched the Strong Cities, Strong Communities Initiative pilot program in July 2011. The SC2 concept was developed through engagement with mayors, members of Congress, foundations, non-profits and other community partners who are committed to addressing the challenges of local governments. SC2 and its partners are working together to coordinate federal programs and investments to spark economic growth in distressed areas and create stronger cooperation between community organizations, local leadership, and the federal government.
- **Urban Waters Federal Partnership -** This partnership will reconnect urban communities, particularly those that are overburdened or economically distressed, with their waterways by improving coordination among federal agencies and collaborating with community-led revitalization efforts to improve our Nation's water systems and promote their economic, environmental and social benefits.
- **Promise Zones -** In his 2013 State of the Union address, President Obama announced that he would designate 20 Promise Zones nationwide: urban, rural, and tribal communities where the Administration would partner with local leaders to create jobs, increase economic activity, improve educational opportunities, and reduce violent crime. On January 9, 2014, the first urban, rural, and tribal Promise Zones were announced in a ceremony at the White House. They are located in: San Antonio, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Southeastern Kentucky, and the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.
  For communities selected, the federal government will partner to help the Promise Zones access the resources and expertise they need. To date, there are twelve federal agencies working in close collaboration to provide resources and expertise to urban, rural, and tribal Promise Zones to expand economic mobility and opportunity in their communities.
- **Strikeforce -** While poverty is a rural, suburban and urban challenge, the reality is that nearly 85 percent of America's persistent poverty counties are in rural areas. USDA's StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity Initiative is part of our commitment to growing economies, increasing investments and creating opportunities in poverty-stricken rural communities. StrikeForce was officially launched in 2010 as a pilot project in persistent poverty areas in rural Arkansas, Georgia and Mississippi.
  In 2012, StrikeForce efforts expanded into persistent poverty counties in Colorado, New Mexico and Nevada. In 2013, Secretary Vilsack announced new efforts to bring the StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity to Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah and Virginia. In 2014, Strike Force efforts expanded into Kentucky, Louisiana, Tennessee, and West Virginia. There are now over 700 persistent poverty counties (PDF, 2.2MB), parishes, boroughs, Colonias and tribal reservations in twenty states receiving StrikeForce attention.
- **HUD Community Needs Assessments (HUD CNAs)** – Since 2013, each HUD field

office has been tasked with identifying 1-2 distressed communities in which to conduct robust community needs assessments and 2-year action plans for cross-agency support.

- **EPA "30-50" community selections** – As part of the Administrator's "Making a Visible Difference in Communities" priority, EPA Regions are tasked with identifying 3-5 over-burdened communities in each region in which to more deeply engage and coordinate cross-agency. EPA Regions are encouraged to coordinate with their federal partners in identifying and working with those communities.
- **Ladders of Opportunity sites** – The White House Domestic Policy Council has been coordinating across federal agencies around specific municipalities and regions under the Ladders of Opportunity framework, which is heavily focused on economic mobility.
- **Local Foods, Local Places** - Local Foods, Local Places will provide direct technical support to selected communities to help them develop and implement action plans promoting local food and downtown revitalization. Special consideration will be given to communities that are in the early stages of developing or restoring local food enterprises and creating economically vibrant communities. Selected communities in Appalachia and the Delta region will be eligible to receive financial assistance to help them implement those plans.

Meeting Schedule:
1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 1pm Eastern

IWG Reporting: (How the committee reports out to EJ IWG):
Periodic updates at monthly meetings

Existing/Proposed Agency Representatives:
Proposed Agency Involvement: EPA, GSA, HUD, HHS, DOT, FEMA/DHS, DOI, USDA