Ms. Margaret J. May  
Chairwoman  
National Environmental Justice Advisory Council  
c/o Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council  
3700 Woodland Avenue  
Kansas City, Missouri 64109  

Dear Ms. May:


As I noted in the introduction to our most recent *Plan EJ 2014* progress report, the EPA is actively working to make a visible difference in communities across the nation and has made considerable progress in areas critical to environmental justice. The council’s advice on ORD’s research programs will assist the agency in further integrating environmental justice into the EPA’s programs, policies and activities.

ORD is currently reviewing the findings and recommendations in the NEJAC’s report. The report’s release is particularly timely, as it coincides with the development of ORD’s *Environmental Justice Cross-cutting Research Roadmap*. Known as the EJ Roadmap, it is one of four roadmaps that examine high-priority research issues cutting across ORD’s research programs. The three others address nitrogen and co-pollutants, children’s environmental health and global climate change.

The EJ Roadmap will provide an overarching framework for environmental-justice research in ORD, promote integration across relevant ORD research programs and communicate ORD’s current research and strategic directions internally and externally with partners and public stakeholders.

The EPA welcomes a meeting with NEJAC to discuss this effort and the report’s findings and recommendations. Within the next two weeks, Sherri White, the agency’s designated federal official for NEJAC, will contact you to coordinate a meeting. She is also available to assist with any questions you might have and can be reached at white.sherri@epa.gov or (202) 564-2462.

Please know that I greatly appreciate your thoughtful report, your recommendations and your hard work.

Sincerely,

Gina McCarthy