

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL
Brief Summary of Members
2009

CHAIR

Moore, Richard

Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice

Mr. Moore has served as the Executive Director of Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice (Southwest Network), in Albuquerque, New Mexico, since 1993. He came to Southwest Network after 12 years with the Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP) where he was the lead organizer and primary trainer of SWOP's organizing model. As a widely respected national leader in the area of environmental justice, Mr. Moore has served on numerous government and nongovernmental committees and panels, including the National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Task Force and the Congressional Black Caucus National Environmental Policy Commission. Mr. Moore was a recipient of the 2005 Ford Foundation Leadership for a Changing World Award.

OTHER MEMBERS

Aragon, Don

Wind River Environmental Quality Commission

As the Executive Director of Wind River Environmental Quality Commission for the Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes Mr. Aragon is responsible for the protection of the environmental natural resources of the Wind River Indian Reservation, located in Fort Washakie, Wyoming. During his sixteen year tenure, Mr. Aragon designed programs aimed at building awareness of the local environment. Over the past six years, Mr. Aragon is one of the EPA Region 8 representatives to the National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC), which focuses on improving communication and building strong relationships between EPA and tribal organizations. Furthermore, Mr. Aragon served as the Vice Chairman of the NTOC and work very closely with EPA on all aspects of national Indian environmental programming and budgeting. In 2002, Mr. Aragon joined the NEJAC's Indigenous People's subcommittee.

Barlow, Chuck

Entergy Corporation

Mr. Barlow is Assistant General Counsel – Environmental at Entergy Corporation, a national utility company based in New Orleans, Louisiana. Prior to accepting this position, Mr. Barlow served as General Counsel of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality from 1996 to 2003. As a result of his work for the State of Mississippi as lead counsel in the environmental enforcement action, *United States of America and State of Mississippi v. Morton International, Inc.* (S.D. Miss. 2001), Mr. Barlow was awarded a Certificate of Commendation by the United States Department of Justice in June 2001. Before his leadership within the Mississippi counsel, Mr. Barlow was associated with the Jackson office of Phelps Dunbar, L.L.P., where he practiced environmental law and general litigation from 1990 through May 1996. Mr. Barlow holds the Master of Laws (LL.M.) in environmental and natural resource law from the Northwestern School of Law at Lewis & Clark College; received his undergraduate degree from Mississippi College; a Master of Arts in English from the University of Virginia; and his law degree from the Mississippi College School of Law.

Briggum, Sue

Waste Management Incorporated

Dr. Briggum has been with Waste Management Inc., since 1987. She is Vice President, Federal Public Affairs, responsible for federal regulation and policy affecting environmental stewardship, recycling, environmental facility permitting, site cleanup, environmental justice and regulatory enforcement. Before joining Waste Management Inc., Dr. Briggum was an environmental regulatory attorney and Superfund litigator with Piper & Marbury and its predecessor, where she coauthored the *Hazardous Waste Regulation Handbook: A Practical Guide to RCRA and Superfund*. Dr. Briggum co-chaired the National Environmental Policy Commission, convened at the request of U.S. Representative James E. Clyburn (SC) and the Congressional Black Caucus. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University

of Pittsburgh, a Doctor of Philosophy degree in English Literature from the University of Wisconsin, and her Juris Doctor from Harvard University.

Brown, M. Kathryn

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Dr. Brown is an Environmental Epidemiologist in the Department of Environmental Health at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. Her background is in population-based studies of childhood lead exposures in urban neighborhoods, and in western Superfund sites where contamination from mining and smelting operations pose potential health risks for young children. Dr. Brown is active in participatory research and collaborative education programs with minority and environmentally-impacted communities. She has worked with African American and urban Appalachian community-based organizations to conduct community health assessments that are used to develop neighborhood-based approaches to abating environmental pollution, advocating for health services, and conducting targeted educational programs. Dr. Brown is also the Director of the Community Outreach and Translation Core in the NIH-funded Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Center at the University of Cincinnati. There, she works with breast cancer advocacy organizations to conduct educational and training programs that address current knowledge about the impact of environmental exposures on breast cancer and the research protocols used to study exposure disease pathways. Dr. Brown also collaborates with genetic counselors on the creation of continuing education programs for health professionals on gene-environment interactions and environmental causes of human diseases, and family health history programs in urban Appalachian communities.

Captain, Peter

Tanana Chiefs Conference

Mr. Captain is the Vice President of the Tanana Chiefs Conference and serves as an Elder Advisor to the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council, a group he also founded. As Vice President of the Tanana Chiefs Conference, Mr. Captain has worked to develop a strong collaboration and provide a forum for open communication among Alaskan Native Tribes. Additionally, Mr. Captain has been a member of the Loudon Tribal Council for over 15 years; serving various posts including First Chief. There, he strived to build awareness of the unique environmental issues facing tribal communities. Throughout his career, he has worked to remediate the Yukon River by reducing pollution runoff and building community capacity to address the issues. Mr. Captain was one of the original signatories of the Accord, an inter-tribal agreement drafted to coordinate the cleanup of the Yukon River and its tributaries.

Catron, Jolene

Wind River Alliance

Ms. Catron is the Executive Director of Wind River Alliance and is currently working to bring together disparate perspectives of those who work and live within the watershed. She attained much experience in watershed planning and community involvement as a team member of the Los Alamos National Laboratory's Water Research Technical Assistance Office. Ms. Catron is currently serving as a volunteer coordinator with the Indigenous Waters Network, a support network for tribally focused water resource and water protection efforts across the Americas. She also serves as the Water Rights Specialist for the Office of the Tribal Water Engineer and serves on the Governing Council of the Young Warriors Society of the Wind River Indian Reservation.

Fisher, Wynecta

New Orleans Mayor's Office of Environmental Affairs

Ms. Fisher is the Director of the Mayor's Office of Environmental Affairs in New Orleans, Louisiana. As Director, Ms. Fisher has developed educational education curriculum for local schools and organized city-wide events to promote recycling for Earth Day, America Recycles Day, and Computer Recycling Day. Her training experience, was gained while she served as a training and education manager for the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), a professional organization committed to the environmentally and economically sound management of solid waste. While at SWANA, Ms. Fisher conducted and developed environmental justice stakeholder courses. She has been a member of the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana, New Orleans Hospitality Community Green Task Force, and Minority Worker Carpenters Training Program. Ms. Fisher is currently working towards a Masters in

Business Administration at Troy University. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Clark Atlanta University.

Harper, William

Pacific Gas and Electric

Mr. Harper is the new Vice President of Strategic Sourcing and Operations Support for Pacific Gas and Electric. He leads the utility's environmental services, safety and health claims, technical and land services, environmental quality assurance work, supply chain, sourcing and materials operations, transportation services, and corporate real estate. Prior to PG&E, Mr. Harper was Vice President and Chief Procurement Officer for the Toronto-based, Rogers Communications, Inc. He previously served as Chief Procurement Officer and Director of Shared Services for Wellmark, Inc., in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Harper also held a variety of procurement and sourcing managerial positions at Rockwell International, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Northrop Corporation, and MacDonnell Douglas Helicopters. Mr. Harper earned his Masters in Business Administration from the University of California at Irvine, and a bachelor's degree from Illinois College.

Henneke, Jodena

Texas General Land Office

Ms. Henneke recently was named Deputy Commissioner of Coastal Resources for the Texas General Land Office. Prior to that, she served as Director of the Office of Public Assistance within the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). As director, she worked closely with the Commission by providing assistance to the general public in understanding and taking part in the activities of the TCEQ. Ms. Henneke conducted and/or facilitated numerous public hearings and community involvement activities on behalf of TCEQ. Further, she developed policies and procedures to enhance and organize agency activities related to environmental justice. Ms. Henneke holds a Master of Science in Environmental Science from the University of Oklahoma and a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from Oklahoma State University.

Holmes, Christian

Global Environment and Technology Foundation

Mr. Holmes serves as Senior Vice President for Program Development at Global Environment and Technology Foundation. Prior to this position, Mr. Holmes was a Senior Vice President for the World Wildlife Fund, responsible for policy, partnership, and government relations related to the protection of 19 critical global ecosystems. Mr. Holmes has held many positions in government, academia, and industry. As EPA's Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Administrator for Administration and Resource Management, Mr. Holmes was responsible for leading the launch of the environmental justice program at EPA. He also served as the Deputy Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement. Mr. Holmes was the first Executive Director of Rice University's Shell Center for Sustainability, where he created its research, education, and outreach program. Other positions held by Mr. Holmes include his leadership as a Vice President at Discovery Mining, Enron, and Tenneco Energy; and as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Refugee Programs.

Kelly, Hilton

Community In-power and Development Association

Mr. Kelly is the Founder and Director of the Community In-power and Development Association (CIDA), a community-based organization created to address the adverse health impacts of multiple pollution sources on the low-income neighborhoods in Port Arthur, Texas. Mr. Kelly along with other environmental organizations worked to ensure that the community's interests were represented during the permitting process for the expansion of a local refinery. Negotiations with the refinery yielded the Port Arthur Communities Fund, which will be used for economic and social revitalization projects in the communities closest to the refinery. Additionally, specific emission control measures were included in the permit to protect the health of the adjacent community. Prior to creating CIDA, Mr. Kelly served as an U.S. Navy Electrician mate second class aboard the USS Roanoke.

Marsh, Langdon

National Policy Consensus Center

Mr. Marsh is currently a Fellow with the National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University, where he works with state governments and others on collaborative problem-solving for various regional and local issues like watersheds, finance, and sustainability. Prior to his work with the Consensus Center, Mr. Marsh worked for Oregon Governor, John Kitzhaber. His responsibilities focused on assisting projects that demonstrate sustainability by meeting environmental, economic, and community objectives simultaneously, using broad partnerships with business, nonprofits and government. From 1995 until 2000, he was Director of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. From 1994 to 1995, Mr. Marsh served as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, where he held a variety of positions with that agency since 1973, including General Counsel and Executive Deputy Commissioner. Mr. Marsh is a member of EPA's Environmental Financial Advisory Board and is vice president of the board of Sustainable Seattle, a small non-profit organization that advocates for urban sustainability. He recently completed his second tour of duty as a board member of the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, DC.

Melanson, Greg

Formerly Bank of America

Mr. Melanson formerly served as the Senior Vice President for Community Development Banking at Bank of America. He manages investments in all Federal and state Tax Credit Programs including: low income housing, historic rehabilitation and new markets. Mr. Melanson also coordinated the activities of various national community development organizations and financial intermediaries. Prior to this position, Mr. Melanson was the manager of Bank of America's Community Development Lending for the Baltimore/Washington market. Prior to joining Community Development Banking, Mr. Melanson worked in Bank of America's Commercial Real Estate. Mr. Melanson received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland, and received a Master of Business Administration from George Washington University.

Mohai, Paul

University of Michigan School of Natural Resources

Dr. Mohai is a Professor in the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment, and serves as Faculty Associate at the Institute for Social Research. He has been examining disproportionate environmental burdens in low-income and people of color communities since the late 1980s. Dr. Mohai is researching the attitudes of African Americans and their influence on the environmental movement. His current research involves national-level studies examining cause and effect relationships in the distribution of environmental hazards by race and class, including examining the role environmental factors play in accounting for racial and socioeconomic disparities in health. Dr. Mohai was an organizer with Professor Bunyan Bryant of the 1990 "Michigan Conference on Race and the Incidence of Environmental Hazards," and is the author of numerous articles about the subject of race and the environment.

Prasad, Shankar

Coalition for Cleaner Air

Dr. Prasad was recently selected as an Executive Fellow at the Coalition for Clean Air. Prior to this position, he was the Deputy Secretary for Science and Environmental Justice at the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) in Sacramento. As Deputy Secretary, he provided advice and guidance about California environmental health and scientific issues related to water, air, pesticides and waste. Dr. Prasad also coordinated and oversaw the Cal/EPA's activities related to environmental justice and children's health. He led an agency-wide effort in completing an assessment of the quality and role of science in the decision-making process. When Dr. Prasad was Health Advisor at the California Air Resources Board, he played a key role in the Board's adoption of the environmental justice policies and actions as well as a revision of the health-based particulate matter standards. Dr. Prasad serves on many federal and state scientific and policy review panels. Previously, Dr. Prasad worked as Health Effects Officer at the South Coast Air Quality Management District for five years. Dr. Prasad is a physician by training, and spent five years as a clinician, three years conducting air pollution health effects research, and 14 years in planning research and environmental health policy development.

Ridgway, John

Washington State Department of Ecology

Mr. Ridgway is the Information Management and Communications Section Manager for the Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program of the Washington State Department of Ecology in Olympia, Washington. His expertise includes more than 12 years as agency lead for Environmental Justice and Equity. Mr. Ridgway previously served as a member of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council's Waste and Facility Siting Subcommittee. Mr. Ridgway's background includes: implementing Washington's Hazardous Waste Management Plan; policy work with the State's Nuclear Waste Program addressing high and low level nuclear waste management activities; work with the Ecology Department's Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxics (PBT) technical team in support of comprehensive agency PBT reduction/elimination strategy and chemical action plans; and work with state and local emergency management for 15 years, including past membership on the local American Red Cross board and as a member of State Emergency Response Commission. Mr. Ridgway received his Bachelor of Science degree from the Evergreen State College in Energy and Environmental Studies.

Rosenthal, John

National Small Town Alliance

Mr. Rosenthal is an attorney and serves as the President of the National Small Town Alliance (NSTA). The NSTA provides resources and services to small towns and rural communities across the country and represents their interests before federal agencies and Congress. Mr. Rosenthal advises the U.S. Department of Energy, the Augusta Brownfields Commission, and various small towns and rural communities about a variety of environmental and environmental justice issues. Previously, he served in various environmental and management capacities with the National Conference of Black Mayors, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Urban Environment Institute at Howard University. Prior to environmental work, Mr. Rosenthal practiced criminal law, served in the United States Army, and worked for Mobil Oil Corporation and the U.S. departments of Defense and Energy. Mr. Rosenthal is a graduate of Tougaloo College and the National Law Center at George Washington University.

Salkin, Patricia

Albany University Law School

Ms. Salkin is Associate Dean, Professor of Law, Director of the Government Law Center of Albany Law School, and is on the adjunct faculty at the University of Albany. Ms. Salkin is the former chair of the American Bar Association State and Local Government Law Section. She also has served for more than a dozen years as an appointed member of the New York State Legislative Commission on Rural Resources' Land Use Advisory Committee, and currently chairs the *amicus curiae* committee for the American Planning Association. Ms. Salkin is an officer of the Municipal Law Section of the New York State Bar Association and is the chair of the Association's Committee on Attorneys in Public Service. She also chairs the Association's Task Force on Eminent Domain. During the last couple of years, Ms. Salkin has served as a consultant to the National Academy of Public Administration for work related to environmental justice; the National Governor's Association for work on military base encroachment; and conservation easements and strategies to keep working farms working in private ownership. Ms. Salkin has authored numerous articles on local government and land use planning, and has consulted about planning and zoning reform with numerous municipalities across New York.

Wilson, Omega

West End Revitalization Association

Mr. Wilson is the founding board member and president of West End Revitalization Association (WERA), a community-based environmental protection organization, and Community Development Corporation in Mebane, North Carolina, which seeks to maintain sustainable historic African American communities through environmental protection, preservation, stabilization, and planned development. Mr. Wilson serves as the project manager for three grassroots community-based research studies involving health risks due to the disproportionate and adverse impact of environmental hazards and the denial of basic amenities. In addition to the primary work of WERA, Mr. Wilson served as a

worksite supervisor for Americorps*VISTA, and participates in Mebane city council and planning board meetings.

Yeampierre, Elizabeth

United Puerto Rican Organization of Sunset Park

Ms. Yeampierre is Executive Director of the United Puerto Rican Organization of Sunset Park (UPROSE), the oldest Latino community-based organization in Brooklyn. In 1996, Ms. Yeampierre helped shift UPROSE's mission to organizing, advocacy, and developing intergenerational indigenous leadership through activism. To reach these goals, UPROSE focuses on environmental, economic, and social justice. As President of the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance, Ms. Yeampierre is part of the leadership responsible for getting New York State's first Brownfield legislation passed. She is co-founder of Communities United for Responsible Energy (CURE) and Organization of Waterfront Neighborhoods (OWN). As a member of CURE, she sits on the Mayor's Task Force on Energy and has successfully made policy recommendations about alternative energy, conservation, retro-fitting, and re-powering. Ms. Yeampierre was recently appointed to Mayor Bloomberg's Sustainability Advisory Board after helping pass the city's first comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Fordham University and her law degree from Northeastern University School Law.