

**TRI at 30: EPCRA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Panel**  
**Wednesday, 9:15-10:15 a.m.**  
**Grand Ballroom**

**Moderator: Wendy Cleland-Hamnett, U.S. EPA**

Wendy Cleland-Hamnett is the Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. She took this position recently and, prior to that, was the Director of the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics where she lead EPA's chemical safety program under the Toxic Substances Control Act, numerous safer chemical and pollution prevention activities, efforts to manage risks from several legacy chemicals, and the Toxics Release Inventory program. Her current position adds responsibilities for the pesticides program. Ms. Cleland-Hamnett has worked in a number of EPA offices, including the Office of Environmental Information, the Office of Policy and the Administrator's Office. Wendy received her law degree from George Washington University.

**Panelists:**

**Mark Greenwood, Greenwood Environmental Council**

Greenwood Environmental Counsel is a law firm established by Mark Greenwood to provide advice and assistance to clients in the implementation of environmental strategy. The firm's focus is on governmental policies regarding health and environmental protection that affect the development, manufacture, distribution and use of products in commerce.

Mark's assistance to clients draws on his extensive experience at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, where he served in senior legal and policy positions, as well as many years in private practice advising global companies and non-profit institutions.

During his 16-year career at EPA, Mark served as Associate General Counsel for Pesticides and Toxic Substances, Assistant General Counsel for Superfund and Assistant General Counsel for RCRA. From 1990-1994, Mark was the Director of EPA's Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, overseeing the Agency's programs and initiatives affecting commercial products. He directed regulatory policy under the Toxic Substances Control Act and the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act. These responsibilities included oversight of new chemical substances, regulation of significant existing chemicals (e.g., asbestos, lead, PCB's), and implementation of the Toxic Release Inventory.

Mark also guided EPA policy on a wide range of pollution prevention and right-to-know initiatives, including the Agency's Design for Environment and Green Chemistry

programs, as well as Federal policy on “green” marketing claims, eco-labeling and procurement of environmentally preferable products. He also exercised a leadership role in EPA international activities (e.g., heading the U.S. delegation to the OECD Chemicals Program.)

Mark has been in private practice since 1994. He has provided advice on health and environmental matters to companies in the financial, chemical, energy, aerospace, electronics, heavy manufacturing, consumer products, automobile, pharmaceutical, waste management, entertainment, mining and agricultural sectors. In addition, he has provided assistance to educational and health care institutions. He has served a variety of global clients in North America, Asia and Europe.

Mark is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where he received Bachelor of Arts, Masters of Public Policy and Juris Doctor degrees.

### **John Ridgeway, Washington State Department of Ecology**

John has been with the Washington State Department of Ecology for close to 30 years. Much of that time has been focused on community right-to-know interests at the local, state, tribal, and federal levels. He was directly involved with the first years of The Toxic Release Inventory’s (TRI) implementation and the challenges of addressing the many questions about the TRI - coming from the public, the news media, government, academia, and industry. John works with TRI-specific laws in Washington that trigger additional pollution prevention requirements upon TRI reporters.

Over the same period, John has been part of his agency’s hazardous waste (RCRA) management addressing permitting, compliance / enforcement, technical assistance, fee collection, pollution prevention, toxic’s reduction, and collaboration with EPA. John currently serves on EPA’s e-Manifest federal Advisory Board representing state government. Related work has included nuclear waste management, local and state-wide emergency planning, information technology (IT) / data management, and international collaboration, including hazardous waste management and tracking in the People’s Republic of China.

John has also been a two-term member, including co-chair, of the EPA’s National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), representing state and local government. John has a B.S. degree in energy studies from The Evergreen State College.

### **Jolene Keplin, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa**

Jolene Keplin is a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Reservation located in Belcourt, ND. She has worked as a Tribal Health Educator for seventeen years. She assists the Environmental Sanitarian with inspecting food stands at local Pow-Wows, Food Handling courses, and her group has addressed issues involved with hydraulic fracking. Jolene also serves a member of the National Tribal Toxics Council (NTTC) – the mission of which is to advance toxics management policies and programs, consistent with the needs, interests, and unique legal status of American Indian tribes,

Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. Jolene graduated from the University of Mary, Bismarck, ND with a Bachelors of Science in Business, and has three children and three grandchildren.

### **Dr. Beverly Wright, Dillard University's Deep South Center for Environmental Justice**

Dr. Beverly L. Wright, environmental justice scholar and advocate, author, civic leader and professor of Sociology, is the founder of the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice currently at Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana. The Center addresses environmental and health inequities along the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor and is a community/university partnership organization providing education, training and job placement for underserved populations in environmental justice communities within the United States. After Hurricane Katrina, the Center focused its energies largely on research and policy efforts, community outreach, assistance and the education and training of African-American and minority populations. In 2010, Dr. Wright directed the focus of the Center's activities on the education, training and public policy needs and concerns of communities affected by the BP oil spill, also extending the Center's reach to include communities affected by Hurricane Sandy.

She is currently a member of the US EPA National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, the U.N. Conference on Climate Change, the Tony Mizzocchi Center of the United Steelworkers of America and serves as the president of the African American Women of Purpose and Power in New Orleans.

Dr. Wright has received numerous awards throughout her career, most notably the 2006 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award, the 2008 EPA Environmental Justice Achievement Award, and the prestigious 2009 Heinz Award. In 2012, she received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University at Buffalo, State University of New York Sociology Department and presented the departmental commencement address.

Dr. Wright is an accomplished author. Two of her most recognized books were authored with Dr. Robert Bullard, ***Race, Place & the Environment After Hurricane Katrina***, and ***The Wrong Complexion for Protection: How The Government Response Endangers African-American Communities***. Dr. Wright continues to serve as a strong voice in the grassroots environmental justice movement.

### **Dr. Paul Mohai, University of Michigan School of Natural Resources & Environment**

Dr. Mohai is a Professor at the University of Michigan, where he teaches courses in environmental justice, environmental policy, and environmental public opinion. He is a long-time researcher in the area of environmental justice and is the author or co-author of numerous articles, books, and reports on the topic, including *Race and the Incidence*

*of Environmental Hazards, Toxic Wastes and Race at Twenty* and “Which Came First, People or Pollution?” He organized in 1990 with Dr. Bunyan Bryant the historic Michigan Conference on Race and the Incidence of Environmental Hazards, served between 2007 and 2013 on EPA’s National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, and received in 2014 the Damu Smith Power of One Award from the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice. His current research involves national level studies examining the causes of environmental disparities and the role environmental factors play in accounting for racial and socioeconomic disparities in health.