

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Title VI Complaints](#); [Garnett, Desean](#)  
**Subject:** discrimination complaint against a recipient of EPA funds.  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:21:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [1724801620366blob.jpg](#)  
[AG2.docx](#)

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My Name is [REDACTED]. On behalf of several families that are the tradition owners of a pristine rainforest area of land in [REDACTED] called [REDACTED], I am filing a complaint against the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA), who receives funding from USEPA for many of its projects.

[REDACTED]  
Pago Pago, AS 96799

[REDACTED]



Our Native Land Ownership, Constitutional and Civil rights, are being violated by the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) as they assist a foreign wind farm developer to obtain rights to our lands in American Samoa for the development of a 100 million dollar windfarm. ASPA is also aware that they are violating an American Samoa Government (ASG) Appellate Court ruling and injunction regarding our land. We feel their actions also constitute a violation of the Due Process Clause of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States of American, and the Due Process Clause (Sec.2) and Policy Protective Legislation (Sec 3.) of the American Samoa Constitution, Bill of Rights.

ASPA has used bribery and corruption to illegally obtain a Land Use Permit and invalid land registration to gain access to our lands. ASPA has also paid out over 2 million dollars to certain village leaders in an attempt to illegally obtain rights to this land. Some of these payments were made to a Judge in the ASG Courts and another to the Chairman of the Board of ASPA.

We have the names of several individuals from families who are the traditional owners of this land, who's rights are being violated by ASPA and the foreign developer, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. ASPA has been handing out envelopes of money to village leaders who have made attempts to ostracize and intimidate him, even having the police try to remove him from his own land, because he is standing up for his rights. ASPA feels that since

we are not Chiefs or Village Leaders, they can discriminate against us, and hand out money to village chiefs to forcefully abuse our land, constitutional, and civil rights. We have documents showing the illegally obtained land use permit and land registration they are using. We have a copy of the ASG Appellate Court Ruling that shows ASPA and [REDACTED] are violating our traditional land ownership rights and injunction on this land. We have a copy of an attempt to register this land, by certain chiefs (initiated by ASPA) to which our families objected. This issue was to be addressed In our Office of Samoan Affairs (OSA) within months, and if not, referred to ASG Court. OSA has sat on this for over 3 years without action or referring it to the courts, allowing ASPA and [REDACTED] to access our lands illegally. OSA also signed the Land Use Permit, knowing that what they were doing was unethical and illegal. An ASG House of Representatives hearing was also cancelled, last minute, to hide that fact that the Land Use Permit was issued illegally.

We have attempted to resolve this issue in our local ASG agencies, and branches of government, but due to ASG corruption, we have been ignored. We have also contacted leadership of the ASIIA and OIA offices of the DOI, notifying them of this abuse of our Native Land Ownership rights, but because their responsibilities are not "investigative or enforcement" they will not address this issue. This abuse of our rights by ASPA has been ongoing for over 4 years as they access our lands without our consent and against our wishes. To this day ASPA continues to trespass on our lands even after receiving cease and desist letters form our families.

We are attaching a copy of the ASG Appellate Court ruling on the land called Manunu on which ASPA and its developer are planning the windfarm. This is the latest court ruling on this land. ASPA has been violating this court ruling and bribing certain village leaders to illegally obtain rights to this land for the developer. We are respectfully asking the US EPA to look into our claims of this violation of our Civil, Constitutional and Traditional land ownership rights by ASPA.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]