Message

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Subject: R9 EJ Network Update - March 10 2017
Attachments: Innovation Exchange Webinar Educational Partnerships for Innovation in ....ics; CRN Monthly Webinar - The Human Right to Water: Empowering EJ Communities in the Struggle for Water Justice; R9 Communities Fact Sheet 3-8-17.pdf; R9 Community-based Work - 2017 final.docx

Dear EJ Network, it's been a while so there's a lot to share. It'd be great to hear from you—let me know if there are items to pass along for the next version . . .

On the national front . . .

- Comings and Goings
- Hawaii Title VI Complaint

In the Region

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Community-Based Work

Cumulative Impacts, EJ and Permitting

DTSC Cumulative Impacts Symposium, March 27, Sacramento

ECOS Green Report on "State Approaches to Community Engagement and Equity Considerations in Permitting"

Citizen Science

Arvin Air Quality Monitoring Project

NACEPT Citizen Science Recommendations

Mark Your Calendars

Innovation Exchange-EPIC

Community Resource Network-Human Right to Water

NIEHS Partnerships for Environmental Public Health - Immigrant Health

IWG on EJ –Women's Role in the Fight for Environmental Justice

Fireside Chat with Dr. Manuel Pastor—Environment and Health in the Trump Administration

CitiesResist Webinar: Three Communities Implementing HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Commitment

Articles, Journals, Reports and Resources

EJ In Indian Country

Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative In the News

Environmental Justice Journal Focus on Flint

NIEHS Podcast: Children, Nature and the Important of Getting Kids Outside

Language Access Portal for Healthy Disparity Stakeholders

Richmond Community / University Grant Program

SCN on Inclusionary Housing Policies

Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity

On the national front . . .

Comings and Goings

Mustafa Ali, Assistant Associate Administrator for Environmental Justice under previous Administrator Gina McCarthy, has resigned, effective yesterday, and is now with Hip Hop Caucus. You may see references to the "Head of EPA's EJ program" stepping down. Matt Tejada is the OEJ Director and he's still there!

Kevin Olp, OEJ's Director of Communications and EJSCREEN lead, is taking a position at CalEPA, beginning April 21! Kevin will put his organizing and analytical skills to great use helping CalEPA move forward with its EJ Enforcement Initiative—which most recently, has focused on East and West Oakland.

Hawaii Title VI Complaint

EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office (previously known as the Office of Civil Rights) has accepted for investigation a Title VI Complaint filed by EarthJustice against the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA), and the Hawaii Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC). The complaint was filed with both US. EPA and the USDA.

In the Region

EJ Spring Training

The EJ Spring Training team (Desean Garnett, Richard Grow, Chuck Swanson, Fatima Ty and I) encourage your participation in any or all of the three sessions we've lined up for you. Please sign up.

EJ 101 and What the Region is Doing in Support of EJ2020	Thursday, March 30	10 - 11:30 a.m.
Civil Rights Act, Title VI and EPA	Tuesday, April 4	10 - 11:30 a.m.
EJSCREEN: Regional Uses and Applications	Thursday, April 13	1 - 2:30 p.m.
Meet with California EJ Coalition members (part of Earth Week, more details soon)	Friday, April 21	9:30 a.m. – 11 * (note corrected time)

EJ Grant Apps

20 applications are in—including applications from American Samoa, Arizona, Hawaii, and Nevada. Nationally, about 5 times as many applications were received as are able to be supported with limited funding. Due to budget uncertainties, we may award fewer grants than usual.

Community-Based Work

Scott and I got a debrief from Debbie Jordan about the outcome of the SMT communities discussion. SMT was pleased with a summary highlighting the great work so many have been part of in our five MVD communities, as well as our collective efforts to flag needs in other places. **See attached for more detail. We'll hold off on another round of focus communities until we have more direction and more certainty re the budget**. Debbie did ask us to keep an eye out for resources from national programs that could address ongoing needs for our current investments. Look for us to continue to coordinate and collaborate across programs to better serve communities as long as our resources can support the efforts. Debbie also encouraged us to support and communicate with our states on their efforts to address the needs of communities in Region 9.

Cumulative Impacts, EJ and Permitting

DTSC Cumulative Impacts Symposium, March 27, Sacramento

DTSC will kick off its implementation of SB 673 with a March 27 Symposium on Cumulative Impacts. This state law requires DTSC to consider the vulnerability of, and existing health risks to, nearby populations when permitting hazardous waste treatment, disposal, and storage facilities. The purpose of the symposium is to bring together Cal/EPA and the boards, departments, offices, and USEPA to assist stakeholders' understanding of cumulative impacts, the development and uses of indicators, CalEnviroScreen, and other tools used by USEPA. (I've been invited to be on a panel). DTSC will host a follow up symposium in southern CA and stakeholder workshops to elicit feedback to identify areas of concerns, priorities, potential options for solutions.

ECOS Green Report on "State Approaches to Community Engagement and Equity Considerations in Permitting"

The Environmental Council of States report summarizes innovative efforts of state agencies in California, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Per the ECOS press release, John Linc

Stine, Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, has made equity a prominent element of his current tenure as ECOS President.

Citizen Science

Arvin Air Quality Monitoring Project

Blue Tomorrow is the latest entry in the burgeoning field of third party consultants offering expertise and resources to partner with community-based organizations on citizen science. Check out their collaboration with the Central California EJ Network on the Arvin Air Quality Monitoring Project. They are working with CARB to co-locate two of their monitoring sites with regulatory monitors. Data will be housed on a public facing real time database.

NACEPT Citizen Science Recommendations

On December 13, 2016, the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT formally transmitted its report, *Environmental Protection Belongs to the Public, A Vision for Citizen Science at EPA*, to the agency.

Mark Your Calendars

Innovation Exchange-EPIC

March 14 – Hear our own Dr. Laura Bloch as one of several speakers at an Innovation Exchange webinar on *Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities (EPIC). (invite attached)*

Community Resource Network-Human Right to Water

March 16 – EPA's Community Resource Network is hosting a webinar: *The Human Right to Water: Empowering EJ Communities in the Struggle for Water Justice*, featuring **Jenny Rempel, Kristin Dobbin**, and **Ryan Jensen** of the Community Water Center, a two-time environmental justice grantee. *(invite attached, Shasta Lake, 14223 for R9'ers)*

NIEHS Partnerships for Environmental Public Health - Immigrant Health

March 22 – NIEHS is hosting a webinar on occupational health concerns of immigrant populations. Register for details.

IWG on EJ –Women's Role in the Fight for Environmental Justice

March 23 – The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG) will host, in honor of "Women's History Month, *Women's Role in the Fight for Environmental Justice.* **Register** for details.

Fireside Chat with Dr. Manuel Pastor—Environment and Health in the Trump Administration

April 18 – The Collaborative on Health and Environment hosts their fourth Fireside Chat—this one with University of Southern California's Dr. Manuel Pastor. Dr. Pastor and his colleagues, Dr. James Sadd and Dr. Morello-Frosch are past RARE grantees and developed the EJ Screening Method for the CA Air Resources Board. Register for details.

CitiesResist Webinar: Three Communities Implementing HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Commitment

April 20 – Policy Link will host the next webinar in their #CitiesResist series, produced in partnership with the Government Alliance on Racial Equity. HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule, released in 2015, is a critical equitable growth policy that provides spatial data and a planning process to ensure federal investments go towards ensuring all people can live in communities of opportunity—regardless of race/ethnicity, physical ability, or family status. Register for details.

June 13 – San Francisco, *Invest in Results Because Outcomes Matter* (Hold the Date)
Hosted by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and Nonprofit Finance Fund, the event kicks off a national dialogue on what it takes to measure and fund positive social change. Visit investinresults.org to sign up to receive more details.

Articles, Journals, Reports and Resources

EJ in Indian Country

Dina Gilio-Whitaker (Colville Confederated Tribes) is Policy Director and Senior Research Associate at the Center for World Indigenous Studies, and is an award-winning journalist at Indian Country Media Network. Check out her recent article, *What Environmental Justice Means in Indian Country*.

Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative in the News

Asian Health Services and the California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative, an EJ grantee, are in the news again. Through their grant, AHS is partnering with the Federal Reserve—check out CDFIs and Nail Salons: A Partnership to Improve the Health of Low-Income Workers in the Federal Reserve Newsletter. Also see AP reporter Ellen Knickmeyer's recent article: Push for healthier nail salons in California finding success.

Michigan Civil Rights Commission Report on Flint

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission released on February 17, 2017, their report on their year-long investigation into the civil rights implications of the Flint water crisis. After conducting three public hearings and taking testimony from more than 150 residents, experts and government officials, the Commission determined that the actions resulting in the poisoning of the city's water supply abridged the civil rights of Flint residents under state law.

Environmental Justice Journal Focus on Flint

Articles on the Flint, Michigan Water Crisis, Open Access Until March 17: Environmental Justice

Free Online Course on HIA & the Built Environment

Explore the intersection of city planning and public health with MIT's online course in health impact assessment. The graduate-level class offers tools for those in the planning and policy fields to address how the built environment contributes to environmental hazards, social exclusion, and other stressors.

NIEHS Podcast: Children, Nature and the Important of Getting Kids Outside

Check out the latest podcast from the National Institutes of Environmental Health Science: Children, Nature, and the Importance of Getting Kids Outside, which explores how spending time in nature can increase physical activity, reduce the risk of chronic disease, and improve children's sense of emotional wellbeing.

Plus, learn how health professionals and unique initiatives are working to prescribe nature to improve the health of children and their communities.

Language Access Portal for Healthy Disparity Stakeholders

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities has launched a new resource for stakeholders who work with health disparity populations with limited English proficiency: the Language Access Portal.

Richmond Community / University Grant Program

Check out this local grant program from the Richmond Community Foundation—the UC Berkeley Richmond Community Partnership Fund, which includes "Environmental Sustainability and Climate" as a theme. Deadline to apply: April 18.

SCN on Inclusionary Housing Policies

From the Sustainable City Network**: Inclusionary Housing Policies Attract Millennials,** Zoning Strategy Helps Middle Class Stay in the Neighborhood

Physician's Guide to Climate Change, Health and Equity

This 120-page Public Health Institute document is a resource to strengthen and inform the physician's voice as a trusted health professional on climate change, health, and equity. It explores the complex and multifaceted connections between climate change and health, disproportionate burdens and the impacts on health equity, and opportunities for solutions. Issues covered include extreme heat, allergens, infectious disease, and mental health.

Communities in Action: Pathways to Health Equity

This National Academies of Sciences, Engineering report was authored by the NAS committee on Community-Based Solutions to Promote Health Equity in the United States. The PDF can be downloaded for free. Find a webcast recording from the report release here; presentation slides are also available on the webpage under "Other Meeting Resources."

New HIA Journal Debuts

Indiana University has launched Chronicles of Health Impact Assessment, a peer-reviewed journal for all things HIA. The first edition features a seven-year retrospective on HIA written by several members of the Health Impact Project team: "Seven Years in the Field of Health Impact Assessment: Taking Stock and Future Directions."

RUN—DON'T WALK
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