



Environmental Justice



Region 4

Science and Ecosystem Support Division

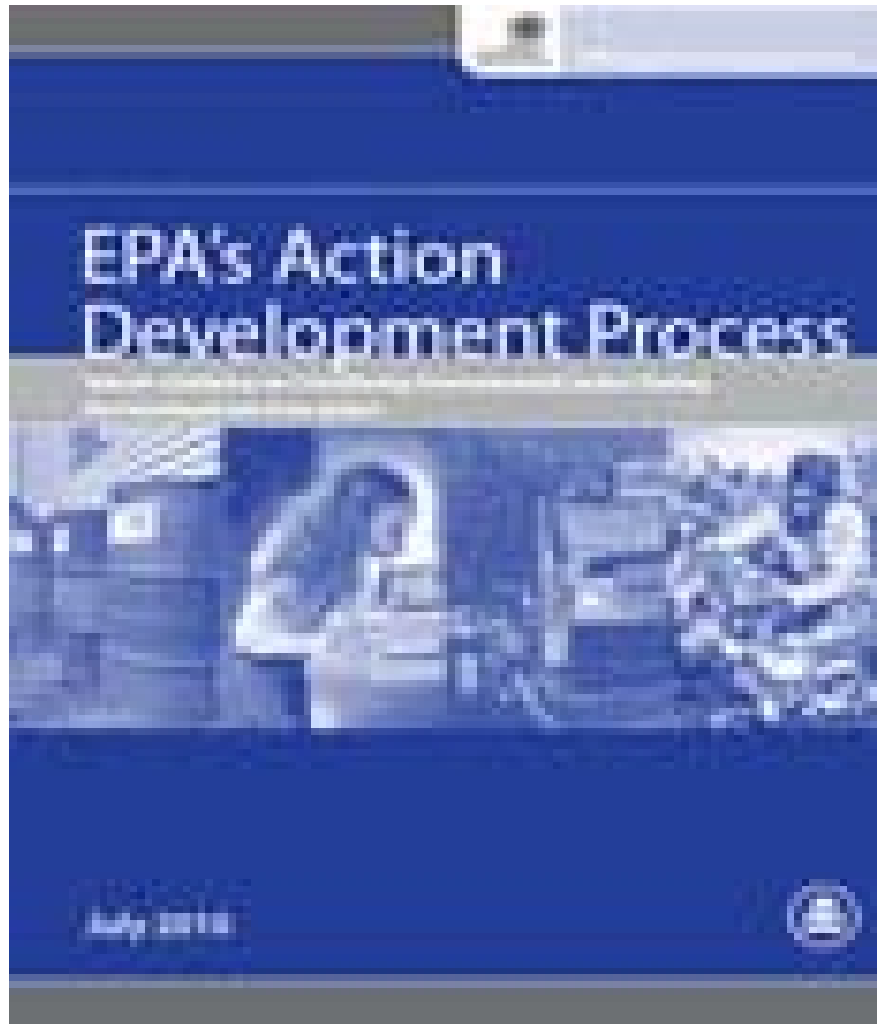


Environmental Justice

- Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.
- EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this Nation. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.



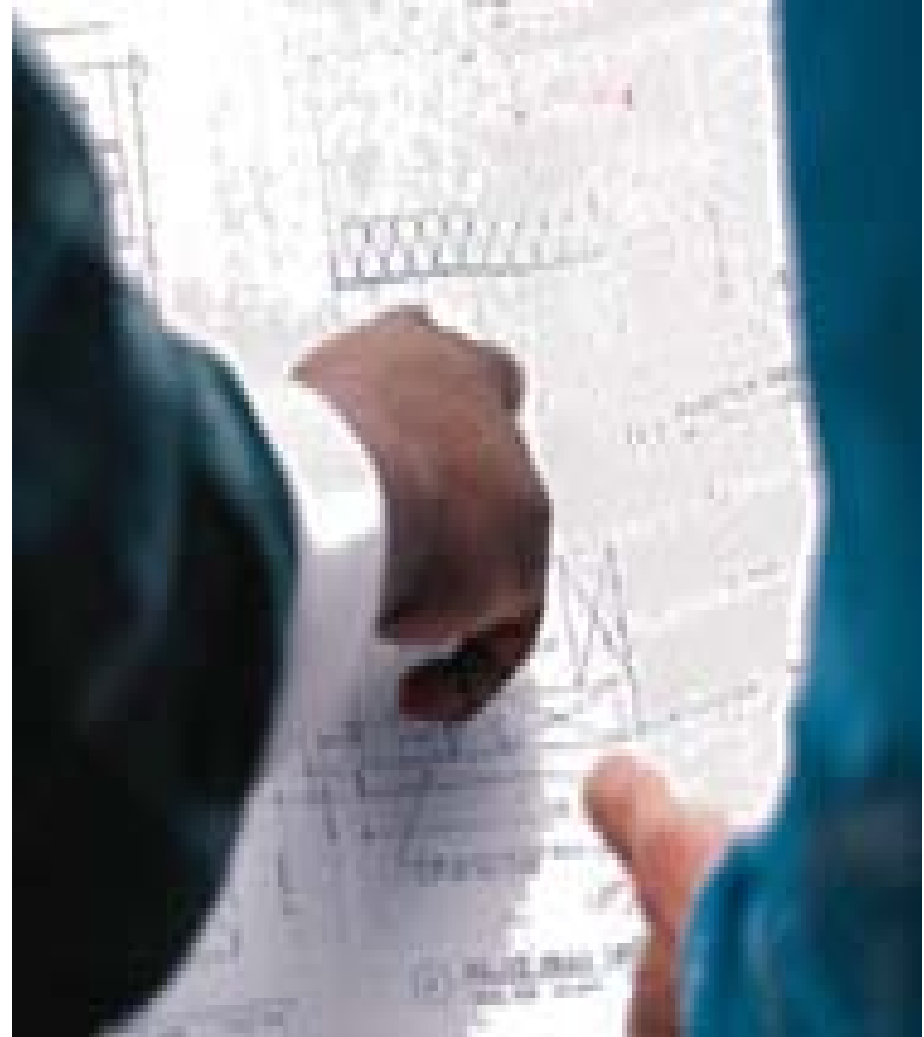
Environmental Justice



- Environmental Justice in Rulemaking Guidance Released
- New guidance for considering environmental justice in EPA's rulemaking process has been released.

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- **Plan EJ 2014**
- **EPA has released a draft plan to strengthen efforts to integrate environmental justice into its programs and promote continuous, meaningful engagement with communities and stakeholders.**



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The goals of the Plan EJ 2014:

- Protect health in communities overburdened by pollution
- Empower communities to take action to improve their health and environment
- Establish partnerships with local, state, tribal and federal organizations to achieve healthy and sustainable communities.

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BP Oil Spill Cooperative Agreements

- EPA announces [\\$300,000 in cooperative agreement funding](#) for local groups working with communities to address and adapt to the spill's long-term effects.
- Applications were due by Oct. 4. 2010.**



**FY 2010-2011
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE
ACTION PLAN
SCIENCE AND ECOSYSTEM SUPPORT DIVISION
REGION 4
ATHENS, GEORGIA
June 16, 2010**



Engaging and preparing local communities and stakeholders to meaningfully participate in government decisions on **protecting human health and the environment through **environmental data collection**, providing quality science support for **program initiatives**, and **partnerships** with **academia, states, and tribal nations.****

Science and Ecosystem Support Division 2010/2011 Community Engagement Initiative Action Plan

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What does this mean for your State?

State Environmental Justice Cooperative Agreements (SEJCA)

The State Environmental Justice Cooperative Agreement (SEJCA) program was developed by EPA's Office of Environmental Justice, with input from the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) and the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS).

The purpose of this new program is to promote environmental justice in State government activities and to advance strategies that result in improvements in public health and the environment.



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What does this mean for your State?

Year	Total Funding	Number of grants
2009	\$800,000	5

In 2009, EPA selected five state projects to receive funding up to \$160,000 each, totaling \$800,000.



2010 Grant Recipients

\$1.9 Million is awarded for 76 grants to aid community projects and support EPA's priorities of

- Improving air quality;
- Managing chemical risks;
- Cleaning up hazardous-waste disposal sites;
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- Protecting America's water.

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Region 4 State as Pilot Program: **South Carolina**

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is implementing a pilot project program utilizing collaborative problem-solving. The goal of the pilot project is to **build capacity while leveraging federal and state resources**, to address the environmental and social justice concerns within the selected communities. DHEC will **offer technical assistance** to communities as they conduct environmental assessments and address environmental issues identified in the community. Each pilot project will meet specific criteria. There will be opportunities to participate in leadership development training designed to create organizational capacity, assist in developing strategies, and **build partnerships**.

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- [National Environmental Justice Advisory Council \(NEJAC\)](#)
A Federal committee providing recommendations to EPA on environmental justice matters
- [Environmental Justice Grants & Programs](#)
Providing financial assistance for projects to address local environmental concerns
- [Environmental Justice Achievement Awards](#)
Recognizing the achievements of organizations that undertake environmental justice initiatives which make a positive impact in the community.
- [State Environmental Justice Cooperative Agreements Program PDF](#)
Promoting environmental justice in State government activities and to advance strategies that result in improvements in public health and the environment.

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For more information about EPA's Environmental Justice Program at The Science and Ecosystem Support Division

Type in:

<http://www.epa.gov/region4/sesd/sesd.html>



- For the National EJ Program:

www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/index.html

or

Go to **Google** and type in

- **EPA Environmental Justice**

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- Thank you for your time !!!!!

