

Expanding the Conversation



working for
environmental
justice

EPA National Environmental Justice Public Engagement Call

FEBRUARY 17, 2021

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Welcome

Goal for these calls:

- Re-establish an open dialogue with environmental justice advocates – these calls are just a first step!
- Update stakeholders and the public about EPA's environmental justice work
- Create a regular and consistent forum as a transparency and accountability mechanism for EJ work at EPA
- Provide more in-depth updates in the future about EPA EJ priorities
- Structure of today's call

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En Español

Spanish-language interpretation is available for those who prefer to listen in Spanish.

- ❑ How to switch to Spanish language audio channel
- ❑ Individuals can add questions in Spanish to the Q&A Pod
- ❑ Meeting materials will be made available in Spanish.

Tenemos interpretación en español disponible para aquellos que prefieren escuchar en español..

- ❑ Cómo cambiar el canal de audio en español
- ❑ Las personas pueden agregar preguntas en español al módulo de preguntas y respuestas
- ❑ Los materiales de la reunión estarán disponibles en español.

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Housekeeping



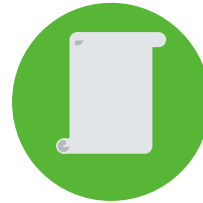
PLEASE JOIN BY
PHONE **OR**
COMPUTER, NOT
BOTH



YOU ARE ON
MUTE. ENTER
COMMENTS INTO
THE Q&A POD



IF SELECTED
DURING THE
DIALOGUE,
LIMIT COMMENT
TO 1 MINUTE



MATERIALS AND THE
RECORDING WILL BE
AVAILABLE ONLINE LATER

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Leadership Updates

ROSEMARY ENOBKHAHARE, *EPA ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION*

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Presidential Executive Orders and Memoranda (2021)

- ❑ E.O. 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support
- ❑ E.O. 13990: Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis
- ❑ E.O. 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad
- ❑ Presidential Memorandum: Modernizing Regulatory Review

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EJ Analysis: Better Understanding of Foundational Elements

- ❑ Defining, articulating, visualizing, and operationalizing the concept of disproportionate impacts
- ❑ Nexus with applicable authorities
- ❑ Framework for integrating environmental justice in various programmatic and regulatory contexts
- ❑ Early, continuous, and meaningful community involvement
- ❑ Linkage to systemic racism and other structural inequities

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EJ Advances on the State Level

- ❑ **Prioritization of Resources of Scale**
 - California SB 535
 - Illinois Future Energy Jobs Act
 - New York Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act
- ❑ **Cumulative Impacts in Permitting**
 - Minnesota (Minn. Stat. § 116.07 subd. 4a)
 - California (SB 673)
 - New Jersey (S 232/AB 2212)
- ❑ **Community Protection and Infrastructure**
 - California Transformative Climate Communities Program
 - California Community Air Protection Program (AB 617)
 - California Human Right to Water (SB 682)/ Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (SB 200)
- ❑ **EJ and Planning**
 - California Planning for EJ (SB 1000)

“50 Laboratories
of EJ Integration
and Democracy”

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Listening Session and Dialogue



WRITE ANY
COMMENTS/QUESTIONS
IN THE Q&A POD



WHEN PROMPTED,
RAISE YOUR HAND TO
ASK A QUESTION




PLEASE LIMIT
QUESTIONS OR
COMMENTS TO 1
MINUTE


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EPA EJ Program Updates

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National
Environmental
Justice
Advisory
Council
(NEJAC)



NEJAC Membership


- Seven (7) Vacancies
 - o Academia - 1
 - o Community-Based Organizations - 2
 - o Non-Governmental Organizations - 1
 - o State and Local Government - 2
 - o Tribal Governments and Indigenous Organizations - 1
- The deadline to submit nominations is **March 24, 2021**
- More information:
 - <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/nominations-nejac>



Future Public Meetings

- Please register for the EPA-EJ Listserv
- Registration Information:
 - <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council-meetings>

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EPA EJ Grants and Resources


Upcoming Environmental Justice Grant opportunities:

- Two EJ grant opportunities targeted for release by end of February
 - o EJ Small Grants and EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Grants
- Funding per project and number of projects will increase
- Who's eligible:
 - o Non-profits
 - o US Territories
 - o Tribal Governments
 - o Native American organizations
- Emphasis on recent Executive Orders

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EJSCREEN: EPA's Environmental Justice Mapping and Screening Tool



- ❑ What is EJSCREEN?
- ❑ Key Features
 - Environmental, demographic, and EJ indicators
 - Accessible and transparent
 - Updated annually
 - High resolution data
- ❑ Origins of the tool
- ❑ Uses of EJSCREEN
 - Internal EPA uses
 - External uses

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Federal IWG EJ and Natural Disasters Town Hall Meetings

EJ and Natural Disasters Town Hall Meetings and Disaster Response Training

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice kindly asks you to save the date for the following virtual Town Hall Meetings. More information about the meeting, including time and registration, will be shared at a later date.

- **Southeast Town Hall Meeting**
(Florida, Georgia, Carolinas, Caribbean Basin (including Puerto Rico))
January 27, 2021
Theme: Hurricanes, Major Floods, Tornadoes, and Earthquakes amidst COVID-19 and Impacts of Natural Disasters on Farm Workers
- **Gulf Coast Town Hall Meeting**
(Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi)
February 24, 2021
Theme: Hurricanes and Major Floods amidst COVID-19
- **West and Southwest Meeting**
(California, Arizona, New Mexico)
March 31, 2021
Theme: Impacts of Wildfires and COVID-19 on EJ Communities

SAVE THE DATES


Disaster Response Training

A 2-hour webinar is also planned on each of these days to provide training to community stakeholders on how to safely respond to natural disasters amidst COVID-19. The training will be hosted by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Training Program.

For more information, please contact Joy Lee (Joy.Lee@epa.gov)

Next Town Hall: Feb. 24th

Register:
<https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/events.cfm?id=2613>



Asambleas de justicia medioambiental (EJ)/desastres naturales y capacitación en respuesta ante desastres

El grupo Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice le pide que tenga la amabilidad de apartar las fechas para las asambleas públicas que se celebrarán en línea. Más adelante se dará más información, incluyendo hora e inscripción.

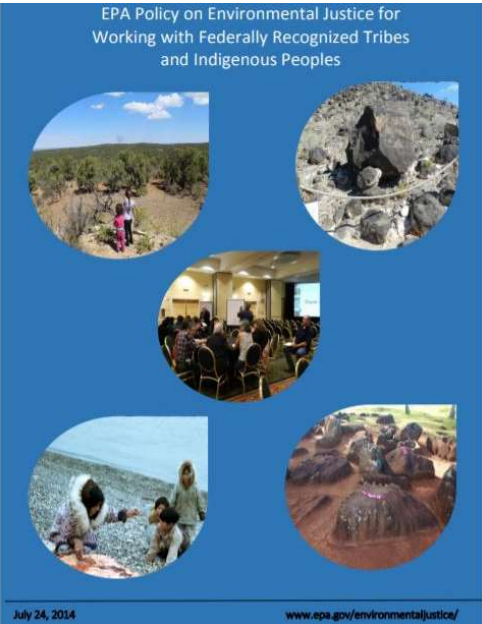
- **Asamblea en el Southeast**
(Florida, Georgia, Carolinas, Caribbean Basin (incluido Puerto Rico))
27 de enero de 2021
Tema: Huracanes, inundaciones serias, tornados y terremotos en medio del COVID-19 y el impacto de los desastres naturales en los trabajadores agrícolas
- **Asamblea en la Gulf Coast**
(Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi)
24 de febrero de 2021
Tema: Huracanes e inundaciones serias en medio del COVID-19
- **Asamblea en el West y Southwest**
(California, Arizona, New Mexico)
31 de marzo de 2021
Tema: El impacto de los incendios forestales y el COVID-19 en comunidades de justicia medioambiental (EJ)

APARTE LAS FECHAS

Capacitación de respuesta ante desastres

También tenemos programado un webinar de 2 horas cada uno de estos días para dar capacitación a los interesados en la comunidad sobre cómo responder a los desastres naturales sin exponerse en medio del COVID-19. Si desea más información, contacte a Joy Lee (Joy.Lee@epa.gov)

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Tribal And Indigenous Peoples EJ Policy

- Provides consistency and clarity in EPA's work with Federally Recognized Tribes and all other Indigenous Peoples (issued in 2014)
- Four Focus Areas for EJ Integration
 - EPA's Direct Implementation of Programs, Policies and Activities
 - Tribal Environmental Protection Programs
 - EPA's Engagement with Indigenous Peoples
 - Intergovernmental Coordination and Collaboration
- OEJ leads implementation, with program and regional staff advisors (EJ TIPAs)
- Coordinating an EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples
 - >700 people registered, from 34 states and 3 countries

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Environmental Justice and Systemic Racism Speaker Series

Understanding and addressing systemic racism and the roots of disproportionate environmental and public health impacts are highly relevant to the mission of EPA and other environmental agencies.

- Key to integrating Environmental Justice in environmental policies and programs and a cornerstone for achieving environmental protection for all people.

The series spotlights cutting-edge work in science, policy, and practice that strengthens the evidentiary link between historical inequities and current environmental conditions. Through this series, we seek to:

- Inspire leaders and staff everywhere to think about how systemic racism relates to their own work
- Align government with leading work to create cohesive, fruitful partnerships
- Create intellectual ferment about addressing systemic racism in a rigorous manner



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EPA Collaboration with States

- ▣ **State EJ Training Webinar Series**
 EPA launched the training webinar series in 2019 to build the long-term capacity of practitioners working to advance environmental justice at the state level on a variety of topics.
- ▣ **EPA-States EJ Monthly calls**
 - Eastern States
 - Western States
- ▣ **Learn more about EPA Collaboration efforts with States:**
 - <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/state-and-local-government>

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Closing Remarks

- Next National EJ Public Engagement call:
 - May 2021
- Subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv for up-to-date information about EJ funding opportunities, events, and webinars:
 - Send a blank email to: join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov
- Send follow-up questions or comments to:
 - Environmental-Justice@epa.gov

