



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Members:

Elizabeth Yeampierre, *Chair*
John Ridgway, *Vice Chair*
Don Aragon
Chuck Barlow
Teri Blanton
Sue Briggum
M. Kathryn Brown
Peter Captain, Sr.
Jolene Catron
Wynecta Fisher
Stephanie Hall
Jodena Henneke
Savonala "Savi" Horne
Hilton Kelley
Langdon Marsh
Margaret May
Vernice Miller-Travis
Paul Mohai
Fr. Vien T. Nguyen
Edith Pestana
Shankar Prasad
Nia Robinson
Patricia Salkin
Nicholas Targ
Kimberly Wasserman

July 30, 2010

Lisa P. Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (MC1101A)
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

On behalf of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC), we are writing to express our strong support for your leadership in making environmental justice a high priority throughout U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) programs. We have appreciated the high level of interaction by the EPA offices with the NEJAC, and commit to continue our best efforts to provide advice and counsel.

In this light, we must say we would have appreciated the opportunity to review and provide input into EPA's Draft FY 2011-2015 Strategic Plan. In our brief review of the draft plan, which came to our attention the day before comments were due, we were disappointed in the omission of specifically articulated measures of environmental justice. We note that other of your priorities, such as Climate Change, include specific goals and measures in the draft Strategic Plan. Such specific measures are critical to ensure that Environment Justice is a key priority.

In earlier plans, EPA had forecast its intent to provide these specific measures:

“EPA will: (1) establish, as appropriate, measurable environmental justice commitments (such as strategic targets) for 8 national environmental priorities and other critical areas of focus; (2) identify the means and strategies to achieve the commitments and measure outcomes to help ensure that Agency resources reach disproportionately burdened communities, including disproportionately burdened minority and/or low-income communities.”

We would be very pleased to have the opportunity to provide advice and recommendations about identifying specific measures and articulating further what

the Agency is doing and commits to do in the future to ensure that environmental justice is integral to the Agency's overall strategic planning process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Yeampierre". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on the page.

Elizabeth Yeampierre
Chair

Cc: NEJAC Members
Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator, EPA Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA)
Lisa Garcia, EPA Senior Policy Advisor to the Administrator for Environmental Justice
Catherine McCabe, Deputy Assistant Administrator, EPA OECA
Charles Lee, Director, EPA Office of Environmental Justice
Victoria Robinson, NEJAC Designated Federal Officer, EPA OEJ