

NEWS ADVISORY: Friday, October 10, 2008

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**EPA and the Hispanic community work together for a healthy environment at
Beyond Translation Forum**

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(Dallas, TX—October 10, 2008) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will host its third regional Beyond Translation Forum in McAllen, Texas on October 16, 2008 at Texas A&M Health Science Center - South Texas Center in McAllen. This Hispanic outreach initiative will bring together representatives from faith-based organizations, grass-roots, civic groups, academia, health professionals, and local, state and federal governments. During this forum, EPA officials and partners will address environmental health challenges of the growing Hispanic community along the Rio Grande Valley area.

This community involvement initiative began with the first Beyond Translation Forum hosted by EPA in San Antonio, Texas in 2006. Since then, EPA has been able to enter into partnerships with Hispanic community based organizations and federal partners to collaborate on key environmental health issues.

"Our goal is to cultivate Hispanic community involvement in our effort to protect human health and the environment *en nuestras comunidades*. We hope to continue these collaborative efforts to improve our natural environment and foster healthier communities," said Miguel Flores, the director of EPA's Water Division, and main advocate for the Beyond Translation initiative.

WHAT:	Beyond Translation Forum
WHEN:	October 16, 2008, from 8:30am - 4:00pm
WHERE:	Texas A&M University - South Texas Center 2101 South McColl Road McAllen, TX

For additional information on the Beyond Translation Forum:
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/water/beyondtranslation/index.htm>
For directions to Texas A & M--South Center: <http://stc.tamhsc.edu>

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