

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
COLLABORATIVE ACTION PLAN
(LOUISIANA COMMUNITY)**

Focus Area 1

FOCUS AREA 1: CLIMATE, COASTAL EROSION POLICY

- Goals:**
- 1. Reduction of Coastal Erosion**
 - 2. Rebuild Coastal Infrastructure**
 - 3. Community Involvement in Coastal Policy Decisions**

	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	1. Prioritize what causes Coastal Erosion	6WQ	<p>General Comments</p> <p>12/2015: CWPPRA management will work on bringing awareness to the CWPPRA agencies’ outreach committee members about EJ concerns when developing proposed coastal restoration projects.</p> <p>1/25/2016 Update: EPA CWPPRA Team attended multiple local Coastal Zone Management meetings where the entire coastal communities attended, as well as local, state and federal governments, private lands owners to discuss coastal restoration issues. EPA is proposing 24 coastal restoration projects in the upcoming PPL26 for voting as well as other stakeholders.</p> <p>12/2015: Encourage EJ groups to sign up for the CWPPRA <i>Newsflash</i> which will inform the EJ communities about important coastal events and public decision-making meetings. Sent the EJ EPA representatives the weblink to send out to our EJ communities (http://lacoast.gov/new/News/Newsflash.aspx)</p>
	2. Develop a viable Coastal Erosion Strategy	6WQ	
	3. Develop an initiative with communities, industry and government for Coastal Erosion Reduction and Restoration	6WQ	

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		6WQ	<p>1/2016: Encourage participation in EJ community to attend upcoming January 2016 Regional Planning Team (RPT) meeting where coastal restoration projects are proposed for consideration for the CWPPRA Priority Project List (PPL)</p> <p>The EPA Office of Water (OW), Green Infrastructure (GI) Program launched a project to explore the linkages between community resiliency and green infrastructure (GI), which included four participating municipalities including New Orleans, Louisiana. The pilot community is located in a designated Urban Waters area and will receive tailored technical assistance workshops focused on using green infrastructure to help mitigate projected climate change impacts and further resiliency planning.</p> <p>4/8/2015: Region 6 participated in the New Orleans project scoping and kick-off call with city representatives, EPA OW and EPA's contractor, Tetra Tech, to identify specific focus areas for the charrette which will accommodate local needs and environmental conditions.</p> <p>8/11-12/2015: Climate Resiliency Technical Assistance. EPA and EPA's contractor, Tetra Tech, provided support for the community to design and implement a charrette where local stakeholders would develop a conceptual design(s) of their GI solutions. The <i>New Orleans Resiliency and Green Infrastructure Pilot Project</i> planning session was conducted in the pilot project area of the Lower Ninth Ward. Approximately 40 stakeholders were given an opportunity to consider opportunities provided by GI on public properties, how those opportunities could be applied in the neighborhood to support resiliency goals, and how those practices</p>
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		6WQ	<p>could be scaled across the city. A report that documents the charrette outcomes, is expected to be finalized early 2016. It is hoped that this project will serve as a nation-wide pilot; and possibly adapted by other communities across the country,</p> <p>12/23/2015: EPA’s Office of Sustainable Communities awarded a Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program grant to Global Green USA to initiate planning efforts for a Neighborhood Development technical assistance workshop in which New Orleans was selected to receive based on several criteria, including need for assistance, urgency, substantial upcoming projects and community engagement. The City of New Orleans requested assistance for the Gentilly Neighborhood and envisions Gentilly as a progressive and sustainable neighborhood that sets the tone for future development in the city.</p> <p><u>Approved for Planning and Design (Phase I)</u> <u>Caminada Headlands Back Barrier Marsh Creation (BA-171) (2014-2015)</u></p> <p>The Caminada Headland has experienced some of the highest shoreline retreat rates in Louisiana. The increased losses occurred in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 as the breaches remained open for an extended length of time. The losses were exacerbated by Tropical Storm Fay and Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008. The continued deterioration of Caminada headland threatens thousands of acres of wetland habitat as well as critical infrastructure, including Port Fourchon, LA Highway 1, and the lower Lafourche levee system.</p>
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		6WQ	<p>Restoration Strategy: The goals of this project are to: 1) Create and/or nourish 430 acres of back barrier marsh, by pumping sediment from an offshore borrow site; 2) Create a platform upon which the beach and dune can migrate, reducing the likelihood of breaching, improving the longevity of the barrier shoreline, and protecting wetlands and infrastructure to the north and west. The proposed project is expected to slow the current trend of degradation in the headland. This project would create 300 acres of back barrier intertidal marsh and nourish 130 acres of emergent marsh behind 3.5 miles of the Caminada beach using material dredged from the Gulf of Mexico.</p> <p>UPDATE: <u>Caminada Headlands Back Barrier Marsh Creation (BA-171)</u> Planning and design are underway with the hope to finalize and seek Phase II dollars to construct in 2017-2018. Restoration Strategy is to create and nourish 430 acres of back barrier marsh; create a platform where the beach and dune can migrate, reducing the likelihood of breaching, and improving the longevity of barrier shoreline, and protect existing wetlands and infrastructure to the north and west.</p> <p><u>Approved for Construction for 2015-2016 (Phase II)</u> <u>Bayou Dupont Sediment Delivery Marsh Creation and Terracing Project # (BA-164)</u></p> <p>Wetlands in the Barataria Basin were historically nourished by the fresh water, sediment and nutrients delivered by the Mississippi River and its many distributary channels. From 1932 to 1990, the Barataria Basin lost over 245,000 acres of marsh and from 1978 to 1990, the area experienced the highest rate of wetland loss in coastal Louisiana.</p>
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		<p>Restoration Strategy: Sediments from a Mississippi River borrow site will be hydraulically dredged and pumped via pipeline to create/nourish approximately 254 acres of marsh and approximately 26,200 linear feet of terraces (26 acres) will be constructed in open water cells. The project would benefit 280 acres of wetlands by converting open water into marsh and nourishing existing marsh remnants.</p> <p><u>UPDATE:</u> <u>Bayou Dupont Sediment Delivery Marsh Creation and Terracing Project (BA-164)</u></p> <p>CPRA expects the change order to be signed and effective by end of next week. It is likely that the contractor will begin constructing containment dikes within a short time after the change order becomes effective. They anticipate February. Weather delays have slowed the contractor’s performance in FL, hence the dredge may not be on-site until March. Best estimate right now. CPRA had CIAP funds remaining after completion of the BA-43 (LDSP) project which they plan to put toward creating additional acreage. The combined acreage for both the CWPPRA and CIAP portions of the Marsh creation cell is currently estimated at 261 acres. Barring any delays, they believe dredging should be completed within 60-90 days. Because of land rights issues, Cell C of the terraces has been abandoned and the money is being used to create additional marsh. With this reduction, the total length of terraces is now ~13,000 LF (about ½ of original). The terracing plans and specs are anticipated in March and it will be another 2 months to get the project bid.</p>
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		6WQ	<p><u>Hydrologic Restoration and Vegetative Planting in the des Allemands Swamp Project (BA-34-2)</u></p> <p>1/2016: Task Force meeting received final funding vote for construction. The purpose of the project is to restore and maintain selected cypress-tupelo swamp tracts in the upper Barataria Basin and restore and maintain water quality in the swamp and in Bayou Chevreuil. The project will enhance an area of swamp (2,395 acres with an expected 529.96 Average Annual Habitat Units (AAHUs) of benefits.</p> <p>Fall 2016: Construction should begin</p>
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Focus Area 2

FOCUS AREA 2: DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

Goals:

- 1. Community Involvement and Engagement**
- 2. Development of Notification Procedures**
- 3. Develop safeguards to protect EJ Communities from unintended consequences of Disaster Recovery**

Disaster Response and Recovery is typically led by FEMA. EPA’s response under its own authority would be centered on a known or suspected release.

	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide citizen representation through a community technical assistant (with authority); similar to community technical person provided through TAG grant funds under Superfund. 2. Provide citizens information about unintended consequences. During Disaster Recovery, citizens want to know how EPA intends to avoid a solution to a problem, creating another problem during remediation in Disaster Recovery. 	<p>EPA Divisions</p> <p>6WQ</p>	<p>All of EPA’s environmental programs are targeted to respond to communities at risk. Examples include enforcement settlements that benefit fence line communities, outreach on new regulations or permits, response to pesticide exposure by farmworkers, and ensuring clean water. Technical Assistance Grants; however, are only authorized under the Superfund Statute for NPL sites.</p> <p>In responding to disaster recovery, EPA strives to keep the public informed of all actions being taken and to be receptive to concerns and recommendations. This helps reduce the potential for making mistakes or creating additional problems.</p>

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		6SF	<p>In 2016, the States of Region 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) and EPA Region 6 conducted LEPC workshops throughout Region 6 to provide assistance and ideas to LEPCs and facilities on how to further implement the provisions of EPCRA.</p> <p>5/23/2016: Provided the 2016 Calendar Dates for LEPC Workshops in Region 6 to Louisiana EJ Stakeholders</p> <p>5/2016: Three LEPC Workshops were held in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Addis, Lake Charles areas.</p> <p>8/17/2016: A LEPC Workshop is scheduled for Shreveport/Monroe areas in Minden, LA.</p>
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Focus Area 3

FOCUS AREA 3: NEW ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Goals:

1. Examine adequacy of existing regulations to protect the communities
2. Permitting and Enforcement
3. Early involvement of citizens in economic incentive decisions for industry

	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	1. Implement a comprehensive community outreach, education and communication plan (community training, listening sessions, workshops, public hearings, etc.)	OEJTIA OAQPS 6MM 6SF	6/2014: EPA HQs, conducted an EJ Workshop at Dillard University in New Orleans. The workshop was hosted by the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and focused on proposed updates for emissions standards for refineries covering proposed key features to new rules, and also how to comment effectively on that refinery rule. 9/29/15: EPA's Final Petroleum Refinery Rule 10/2014: Limitless Vistas Inc. (LVI), a non-profit organization operating in New Orleans, La., received a Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. 3/2015: LVI hosted environmental training and issued certificates to 24 unemployed and underemployed individuals from the communities of Gert Town and Central City.

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		<p>OAQPS OEJTIA 6MM</p> <p>6MM</p> <p>OEJTIA 6MM</p>	<p>11/2015: EPA conducted a Clean Power Plan Community Training on November 4-5 in Port Arthur, Texas. The training focused on what communities need to know about State and Federal Plans, the Clean Energy Incentive Program, the Importance of State Engagement, the Stakeholder Perspective on the Clean Power Plan, Organizing and Developing Effective Public Comments, including an overview of EJ Screen, and other community resources. EJ community stakeholders from Louisiana and other Region 6 states helped plan and conduct the training.</p> <p>12/11/15: EPA Region 6 conducted a Clean Power Plan Webinar for communities.</p> <p>1/26/16: EPA Region 6 presented a brief overview of the Clean Power Plan on the EPA R6 Quarterly EJ Update Call.</p> <p>02/2016: The Supreme Court's stayed the implementation of the Clean Power Plan, pending judicial review.</p> <p>07/2016: No significant R6 support for Clean Power Plan at this time.</p>
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Focus Area 4

FOCUS AREA 4: IMPACTS ON FENCELINE COMMUNITIES

Goals:

- 1. Disclosure of and access to chemicals used and released**
- 2. Evaluation of offsite impacts from existing facilities**
- 3. Encourage a good neighbor policy between the facilities and communities**

	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	1. EPA encourage industry to provide citizens with information on chemicals used and released	6MM 6EN	<p>The Refinery MACT/NESHAP will be finalized. The proposal included a significant feature for fence line communities; namely the requirement to perform extensive fence line monitoring coupled with action trigger levels to address routine and fugitive emissions.</p> <p>12/1/2015: Final Petroleum Refinery Sector Risk and Technology Review and New Source Performance Standards - The rule requires first-of-its-kind fenceline monitoring to better protect and inform nearby communities, while also strengthening emission controls for flares, pressure relief devices, storage tanks, and delayed coker operations that will reduce thousands of tons of hazardous air pollutants. The action requires continuous monitoring of benzene concentrations at the fenceline of refinery facilities to ensure that refineries appropriately manage toxic emissions. The rule requires corrective action to protect neighboring communities from being exposed to harmful levels of emissions if the established standard level is exceeded. The new fenceline monitors must encircle the facility to detect benzene at very low levels, and the monitoring data will be posted on EPA's website.</p>

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	<p>3. EPA establish a board to oversee communication between industry and communities</p>	<p>EPA Divisions</p>	<p>7/7/2016: LDEQ hosted a community meeting to discuss chloroprene monitoring efforts in LaPlace. Officials from LDEQ, EPA, Denka Performance Elastomer LLC, and local parish government answered questions and provided updates on monitoring results.</p> <p>All of EPA’s environmental programs are targeted to respond to communities at risk. Examples include enforcement settlements that benefit fence line communities, outreach on new regulations or permits, response to pesticide exposure by farmworkers, and ensuring clean water. However, none of the laws that EPA operates under provide authority for this type of Board.</p>
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Focus Area 5

FOCUS AREA 5: CROSS-CUTTING AREAS

Goal: Cultivate healthy communities through strong, resilient grassroots organizations

	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	We will work in partnership to:		
	<u>Capacity Building</u> 1. Initiate a capacity building initiative to enhance administration, leadership and communication strategies of grassroots organizations responding to EJ communities	OEJTIA	Recommendation: Annual Summit (under consideration) 8/9-10/2016: EPA Region 6 Environmental Justice Summit Dallas, Texas.
	<u>Enhanced Communication</u> 1. Host quarterly Conference Calls with LA EJ Stakeholders	OEJTIA EPA Divisions	8/31/15: Hosted Quarterly Conference Call 2/16/2016: Hosted Quarterly Conference Call 5/26/2016: Hosted Quarterly Conference Call 8/25/2016: Tentative Quarterly Conference Call
		OEJTIA	6/27/2016: OEJTIA visited Baton Rouge and New Orleans Louisiana EJ Stakeholders to discuss the draft EJ 2020 Action Agenda Framework. The EJ 2020 Action Agenda is EPA’s strategic plan on environmental justice for the years 2016 – 2020. OEJTIA provided an overview of EJ 2020’s goals and priority areas, responded to questions, and encouraged participants to submit inputs on the plan. EPA accepted public comments on the plan until July 28, 2016.

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	<p>2. Host monthly Focus Area Calls – TBD</p> <p>3. Create a communication tool to report status of identified EJ Concerns to Stakeholders</p> <p>4. Provide upcoming training and funding opportunities and environmental information to Stakeholders via email</p>	<p>OEJTIA</p> <p>OEJTIA</p> <p>OEJTIA</p>	<p>TBD: Monthly Focus Area Calls if necessary</p> <p>Quarterly: Updates provided on state quarterly conference calls</p> <p>07/2016: OEJTIA uses the Louisiana EJ Mail List to email Louisiana stakeholders information on EPA activities related to environmental justice, grants, and training, as well as relevant information from other government agencies and non-profit organizations.</p>
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Focus Area 6

FOCUS AREA 6: MAKING A VISIBLE DIFFERENCE – ALEXANDRIA/PINEVILLE, LA

Goals:

- 1. Support Making A Visible Difference in Communities efforts in Alexandria/Pineville, LA, by connecting environmental justice needs with existing resources within EPA and beyond**
- 2. Coordinate across EPA programs and with federal, State, and local, academia and industry partners to better support community needs and to help them access a wide range of resources and assistance**
- 3. Engage and empower the community to discuss and resolve issues through the development of the Community Sustainability Network (CSN) and provide the community with environmental data to guide the decisions-making process at the community level**

	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	COMMENTS / STATUS
<i>Proposed Activities for the Next Two Years</i>	<p>We will work in partnership to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess Environmental Conditions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Air Sampling – Sampled for semi volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) b) Sediment Soil Samples – Screen for total polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in parks and schools closest to the active creosote sites 	<p>EPA Divisions</p> <p>LDEQ LDHH</p> <p>EPA Contractor</p>	<p>EPA will continue to work with the state, industry and local governments to engage with community members of Alexandria/Pineville, LA to understand the offsite impacts from two creosoting facilities in the area.</p> <p>2013-2015: The LDEQ collected 24-hour air sampling data from the mobile air monitoring laboratory (MAML) from both creosoting sites. Three sets of data were collected and sent to the state LDHH for review. LDHH will also produce a report explaining how the data relates to the community’s health.</p> <p>2/1-4/2016: An EPA team along with Weston contractors conducted soil sampling at J.S. Slocum School, Pineville Soccer Park and Hunter Park. Samples taken at Hunter Park had levels of benzo(a)pyrene (BAP) above the Louisiana Risk Evaluation and</p>

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	<p>c) Groundwater Data Review – Permit Oversight</p> <p>2. Improve Health of Community – Outreach</p> <p>a) Health Survey</p> <p>b) Healthy Homes Training – Communities will be provided information regarding ways to improve health, reduce exposures and avoid everyday health hazards.</p>	<p>LDEQ EPA</p> <p>EPA LSU-Alex EPA R4</p> <p>6MM OEJTIA PEHSU</p>	<p>Corrective Action Program (RECAP) residential screening value. JS Slocum also had an area with BAP above the RECAP residential screening value, as well as the presence of pentachlorophenol. EPA and LDEQ will work with the permit holder to address remediation of sediment in the Chatlin Lake Canal in Hunter Park.</p> <p>5/2016: Letters with the data results was mailed to the cities of Alexandria and Pineville, as well as the CSN and community representatives.</p> <p>6/2016: EPA conducted additional sampling at JS Slocum school. Test results and final report is pending.</p> <p>Ongoing: EPA is reviewing groundwater data collected near the active creosoting site to ensure the contaminant plume is adequately defined.</p> <p>Fall 2016: EPA is working with Louisiana State University (LSU) – Alexandria under the Colleges/Underserved Communities Partnership Program (CUPP) to perform a health survey for the Alexandria and Pineville communities. LSU Alexandria is currently developing the survey tool and plans to implement the survey.</p> <p>9/2/2016 (tentative): EPA Region 6 and the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSU) in coordination with the MVD Team are planning a Healthy Homes Training in the Alexandria/Pineville, LA area.</p>
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	<p>3. Improve Communication</p> <p>a) Community Sustainability Network (CSN) – The CSN is a network of members from the community and industry that is being developed to discuss and resolve community issues.</p>	<p>6MM OEJTIA</p> <p>6MM OEJTIA 6RC 6SF</p>	<p>12/2/2014 & 2/15/2015: Community organized 2 community meetings focused on their environmental concerns.</p> <p>4/2015: EPA hosted a series of webinars to introduce concepts to the community members with regard to the collaborative approach to problem solving and working towards sustainable solutions to address community concerns.</p> <p>4/2015: EPA hosted a series of webinars to introduce concepts to the community members with regard to the collaborative approach to problem solving and working towards sustainable solutions to address community concerns.</p> <p>8/24/2015: EPA facilitated Scoping Session I, to introduce the MVD project and ‘sustainable community’ concepts. In addition, the idea of convening a Community Sustainability Network (CSN) made up of members of the community and corporate members was introduced to the participants.</p> <p>9/17/2015: EPA hosted a meeting in the regional office with three corporate parties and discussed in detail the voluntary actions for the Action Plan.</p> <p>2/1/2016: EPA facilitated Scoping Session II for the community members focused on updates on projects since meeting in August and re-introduced the CSN concept.</p> <p>2/2/2016: The first Community Sustainability Network meeting was facilitated by Skeo Solutions. In attendance were community members, State House Representative Jeff Hall, Rapides Area Planning Commission representatives, faith-based leader Reverend</p>
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		<p>CSN</p> <p>CSN</p>	<p>Wilkinson, and local creosoting facility representatives. Leaders agreed to host the next two meetings in the community.</p> <p>2/2/2016: EPA hosted a bus tour of the hazardous sites in the Alexandria/Pineville, LA area following the CSN meeting.</p> <p>2/20/2016: Representative Hall facilitated the first CSN meeting with the help of the Rapides Area Planning Commission. In attendance were councilmen from the City of Alexandria, police jury representatives, community members and faith-based leaders. Industry representatives and EPA participated via phone.</p> <p>5/21/2016: Representative Hall facilitated the second CSN meeting to further discussions on the CSN and to hear community concerns.</p>
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Focus Area 7

FOCUS AREA 7: St. Rose Community One Voice – St. Charles Parish, LA

Goal: Collaboratively Addressing Community Environmental Justice Community Concerns

COMMUNITY	KEY ACTIVITIES	LEAD	COMMENTS / STATUS
St. Rose Community One Voice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RA and OEJTIA Director attended meeting with Louisiana Bucket Brigade (LABB), St. Rose Community One Voice and General Honoré on June 9, 2015. LABB submitted a letter with a list of requests to EPA to consider dated June 17, 2015. 	OEJTIA EPA Divisions	<p>8/12/15: EPA mailed response letter to community requests dated June 17, 2015.</p> <p>3/11/2016: EPA mailed updated response letter to community requests.</p> <p>3/20/2016: EPA contacted the community regarding scheduling a visit to discuss EPA’s updated responses.</p> <p>4/27/16: EPA OEJTIA staff visited St. Rose Community to provide an update on recent EPA actions and to hear from the community their concerns with Shell/IMTT.</p> <p>4/27/16: Commitments as a result of the meeting are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EPA committed to assist the community with convening a stakeholder meeting with key federal, state and local agencies and industry representatives to discuss their concerns related to Shell/IMTT (pending) - EPA committed to share the NEIC Final report (6/1/16 shared NEIC Final report with the community)

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	<p>2. EPA inspection of IMTT/Shell facility</p>	<p>6EN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EPA committed to continue coordinating bringing the GMAP back to St. Rose to monitor for H2S - Community committed to begin filing complaints when they experience odors and other related issues to EPA, LDEQ, LDHH and LABB. <p>In response to EPA conducting an inspection of IMTT/Shell facility, EPA Region 6 takes this request under advisement. Please note that the inspection/investigation and enforcement process is confidential.</p> <p><u>Response Update:</u> In response to citizen complaints, EPA Region 6 requested that EPA’s National Environmental Investigation Center (NEIC) conduct a comprehensive multimedia inspection at International Matex Tanks Terminal (IMTT) on November 2-6, 2015. The inspection evaluated compliance with the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Risk Management Program (112r), and Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act which focused on hydrogen sulfide (H₂S). The Clean Air Act portion of the inspection focused on tank compliance for storing crude oil and petroleum products, operation/compliance of various control equipment, and the operational relationship to the Shell facility. The Shell facility is currently owned and/or operated by Equilon Enterprises LLC doing business as Shell Oil Products US. The final inspection report will be issued in the summer of 2016.</p>
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	<p>3. Results of air monitoring by EPA</p>	<p>6SF</p>	<p>In addition to the on-site inspection in November, NEIC deployed their mobile monitoring unit, Geospatial Monitoring of Air Pollutants (GMAP) to St. Rose the week of January 25, 2016 to monitor for methane, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes. The GMAP did not detect any of those compounds in the St. Rose area with the exception of methane near a portable toilet. EPA Region 6 has requested that NEIC return to the area with two different GMAP units in the summer of 2016, during full operation of the refinery and IMTT to monitor for H₂S, as well as for the other compounds previously monitored.</p> <p>EPA’s Superfund program does not have any ongoing air monitoring activities in the St. Rose Community. Superfund did use its authorities to sample air quality to determine whether a release of hazardous substances [hydrogen sulfide] occurred. The testing did not find a release from industrial properties and supported the more extensive air sampling efforts conducted by LDEQ. Listed below are several EPA activities relating to the St. Rose Community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On November 3-7, 2014, Region 6 Superfund conducted air sampling and monitoring at 17 locations in the St. Rose community. - Data collected showed that levels of hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide, and benzene were under public health levels of concern. - Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) Ambient Air Monitoring Sites (the 2 closest sites, Kenner and Hahnville, are between 6 – 7 miles
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			<p>from the IMTT Facility) show that air quality in the area is below the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Ozone, PM2.5, and NOx. QA/QC for these air sampling locations is conducted by LDEQ and EPA Region 6.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is our understanding that LDEQ does not have plans for additional routine sampling, however, it is also our understanding that they would consider sampling further if an emergency arises. <p>A copy of results of EPA Region 6 St. Rose Air Assessment – Summary of Air Monitoring/Sampling Data Assessment – Period 11/03/2014 through 11/07/2014 has been provided to the Louisiana Bucket Brigade and to the St. Rose Community One Voice community group.</p> <p><u>Response Update:</u> EPA has requested NEIC to return this summer to conduct an additional sampling campaign while the refinery is fully operational, and EPA encourages the St. Rose community residents to report air quality issues as soon as possible when they occur.</p> <p>EPA Region 6 is maintaining contact with LDEQ and Facilities in St. Rose as part of its work in assessing ongoing ambient air conditions, including its ongoing review of nuisance odor complaints that are reported. EPA also periodically checks the iWitness Pollution Map online as part of its review. The EPA encourages the St. Rose community to stay engaged with EPA</p>
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	<p>4. An Action Plan for St. Charles Parish - The parish bears a significant burden of pollution from the grain elevators, chemical plants and refineries. The IMTT / Shell facility is just one of several problematic facilities. Just as the region is making an Action Plan for the state, so we request an Action Plan for the parish, one that addresses needs on a neighborhood level.</p>	<p>OEJTIA EPA Programs</p>	<p>through its Louisiana Environmental Justice Collaborative Action Plan.</p> <p>EPA Region 6 is currently developing Collaborative Environmental Justice Action Plans for Region 6 states. The draft Louisiana EJ Collaborative Action Plan is being developed based on information gathered at the Louisiana Environmental Justice (EJ) Workshop held in September 2013 and the EJ Workshop Planning team. The draft action plan consists of focus areas, goals, key activities and actions. Our interest is to include specific community recommendations for our consideration as part of the action plan. We should be releasing next week the draft plan for review and comment to our EJ stakeholders. The St. Rose Community One Voice concerns will be included as part of the Louisiana EJ Collaborative Action Plan.</p> <p><u>Response Update:</u> On September 30, 2015, a copy of the final EPA Region 6 Louisiana Environmental Justice Collaborative Action Plan was shared with Louisiana EJ Stakeholders. The St. Rose Community One Voice – St. Charles Parish, LA environmental concerns are included as an integral part of the Louisiana Collaborative Action Plan. EPA will continue to work collaboratively with the community and other stakeholders in response to their concerns.</p>
	<p>5. Funding for air monitoring systems, whether via a SEP or a grant</p>	<p>6EN OEJTIA</p>	<p>The Supplement Environmental Projects (SEPs) are environmentally beneficial projects that a violator voluntarily agrees to undertake during settlement of an enforcement</p>

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	<p>5. Assistance with statewide summit as described by General Honoré</p>	<p>OEJTIA</p>	<p>action. Certainly, if opportunities are available for SEPs to be considered, we encourage their use. You may submit SEP ideas into the Region 6 SEP Library at the following link: http://yosemite1.epa.gov/r6/vac.nsf/WebSEP?OpenForm or you may submit them to Charlotte Runnels at runnels.charlotte@epa.gov.</p> <p>For future grant opportunities, please see the links provided below:</p> <p>Federal Grants: http://www.grants.gov/ Office of Air and Radiation: http://www.epa.gov/airprogm/oar/grants_funding.html Office of Research and Development: http://www2.epa.gov/air-research eCivis Grants Management System: http://www.ecivis.com/ National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences: http://www.niehs.nih.gov/funding/grants/index.cfm</p> <p>We recently spoke with General Honoré regarding the request for assistance with a statewide summit. We are working with him on specific details for our consideration.</p> <p>OEJTIA will contact Anne Rolfes to discuss the agency’s response (TBD).</p> <p><u>Response Update:</u> Since 2013, EPA Region 6 has conducted five EJ workshops in Louisiana, New Mexico, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. The purpose for these workshops is to gain a better understanding</p>
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		<p>of today's EJ challenges, discuss strategies and best practices for healthy communities, and to be followed with a collaborative action plan that focuses on EJ priorities in each state. Collaborative action plans are being implemented in four states, including Louisiana.</p> <p><u>Response Update:</u> June 13-15, 2016: EPA held the Oklahoma EJ Training Workshop – Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. A collaborative action plan will be developed.</p> <p>August 9-10, 2016: EPA Region 6 will host and EPA EJ Summit in Dallas. This summit will highlight EPA's ongoing collaborative environmental work, challenges and accomplishments throughout Region 6 communities. It is EPA's goal to use the summit opportunity to underscore best practices based on what has worked well in some of the communities, and share those practices for the benefit of other communities.</p>
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