

**BEFORE THE  
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS**

**APPLICATION OF ENTERGY NEW )  
ORLEANS, INC. FOR APPROVAL TO )  
CONSTRUCT NEW ORLEANS POWER )  
STATION AND REQUEST FOR COST )  
RECOVERY AND TIMELY RELIEF )**

**DOCKET NO. UD 16-02**

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**DR. BEVERLY WRIGHT, Ph.D.  
DEEP SOUTH CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, INC.**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**DEEP SOUTH CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE,  
ALLIANCE FOR AFFORDABLE ENERGY, AND  
SIERRA CLUB**

**JANUARY 6, 2017**

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1 **I. QUALIFICATIONS**

2 **Please state your name, position, and business address.**

3 My name is Beverly Wright. I am the Founder and Executive Director of the Deep South  
4 Center for Environmental Justice, Inc. My business address is 1631 Elysian Fields, #165, New  
5 Orleans, Louisiana, 70118.

6  
7 **Please describe your professional experience and education.**

8 I founded the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice in 1992 in collaboration with  
9 community environmental groups and universities within the Southern region of the United  
10 States for the purpose of achieving environmental justice. As the executive director, I lead the  
11 work of the Center to envision and create opportunities for communities, scientific researchers,  
12 and decision-makers to collaborate on programs and projects that promote the rights of all people  
13 to be free from environmental harm as it impacts health, jobs, housing, education, and quality of  
14 life. My background in sociology prepared me to assess and quantify the systemic pattern of  
15 racial disparities that create harmful environmental conditions for communities of color. My  
16 work focuses on building the knowledge and capacities of community groups to have a voice in  
17 environmental matters affecting their lives and advocating for environmental justice solutions.

18 Early in my career, I developed spatial analysis research and data visualizations  
19 integrating population and demographic data with Toxic Release Inventory reports as well as air  
20 and water quality monitoring data. This research shows the geographic correlation between race  
21 and pollution. In particular, the research revealed the statistical significance of toxic and  
22 hazardous industrial facilities to operate near predominantly African American communities

1 along the Mississippi River Industrial Corridor in Louisiana. This research contributed to  
2 establishing new fields of academic, scientific, and legal scholarship focused on race and class  
3 disparities in environmental protection. The research I developed at the Deep South Center for  
4 Environmental Justice also contributes to evidence-based federal policies addressing  
5 environmental justice as a civil rights protection, environmental threats to public health,  
6 community-led participatory research, and the challenges of climate change.

7 In addition to researching racial disparities in environmental conditions, my work entails  
8 advising governmental agencies on policies pertaining to meaningful and effective public  
9 participation, industrial facility siting, climate change mitigation and resiliency, equity in disaster  
10 recovery, and environmental justice research methodologies.

11 I hold a Doctorate of Philosophy and Master of Arts degrees in Sociology from the State  
12 University of New York at Buffalo. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from  
13 Grambling State University in Louisiana.

14 A more detailed presentation of my education and professional experience is provided in  
15 my *curriculum vitae* attached to this testimony (*see* Exhibit 1. *Curriculum Vitae* of Dr. Beverly  
16 Wright).

1    **II.    ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ANALYSIS OF RACIALLY**  
2            **DISPROPORTIONATE RISKS AND BURDENS ASSOCIATED WITH THE**  
3            **PROPOSED ENTERGY GAS POWER PLANT**

4  
5    **What is environmental justice?**

6            Environmental justice is the demand that all people and communities – regardless of race,  
7    national origin or income – live, work, play, learn, and worship in a clean and healthy  
8    environment. It requires that all people and communities have meaningful and effective  
9    participation in environmental decisions affecting them.

10           There are now policies, laws, and governmental programs aimed at achieving  
11    environmental justice. The President’s Executive Order No. 12,898, *Federal Actions to Address*  
12    *Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations* (February 11,  
13    1994) and the accompanying *White House Memorandum to the Heads of All Departments and*  
14    *Agencies* (February 11, 1994) have instituted environmental justice goals for a wide range of  
15    federal actions. A 2010 survey of environmental justice among states found that 46 state  
16    governments enacted laws and established policies and programs to ensure environmental  
17    justice.<sup>1</sup>

18           While the awareness and support for environmental justice continues to grow, there is  
19    much work to be done to achieve it. It is a sad reality that 79% of African Americans, who  
20    comprise approximately 11% of the U.S. population, live in polluted neighborhoods. Indigenous

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<sup>1</sup> Public Law Research Institute, University of California – Hastings College of the Law, Environmental Justice for All: A Fifty-State Survey of Legislation, Policies and Cases, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed., February 15, 2010.

1 Peoples, African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are more likely to  
2 live in communities located near hazardous waste facilities, mining sites, oil refineries, chemical  
3 manufacturers, and other hazardous industries. A majority of people of color also live in places,  
4 where they are vulnerable to and least likely to recover from the climate change effect of severe  
5 weather disasters brought on by the burning of fossil fuels.

6 Environmental justice is a response to environmental racism and injustice.  
7 Environmental racism creates unhealthy and unsustainable environments for disproportionately  
8 large numbers of people of color and the poor. Environmental racism combines with public  
9 policies and industry practices to provide benefits for corporations while shifting costs to people  
10 of color.

11 **What would be the impact of proceeding with plans for the proposed New Orleans Power**  
12 **Station as set forth in the application by Entergy New Orleans, Inc.?**

13 If Entergy were to proceed with its plan for the proposed New Orleans Power Station, it  
14 would do so without meaningful public participation in the development of this plan and without  
15 an assessment of the impacts this power plant would have on (1) the health and general welfare  
16 of nearby residents who are predominantly African American and Vietnamese American, (2)  
17 critical infrastructure, (3) the environment, and (4) citywide efforts to ensure equity and  
18 resilience. The steps Entergy has taken leading up to and including the application for the  
19 proposed gas power plant does not comport with environmental justice. In fact, it would  
20 continue the pattern of systemic environmental racism that burdens communities of color with  
21 power plants and other hazardous industries.

1 **What is your assessment of public input in the planning for Entergy's proposed New**  
2 **Orleans Power Station?**

3 The actions taken by Entergy resulted in blocking public input. Entergy's application for  
4 the New Orleans Power Station pursues the recommendation (known as the "Preferred  
5 Portfolio") made by Entergy in the Final 2015 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), which remains  
6 under review by the New Orleans City Council. Although the IRP is to be developed by public  
7 participation, an inherently flawed process was crafted that put Entergy in charge of writing and  
8 distributing public notices and convening the public meetings.

9 It is important to note that not one planning meeting was held in New Orleans East,  
10 where Entergy proposes to build the New Orleans Power Station. This constitutes a form of  
11 environmental injustice that denies people, in particular people of color, the opportunity to have  
12 input in making decisions that would affect their lives.

13 Meaningful and effective public participation is critical to avoiding and finding solutions  
14 to racially disproportionate pollution burdens and other environmental risks. I served as the co-  
15 chair of the Public Participation Committee of the National Environmental Justice Advisory  
16 Council (NEJAC), a federal advisory committee to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.  
17 In this capacity, I coordinated the research and drafting of best practices for public participation  
18 in environmental decision-making. This work culminated in the NEJAC publication of The  
19 Model Plan for Public Participation (1996), which is attached to this testimony as Exhibit 2.

20 The steps taken by Entergy are a clear departure from best practices for public  
21 participation, beginning with its notice of meetings. For example, Entergy posted public notice

- 1 of a May 12, 2016 meeting on the Integrated Resource Plan that was woefully deficient (*see*
- 2 Exhibit 3. Entergy's Public Notice of Integrated Resources Plan Public Meeting).

Exhibit 3. Entergy's Public Notice of Integrated Resource Plan Public Meeting

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**ENTERGY NEW ORLEANS, INC.**

**INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN (IRP) PUBLIC MEETING**

AS REQUIRED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ENTERGY NEW ORLEANS, INC. WILL HOST A PUBLIC MEETING TO PRESENT AND DISCUSS THE COMPANY'S FINAL 2015 INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN. AT THIS MEETING, ENTERGY WILL PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE 2015 INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN AND EXPLAIN THE LOGISTICS FOR A 15-DAY PERIOD DURING WHICH THE PUBLIC CAN POST INFORMATIONAL QUESTIONS. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD FROM 2 PM – 5 PM ON THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016 AT ENTERGY'S NEW ORLEANS EAST SERVICE CENTER LOCATED AT 5401 DWYER RD., NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INTERESTED IN THE IRP ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE 2015 IRP, INCLUDING THE FULL REPORT AND PRIOR PUBLIC MEETINGS, PLEASE VISIT THE IRP WEBSITE AT [WWW.ENERGY-NEWORLEANS.COM/IRP](http://WWW.ENERGY-NEWORLEANS.COM/IRP). PLEASE RSVP AND DIRECT ANY QUESTIONS BY EMAIL TO [RTHEVEN@ENERGY.COM](mailto:RTHEVEN@ENERGY.COM) OR BY PHONE AT (504) 670-3556.

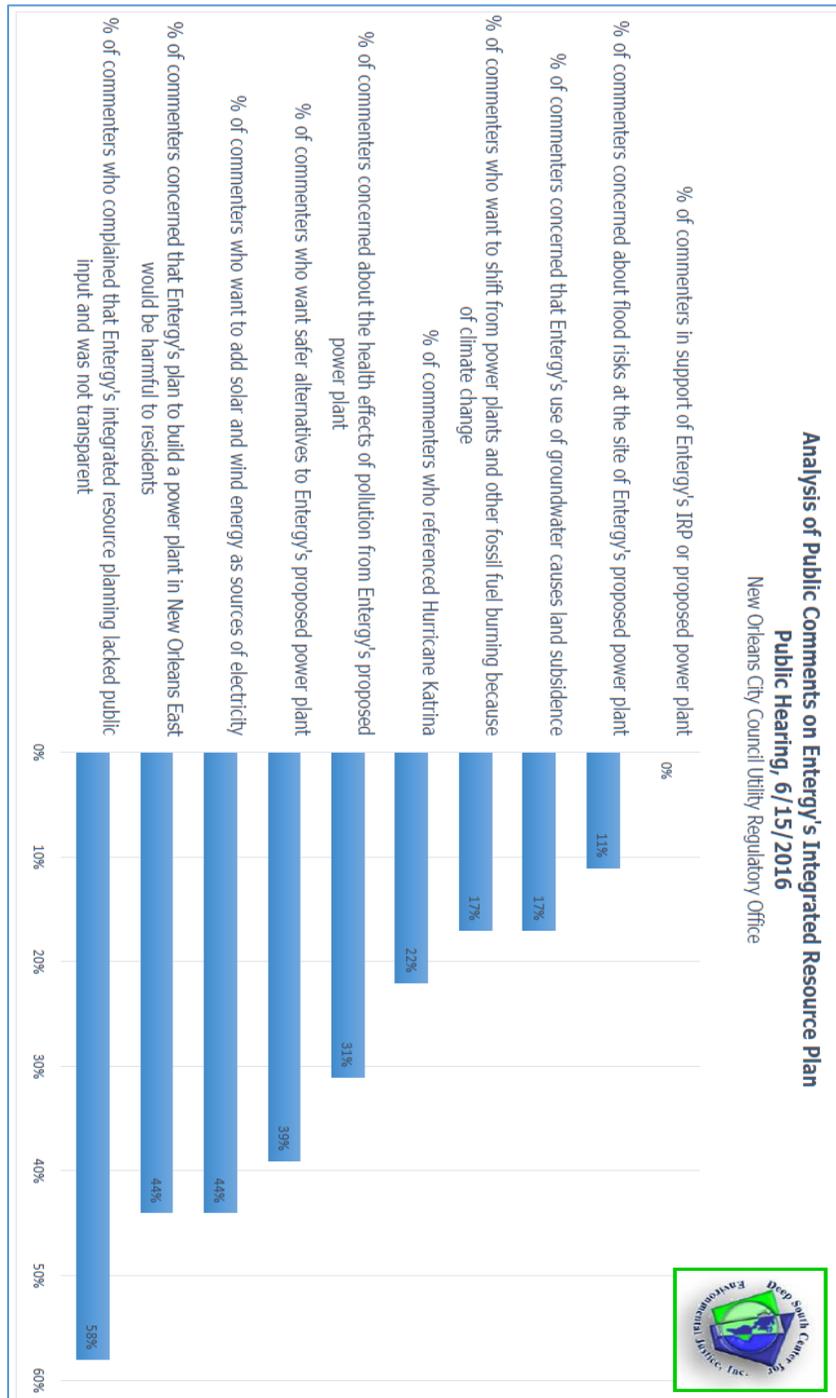
1           In this public notice, Entergy failed to provide an explanation as to what is an “Integrated  
2 Resource Plan” and its import to New Orleans residents. Based on Entergy’s public notice, no  
3 person could be reasonably expected to either know what an Integrated Resource Plan is; have an  
4 understanding of the topics and issues that would be discussed at the meeting; or know any of the  
5 recommendations in this plan, which include the construction of a new gas power plant, the  
6 elimination of renewable solar energy as a source for electricity to New Orleans customers, and  
7 the decision to not expand energy efficiency programs.

8           The public hearing on Entergy’s Final 2015 Integrated Resource Plan further exposed the  
9 lack of public input. On a weekday afternoon of June 15, 2016, I along with approximately 50  
10 New Orleans residents attended the public hearing on this plan. Not one resident who presented  
11 an oral comment spoke in favor of the Integrated Resource Plan or the proposed power plant  
12 recommended in the plan. The majority of residents, 58%, criticized the lack of transparency  
13 and public participation in the development of the plan. *See* Exhibit 4. Analysis of Public  
14 Comments on Entergy’s Integrated Resource Plan, Public Hearing, 6/15/2016.

15           Tied to this issue of a flawed process for public input is the faulty plan it produced. At the  
16 public hearing, residents criticized Entergy for developing the Integrated Resource Plan without  
17 reaching out to residents of New Orleans East and analyzing the impacts of the proposed power  
18 plant on their neighborhoods; addressing the vulnerability of New Orleans to the climate change  
19 effects of stronger storms and sea level rise brought on by the burning of fossil fuels; prioritizing  
20 safe and sustainable alternatives to a new gas power plant; incorporating renewable solar and  
21 wind energy as a supply source; or expanding energy efficiency programs to reduce peak

- 1 demand and save energy. *See* Exhibit 4. Analysis of Public Comments on Entergy's Integrated
- 2 Resource Plan, Public Hearing, 6/15/2016.

Exhibit 4. Analysis of Public Comments on Entergy's Integrated Resource Plan, Public Hearing, 6/15/2016



1           The public hearing demonstrated that the technical concepts involved in the Integrated  
2 Resource Plan would not have precluded public participation. It also revealed strong public  
3 opposition to Entergy's proposed power plant, which was recognized by the New Orleans City  
4 Council in Resolution R-16-263 (July 14, 2016). Furthermore, this public opposition moved the  
5 Council to establish a show cause proceeding (Docket UD-16-01) to question the prudence of  
6 Entergy recommending the proposed gas power plant in the Integrated Resource Plan as well as  
7 other issues.

8           Similar criticisms about the lack of public participation in the development of Entergy's  
9 Integrated Resource Plan as well as the failure of Entergy to propose safe and sustainable  
10 alternatives to a gas power plant were also made by New Orleans residents at the December 12,  
11 2016 public hearing on Entergy's application for the proposed New Orleans Power Station,  
12 which was attended by nearly 100 residents.

13           New Orleanians have every right to participate in integrated resource planning on how  
14 energy will be produced and used for the next 20 years. Entergy attempts to disregard this right  
15 by unilaterally developing the Integrated Resource Plan without meaningful public input and  
16 pursuing this flawed plan with its application for the proposed New Orleans Power Station.

17           New Orleanians also have the right to know what Entergy plans are for the operation of  
18 the gas power plant. However, Entergy has not been transparent about its plan for operating the  
19 New Orleans Power Station. Nowhere in the Integrated Resource Plan or the June 20, 2016  
20 application to the New Orleans City Council does Entergy state that the majority of the plant's  
21 operations would be to generate electricity for users outside of New Orleans on the MISO grid.

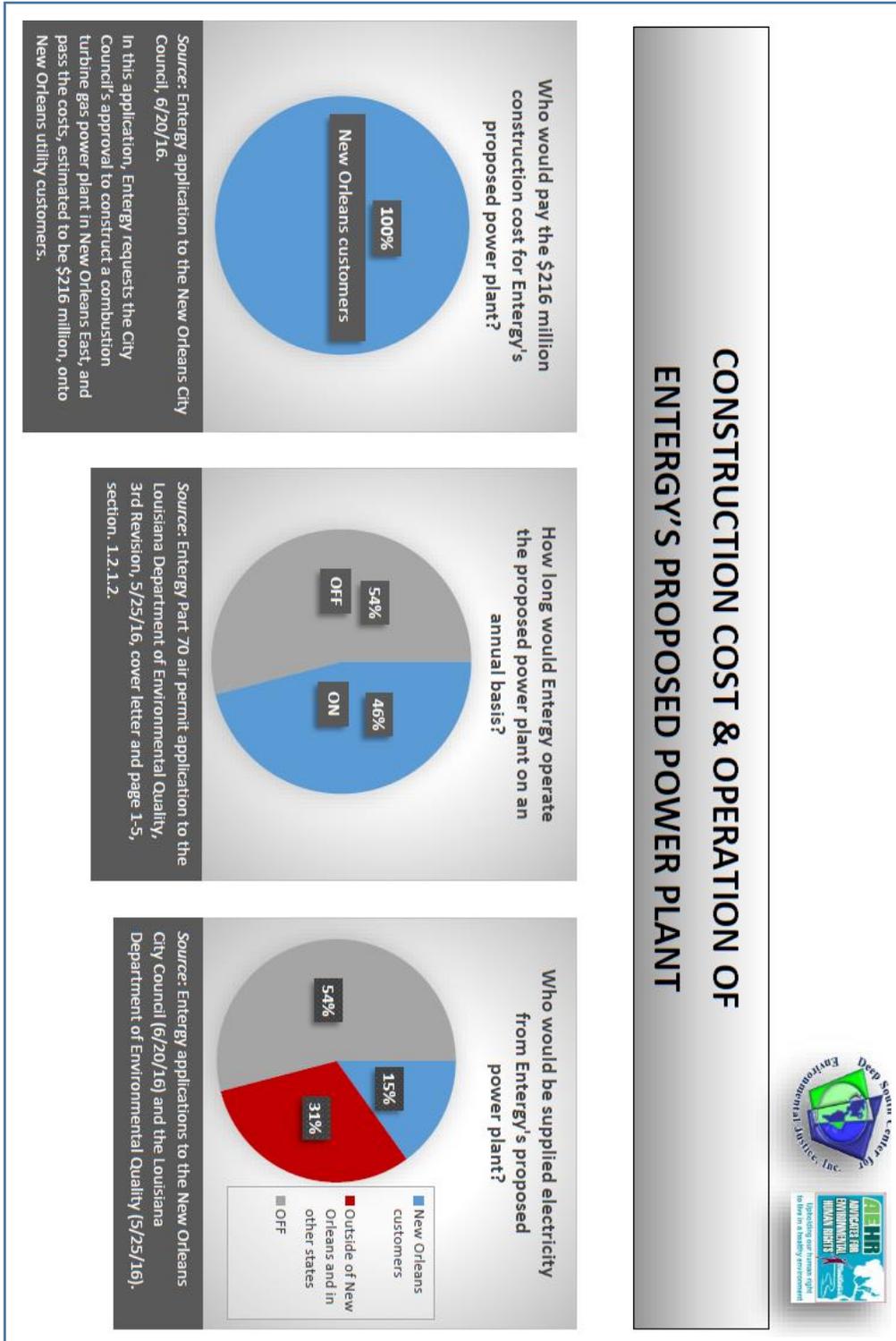
1 Entergy discloses this information in its permit application to the Louisiana Department of  
2 Environmental Quality, which, as discussed below, involves a process that does not require  
3 public notice or public comment. According to Entergy's applications to the City Council and  
4 the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the proposed New Orleans Power Station  
5 would operate up to 46% of the year, 31% of which would be to generate electricity for users  
6 outside of New Orleans on the MISO grid.<sup>2</sup> Only 15% of this power plant's operations would  
7 serve New Orleans customers.<sup>3</sup> See Exhibit 5. Construction Cost and Operation of Entergy's  
8 Proposed Power Plant.

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<sup>2</sup> Entergy New Orleans, Inc., Application for Modification of the Part 70 Operating Permit, Acid Rain Permit, Michoud Electric Generating Plant, 3<sup>rd</sup> Revision, 5/25/2016, cover letter and page 1-5, section 1.2.1.2.

<sup>3</sup> Direct Testimony of Seth E. Cureington, Entergy New Orleans, Inc.

Exhibit 5. Construction Cost & Operation of Entergy's Proposed Power Plant



1 **Do you find Entergy's site selection for the proposed New Orleans Power Station in New**  
2 **Orleans East to be reasonable?**

3 Entergy's site selection for the proposed gas power plant is unreasonable because there  
4 was no consideration of the risks and adverse impacts to nearby residential neighborhoods. The  
5 fact that these residential neighborhoods are predominantly African American and Vietnamese  
6 American underscores a profound disregard which perpetuates environmental injustice.

7 It is important to note that the siting of the proposed gas power plant is not mentioned in  
8 Entergy's Integrated Resource Plan. Thus, there was no public input on Entergy's siting  
9 decision.

10 Entergy did not conduct a professional site selection for the proposed New Orleans  
11 Power Station. To do so, Entergy would have to consider additional criteria for evaluating sites.  
12 Entergy would have to evaluate not only the potential opportunities a site offers, but also the  
13 risks and adverse impacts of a site, in particular a site in close geographic proximity to  
14 residential neighborhoods. Entergy made no effort to gather information regarding any risk or  
15 adverse impact as part of its evaluation of sites.

16 Entergy limited its search to the A. B. Paterson and Michoud sites. *See* Direct Testimony  
17 of Seth Cureington, Entergy New Orleans, Inc. Entergy did not consider any other site. Instead,  
18 Entergy merely compared two of its former power plant sites and chose one for the proposed  
19 New Orleans Power Station.

20 Entergy points to City Council Resolution R-15-524 (November 5, 2015) as setting the  
21 parameters for its site selection process and decision. *See* Response of Entergy New Orleans,  
22 Inc. to the First Set of Data Request by the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Inc.

1 However, this resolution, which was passed in a proceeding unrelated to integrated resource  
2 planning, instructs Entergy “to fully evaluate Michoud or Paterson, along with any other  
3 appropriate sites . . . .” (City Council Resolution R-15-524) [emphasis added]. In no way does  
4 this resolution constrain Entergy to evaluate only the Michoud and Paterson sites. Contrary to  
5 this resolution, Entergy did not fully evaluate any site. If Entergy had done so, it would have  
6 made the risks and community concerns associated with potential sites part of its site evaluation.

7 Both the A. B. Paterson power plant site, located on Dwyer Road at Jourdan Road, and  
8 the now decommissioned Michoud power plant, located at 3601 Paris Road, are in New Orleans  
9 East. The history of the A. B. Paterson and Michoud power plants date back to the 1940s and  
10 1950s. At this time, New Orleans East was largely undeveloped wetlands and sparsely  
11 populated. When construction of the A. B. Paterson power plant (initially named the Industrial  
12 Canal Generating Station) was completed in 1947 the total population of New Orleans East was  
13 5,092 – approximately 1% of the city’s population – and the total number of occupied homes  
14 was 1,235.<sup>4</sup> When construction of the Michoud power station began in the 1950s, the total  
15 population of New Orleans East was 8,079 and the total number of occupied homes was 2,286.<sup>5</sup>

16 The population of New Orleans East has grown significantly over the decades, even  
17 taking into account the population displacement caused by levee failures that flooded New  
18 Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. Residential and non-industrial land uses have expanded and  
19 are now within one mile of the A. B. Paterson and Michoud sites. According to the 2010 US  
20 Census, the total population of New Orleans East is 64,310 – approximately 19% of the city’s

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<sup>4</sup> US Census Bureau (1940). *Population and Housing: New Orleans Louisiana.*

<sup>5</sup> US Census Bureau (1950). *Selected Population and Housing Characteristics: New Orleans Louisiana*

1 population – and is 84% African American and 8% Asian American.<sup>6</sup> There are now 22,808  
2 occupied homes in New Orleans East.<sup>7</sup>

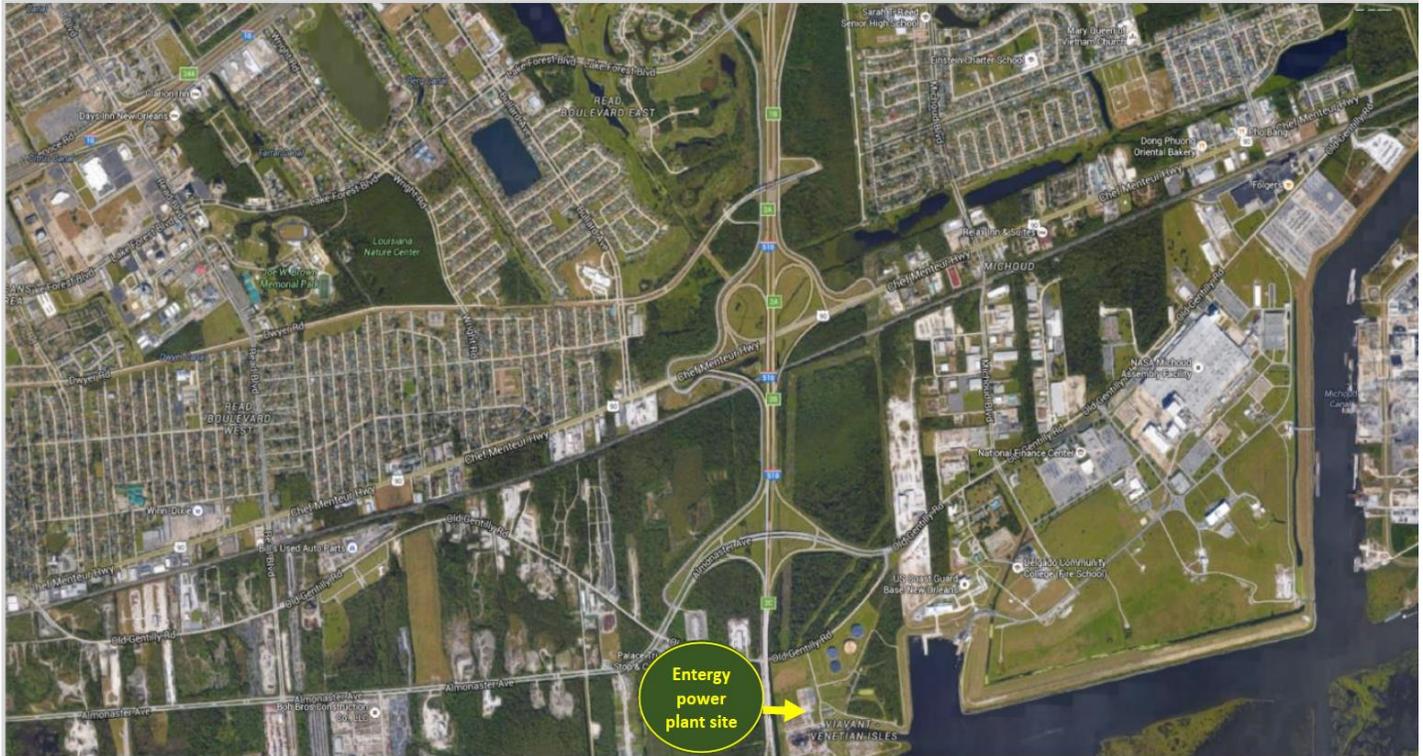
3           However, the dramatic changes in the population and residential development in New  
4 Orleans East are ignored by Entergy, which conducted an evaluation of only two sites without  
5 any consideration of the adverse impacts and risks of building and operating a gas power plant in  
6 close geographic proximity to residential neighborhoods. *See* Exhibit 6. Map of Entergy Power  
7 Plant Site, which shows a distance of less than 4,000 feet/0.75 mile between the proposed New  
8 Orleans Power Station and nearby residential neighborhoods.

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<sup>6</sup> The Data Center, *Neighborhood Statistical Area Data Profiles*, Planning Districts 9, 10 and 11  
(compiled from the US Census Bureau (2010)) [[http://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-  
resources/neighborhood-data/](http://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-resources/neighborhood-data/)].

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

Exhibit 6. Map of Entergy Power Plant Site



1,000 ft = \_\_\_\_\_ (Google Map)

1            **How has Entergy addressed the adverse impacts and risks of the New Orleans**  
2            **Power Station in its applications for environmental permits?**

3            Entergy has not addressed the adverse impacts and risks of the proposed gas power plant  
4            in its applications for environmental permits. Instead, Entergy has applied to regulatory agencies  
5            for particular environmental permits that do not require a public process for an assessment of  
6            adverse impacts and risks. This maneuver by Entergy has the effect of planning the proposed  
7            gas power plant outside the purview of New Orleanians, in particular those who would be most  
8            affected by the plant, which heightens the level of environmental injustice.

1           For the proposed New Orleans Power Station, Entergy submitted an application to the  
2 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality for a minor modification of the air permit that  
3 was previously issued for the Michoud power plant, which is now decommissioned. This permit  
4 is known as the “minor modification of the Part 70 air permit.” There is no requirement for  
5 public notice, public comment or public hearing on an application for a minor modification air  
6 permit. Additionally, a minor modification air permit does not require an environmental impact  
7 assessment of the proposed facility. *See Exhibit 7. Excerpt of Entergy’s Minor Modification Air*  
8 *Permit Application, which shows the highlighted statement that an environmental impact*  
9 *assessment is not required for the proposed New Orleans Power Station.*

Exhibit 7. Excerpt of Entergy’s Minor Modification Air Permit Application

<i>Application for Part 70 and Acid Rain Permits Modification Entergy New Orleans, Inc.</i>	<i>Michoud Electric Generating Plant New Orleans Power Station</i>
. . .	
<b>1.9 Environmental Assessment Statement</b>	
Since the proposed project is a minor modification, the Environmental Assessment Statement (EAS) is not required.	
1-15	March 2016

1           Entergy also applied to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for a general wetlands permit.  
2           Similar to the minor modification air permit application, no public notice, public comment or  
3           public hearing is required for this type of permit.

4           As indicated by the public hearings on the Integrated Resource Plan (6/15/2016) and the  
5           application for the New Orleans Power Station (12/12/2016), there is strong public opposition to  
6           the proposed New Orleans Power Station because of its adverse impacts and risks on human  
7           health, the environment, and critical flood control infrastructure. These adverse impacts include  
8           health damage from exposure to pollutants, including fine particulate matter, that would be  
9           released from the proposed gas power plant. Entergy plans to operate this power plant  
10          intermittently with frequent start-ups and shut-downs, projected to occur 500 times per year,  
11          which would release more pollution into the air.<sup>8</sup> Damaged and impaired respiratory and  
12          cardiovascular functions are effects of exposure to power plant pollution. Infants, children,  
13          pregnant and nursing women, and the elderly are particularly vulnerable to the harmful effects of  
14          exposure to pollution. The predominantly African American and Vietnamese American  
15          residents living near the proposed New Orleans Power Station would be disproportionately  
16          burdened with these health threats.

17          There are public concerns regarding flood risk arising from Entergy's use of groundwater.  
18          Entergy estimates it will pump at least 1,000,000 gallons of groundwater every 1 to 10 days to  
19          operate the gas power plant. *See* Direct Testimony of Jonathan E. Long, Entergy New Orleans,

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<sup>8</sup> Entergy New Orleans, Inc., Application for Modification of the Part 70 Operating Permit, Acid Rain Permit, Michoud Electric Generating Plant, Appendix D: Startup/Shutdown Emission Summary Table (Table D-2D), March 2016.

1 Inc. It is important to note that there is no legal limit on how much groundwater Entergy can  
2 withdraw.<sup>9</sup> The report by NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory analyzed data generated by an  
3 innovative radar showing that Entergy's groundwater withdrawals for the operation of the  
4 Michoud power plant caused significant land subsidence.<sup>10</sup> The NASA report also found a  
5 correlation between groundwater withdrawals and levee failure near the Michoud site during  
6 Hurricane Katrina.<sup>11</sup> The NASA report raises serious concerns regarding flood risk from  
7 Entergy's groundwater use that causes land subsidence and is linked to levee failure that  
8 devastated New Orleans East neighborhoods. Entergy's plan to continue its unregulated use of  
9 groundwater would only exacerbate the damaging effect of land subsidence that creates

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<sup>9</sup> See Mark Davis and Jim Flint, *A Defining Resource: Louisiana's Place in the Emerging Water Economy*, *Loyola Law Review*, vol. 57, no. 2 (Summer 2011), p. 289 (explaining that "[u]nder Louisiana law, groundwater is largely there for the taking").

<sup>10</sup> Cathleen E. Jones, Karen An, Ronald G. Blom, *et al.*, *Anthropogenic and Geologic Influences on Subsidence in the Vicinity of New Orleans, Louisiana*, *JOURNAL OF GEOPHYSICAL RESEARCH: SOLID EARTH*, 121, doi:10.1002/2015JB012636.

*Id.*, p. 10. "**Groundwater withdrawal can be a primary driver of subsidence** in urban and industrial areas, and has been determined to be a **causative agent in the Michoud area** of New Orleans previously [Dokka, 2011]." [emphasis added].

*Id.*, p. 9. "**In Michoud, subsidence is 25 – 30 mm/yr at the power plant, Entergy New Orleans.** The higher subsidence around the power plant is consistent with the previously documented influence of groundwater pumping on localized subsidence and increases near the Mississippi River where there are more water withdrawal wells." [emphasis added].

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*, pp. 10 – 11. "**Subsidence between East New Orleans and the Lower 9th Ward occurs in areas near the levee breaks of Hurricane Katrina.** The levees . . . subside at the same rate as adjacent structures. This suggests that **subsidence is occurring at depths below the levee footing.**" [emphasis added].

*Id.*, p. 19. "With the improved resolution of this InSAR [interferometric synthetic aperture radar] data set, we observe that the **subsidence rates in New Orleans and nearby communities can be large, yet spatially localized, and that subsidence centered around facilities can extend to flood control infrastructure several kilometers distant. This type of subsidence is linked to groundwater pumping,** so in principle, the elevation loss can be recovered when the aquifer recharges. However, this is a real, albeit time varying, **loss in height of the flood protection infrastructure** and should be included in design considerations." [emphasis added].

1 significant flood risks for the predominantly African American and Vietnamese American  
2 residents living in New Orleans East.

3           Furthermore, there are public concerns focused on the risks associated with the use of  
4 flammable gas to generate electricity and other hazards of operating a gas power plant. On  
5 August 18, 2016, Entergy reported that seven workers were injured when a gas pipeline ruptured  
6 at the decommissioned Michoud power plant, which is the site of Entergy's proposed gas power  
7 plant. The investigation of this incident determined that the gas blowout was unavoidable and  
8 could not be prevented. *See* Exhibit 8. Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality,  
9 Incident Report on Entergy New Orleans – Michoud Electric Generating Plant, 9/9/2016.  
10 Clearly, there are inherent dangers in operating a gas power plant for both workers and the  
11 people who would live nearby the proposed New Orleans Power Station.

Exhibit 8. Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Incident Report on Entergy New Orleans – Michoud Electric Generating Plant, 9/9/2016

9/9/2016	<b>LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b> <b>INCIDENT REPORT</b> Incident ID: 172557	Page 2 of 2
<b>Incident Source 1</b>		
<b>Source Name:</b>	Entergy New Orleans Inc - Michoud Electric Generating Plant	
<b>Address:</b>	3601 Paris Rd	
<b>Municipality:</b>	New Orleans	
<b>State:</b>	LA	
<b>Phone:</b>	5042533000 (Work phone number)	
<b>Parish:</b>	Orleans	
<b>AI #:</b>	32494	
<b>Related Permits:</b>		
<b>Comments:</b>	On August 18, 2016 at 1:25 PM, Entergy New Orleans: Gas Operations reported a natural gas release from a 20 inch steel pipeline located at the Entergy Michoud facility at 2601 Paris Road, New Orleans. I spoke to Jamie Cargo at 2:59 PM and he stated that the release was secured and a follow up notification would be filed. The release occurred when a crew was working on the 20 inch steel main. As the crew was checking the completed work on the re-pressurized line, a blow out occurred, injuring the crew. <b>The blow out was considered not preventable by Entergy personnel as it was pipe line failure.</b> The total amount of natural gas released to the environment was approximately 5983.8 MCF. The release occurred over a nine minute time span. DOM	

1           For each of these serious concerns raised by members of the public, Entergy has so far  
2           evaded regulatory scrutiny. Entergy has strategically applied for particular permits that do not  
3           require public notice or comment on the proposed New Orleans Power Station. Entergy intends  
4           to build this gas power plant without any public process for assessing the risks and adverse  
5           impacts of this gas power plant on human health, public safety, the environment, and flood  
6           control infrastructure. The proposed New Orleans Power Station has not undergone any  
7           environmental review by a regulatory agency that provides the public or community stakeholders

1 with the opportunity to analyze the impacts, identify alternatives, or even mitigate adverse  
2 impacts.

3

4 **Would Entergy's proposed New Orleans Power Station have a racially discriminatory**  
5 **effect?**

6 Entergy's proposed power plant would have a racially discriminatory effect for the  
7 following reasons.

8 (1) Entergy established a deeply flawed process for planning the proposed New Orleans  
9 Power Station without the notice or input of residents in New Orleans East, who are  
10 predominantly African American and Vietnamese American and would live near this  
11 facility (see pp. 5 – 11).

12 (2) Entergy evaluated sites in complete disregard of the significant population growth in  
13 New Orleans East, and failed to consider any of the serious risks and burdens of  
14 selecting a site for the proposed New Orleans Power Station in New Orleans East that  
15 is less than one mile from predominantly African American and Vietnamese  
16 American residents (see pp. 12 – 15).

17 (3) Entergy has applied for and/or has obtained environmental permits that do not  
18 require public notice, public comment or public hearing. These permits also do not  
19 require a public process for environmental assessment of the proposed New Orleans  
20 Power Station, which would have adverse impacts on the health of predominantly  
21 African American and Vietnamese residents, threaten their safety on a daily basis,  
22 and create serious flood risks arising from groundwater use that has been found to

1           cause land subsidence which is linked to impairing the levee structure. The proposed  
2           New Orleans Power Station has not undergone any environmental review by a  
3           regulatory agency that provides the public or community stakeholders with the  
4           opportunity to analyze the impacts, identify alternatives, or even mitigate adverse  
5           impacts (see pp. 15 – 21).

6           Entergy would continue the pattern of environmental racism and injustice in which power  
7           plants operate in close geographic proximity to communities that are predominantly people of  
8           color and poor. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 78% of power plants  
9           operating in the United States are disproportionately located in areas where the percentage of  
10          people of color and people with low-income exceeds the national median.<sup>12</sup> The EPA's state-by-  
11          state analysis found that 92% of power plants in Louisiana operate in areas that are  
12          predominantly African American.<sup>13</sup>

### 14   **III.    RECOMMENDATION**

#### 15   **What is your recommendation to the New Orleans City Council?**

16          My recommendation to the City Council is to deny the application by Entergy for the  
17          proposed New Orleans Power Station because it would have a racially discriminatory effect on  
18          predominantly African American and Vietnamese American residents living in New Orleans  
19          East. While it is encouraging that the City Council acknowledges the significant environmental,  
20          public health, public safety, and flood risks involved in Entergy's proposal for a new gas power,

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<sup>12</sup> US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), EJ Screening Report for the Clean Power Plan, July 30, 2015, p. 113.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*, pp. 85 – 86.

1 it is imperative that the Council ensure that no neighborhood, regardless of race, national origin  
2 or income, is subjected to these risks.

3           The City Council’s decision on Entergy’s application for the New Orleans Power Station  
4 should mark the beginning of breaking the cycle of structural racism – a root cause of health  
5 disparities, ineffective and differentially enforced environmental laws, inequitable land use and  
6 facility siting decisions, and exclusionary practices that limit the participation of people of color  
7 and underrepresented community stakeholders in public affairs. Breaking this cycle is critical to  
8 supporting the local efforts and significant investments now underway to achieve equity,  
9 sustainability, and resilience in New Orleans.

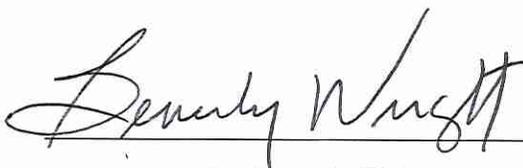
**AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ORLEANS

**NOW BEFORE ME**, the undersigned authority, personally came and appeared,  
**Dr. Beverly Wright**, who after being duly sworn by me, did depose and say:

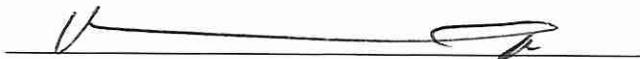
That the above and foregoing is her sworn testimony in this proceeding and she knows the contents thereof, that the same are true as stated, except as to any matters and things, if any, stated on information and belief, and that as to those matters and things, she verily believes them to be true.



Dr. Beverly Wright

**SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME**

THIS <sup>7<sup>th</sup></sup> ~~7~~ DAY OF JANUARY, <sup>2017</sup> ~~2016~~



NOTARY PUBLIC

PAULA VINCENT JOHNSON  
NOTARY PUBLIC, #50040  
Orleans Parish, Louisiana  
My Commission Is For Life

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_



## CURRICULUM VITAE

# Beverly L. Wright

### EDUCATION

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Ph.D., Sociology.

State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, 1977

Dissertation: *Internal vs. External Control and Group Identification Influences on Self-Esteem.*

Specializations: environmental sociology, social psychology, sociology of women, urban sociology.

M.A., Sociology.

State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, 1971

Thesis: *Social Class, Perceived Probability of Success and Achievement Motivation.*

B.A., Sociology.

Grambling State University, Grambling, Louisiana, 1969

Minor: Psychology

### SPECIALTY AREAS

---

Urban Sociology, Social Inequality, Race and the Environment, Environmental Justice, Environmental Health and Health Policy, Health Disparities, Climate Change and Climate Justice, Disaster Preparedness and Response, Hazardous Wastes, Worker Training, Workforce Diversity, Equity and the Green Economy, Food Security, Sustainable Development, Land Use, Community Resilience, Public Policy, Public Health Equity.

### PRESENT RANK

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2005 – present      Executive Director  
Deep South Center for Environmental Justice  
Professor of Sociology  
Dillard University  
New Orleans, Louisiana

### PAST PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

<u>Academic</u>	1993-2005	Executive Director, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice Professor of Sociology Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, Louisiana.
	1989-93	Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.
	1987-89	Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana.

- 1977-86 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology,  
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 1974-76 Instructor, Department of Sociology,  
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 1971-72 Instructor, Black Development Foundation, Buffalo, New York.
- 1970-74 Instructor, Department of Sociology,  
State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York.
- 1970-71 Instructor, Department of Sociology, Millard Fillmore College,  
Buffalo, New York.

Counseling

- 1971-72 Counselor/Social Worker, Educational  
Opportunity Program, State  
University of New York at Buffalo,  
New York.  
Duties: Case load 105, responsible for academic and personal  
counseling including family and group counseling. Also assigned  
ex-offenders and ex-addicts.

Administrative

- 1983-84 *Acting Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Equal Employment Opportunity Officer  
University of New Orleans,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.*  
Reported directly to the Chancellor. Responsible for the  
monitoring employment practices for compliance with EEO  
guidelines. Responsible for the University EEO Report. Advised  
administrators, faculty, and staff on EEO matters. Liaison  
between state, federal government and other organizations  
involved in EEO matters. Disseminated all pertinent EEO  
information. Investigated all EEO complaints. Reviewed  
University appointments and terminations for EEO compliance.  
Represented the university at all EEO hearings.
- 1983 *Consultant, Department of City  
Welfare, New Orleans, Louisiana.*  
Developed and conducted administrative training workshops for  
department supervisors covering ethics in the decision making  
process, supervisory management skills, conflict resolution.
- 1977 *Assistant to the Director, Education Opportunity Program, State  
University of New York at Buffalo,  
Buffalo, New York.*  
Assisted Director in all matters related to the supervision of  
student services and all other administrative concerns.  
Compiled and authored annual report.

- 1972-74 *Assistant Director, Educational Opportunity Program, State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York.*  
Supervised 15 counselors. Coordinated and managed student services for 1500 students in Admissions, Housing, Financial Aid, Junior Division, Career Counseling and Placement, and Student Discipline. Liaison between EOP and other related university offices (listed above).  
  
Responsible for counseling unit budget projections and presentations to legislators. Interacted with university administrators, faculty, legislators, and students on EOP matters.
- 1970-71 *Planner, The Black Development Foundation, Buffalo, New York.*  
Developed, organized, and planned activities for community educational, political, and economic improvements.  
Developed and hosted a (1/2 hr) community relations television and radio show.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Sociological Association, Associate Member - Present  
The Association of Black Sociologists, Member - Present  
The Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, President, 1989-90  
The Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, Member 1988  
Vice President, The Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists. 1987  
The Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, 2nd Vice President 1986  
President, Association of Black Psychologists, New Orleans Chapter 1983  
President Elect 1982, Association of Black Psychologists, New Orleans, Chapter 1981

## **ARTICLES**

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### Journal Articles

- Nance, Earthea, King, D., **Wright, B.** and Bullard, R.D., (2016). "Ambient Air Concentrations Exceeded Health-Based Standards for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and Benzene during the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill," **Journal of Air and Waste Management.**
- Wright, Beverly,** and Nance, E., (2012). "Toward Equity: Prioritizing Vulnerable Communities in Climate Change," *Duke Forum for Law and Social Change*, 4 (1), 1-21.
- Beverly Wright,** (2011). "Race, Place, and the Environment in the Aftermath of Katrina," *Anthropology of Work Review*, American Anthropological Association, 32 (1), 4-8.
- Bullard, Robert D. and **Beverly Wright,** "Disastrous Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters: An Environmental Justice Analysis Twenty-Five Years after Warren County," *UCLA Journal of Law and Environmental Policy* 26: 2008.
- Bullard, Robert D., and **Wright, B.,** (2006). "Cleaning Up Toxic 'Time Bombs' Left Behind by Katrina," [Special Issue on Hurricane Katrina: Health Impacts in Louisiana, Joint Center for Political Studies]. *FOCUS Magazine*, Vol. 34, No.10.

- Wright, B.H.**, (2003). "Women's Work," *Race, Poverty & the Environment*, 10 (1), 31-32.
- Wright, B.H.**, (1998). "Endangered Communities: The Struggle for Environmental Justice in Louisiana's Chemical Corridor," *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy*, 4(2), 181-191.
- Wright, B.H.**, Bullard, R.D., & Johnson, G.S., (1997). "Confronting Environmental Injustice," [Special Issue]. *Journal of Race, Gender, and Class*, 5, 65-79.
- Bullard, R. D. & **Wright, B.H.**, (1993). "Environmental Justice for All: Community Perspectives on Health and Research Needs," *Toxicology and Industrial Health*, 9(5), 821-841.
- Wright, B.H.**, (1992). "Cleaning Up the Environment: A Question of Equity for Minority Communities," *U.S. EPA Journal*, 18, 36.
- Bullard, R.D., & **Wright, B.H.**, (1991). "The Quest for Environmental Equity: Mobilizing the African American Community for Social Change," *Society and Natural Resources*, 3, 301-311.
- Bullard, R. D., & **Wright, B.H.**, (1990). "Mobilizing the Black Community for Environmental Justice," *The Journal of Intergroup Relations*, 17(1), 33-43.
- Bullard, R.D., & **Wright, B.H.**, (1990). "Toxic Waste and the African-American Community," *The Urban League Review*, 13(1-2), 67-75.
- Wright, B.H.**, & Bullard, R.D., (1990). "Hazards in the Workplace and Black Health: A Review," *Journal of Sociology*, 4(1), 45-74.
- Bullard, R.D., & **Wright, B.H.**, (1988). Environmentalism and the Politics of Equity: Emergent Trends in the Black Community. *Mid America Review of Sociology*, 21(2), 21-37.
- Bullard, R.D., & **Wright, B.H.**, (1987). "Blacks and the Environment," *The Humboldt Journal of Social Relations*, 14(1,2), 165-184.
- Bullard, R.D., & **Wright, B.H.**, (1986). "The Politics of Pollution: Implications for the Black Community," *Phylon*, 46, 71-78.
- Wright, B.H.**, (1985). "The Effects of Racial Self-Esteem on the Personal Self-Esteem of Black Youth," *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, 9, 19-30.
- Wright, B.**, (1984). "Social Class and Achievement Motivation," *Afro Americans in New York Life and History*, 79-91.
- Wright, B.H.**, (1982). "Influences of Self-Esteem: Internal Versus External Control and Racial Group Identification," *The Journal of Social and Behavior Sciences*, 27, 12-22.
- Wright, B.H.**, (1981). "Colored Negro Black: Ideological Change and the Civil Rights Movement," *Western Journal of Black Studies*, 5, 186-198.
- Wright, B.H.**, (1980). "The Effects of Locus of Control on the Self-Esteem of Black and White Youth," *The Journal of Social Psychology*, 3, 301-302.

Web-Based Articles

**Beverly Wright**, "Race, Place, and the Environment in the Aftermath of Katrina," *Anthropology of Work Review*, Volume 32, Issue 1, July 2011, Pages: 4–8, Article first published online : 17 June 2011, DOI: 10.1111/j.1548-1417.2011.01052.x

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1548-1417.2011.01052.x/full>

**Beverly Wright** and Robert D. Bullard, "Cleaning Up Toxic 'Time Bombs' Left Behind by Katrina," *FOCUS Magazine Special Issue on Hurricane Katrina: Health Impacts in Louisiana*, Joint Center for Political Studies, Vol. 34, No. 10 (January/February 2006),

<http://www.jointcenter.org/publications1/focus/FocusDetail.php?recordID=542>.

**Beverly Wright** and Robert D. Bullard, "The *Real* Looting: Katrina Exposes a Legacy of Discrimination and Opens the Door for 'Disaster Capitalism'," *SeeingBlack.com*, October 11, 2005,

[http://www.seeingblack.com/2005/x101105/411\\_oct05.shtml](http://www.seeingblack.com/2005/x101105/411_oct05.shtml).

**Beverly Wright** and Robert D. Bullard, "Legacy of Unfairness: Why Some Americans Get Left Behind," September 29, 2005, <http://www.ejrc.cau.edu/Exec%20Summary%20Legacy.html>.

**Beverly Wright**, "Katrina Reveals Environmental Racism's Deadly Force," *New America Media, Commentary*, September 21, 2005,

[http://news.ncmonline.com/news/view\\_article.html?article\\_id=74fb2e18f6e1c829ae73181353442a61](http://news.ncmonline.com/news/view_article.html?article_id=74fb2e18f6e1c829ae73181353442a61).

Monographs

Bullard, R., **Wright, B.** "The Color of Toxic Debris," Pp.A9-A11 in *The American Prospect – Demos, After Katrina: Redemption & Rebuilding*, A report prepared for the Initiative for Regional and Community Transformation at Rutgers University and The McKnight Foundation (March 2009).

Bullard, R., P. Mohai, R. Saha, and **B. Wright**, "Toxic Wastes and Race at Twenty," United Church of Christ, Cleveland, OH (March 2007).

Pastor, M., Bullard, R., Boyce, J., Fothergill, A., Morello-Frosch, R., **Wright, B.** Pp 20 & 26 "In the Wake of the Storm: Environment, Disaster, and Race after Katrina," Russell Sage Foundation, NY (May 2006).

**Wright, B.H.**, Sarpong, D., Babefemi, A., "The Socioeconomic Impact of Air Toxics on Disproportionately Exposed Communities," Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, New Orleans, LA (2001).

**Wright, B.H.** "Coping with Community Stressors," A report prepared for National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (1996).

**Wright, B.H.** "Voluntary Buy-Outs as an Alternative Damage Claims Arrangement," A report prepared for Southern University Institute for Environmental Issues & Policy Assessment (1993).

**Wright B.H.** "Three Generations of Teen Pregnancy: A Comparative Study," A report prepared for the Institute of Mental Hygiene, New Orleans, Louisiana (1990).

**Wright, B.H.** "Three Generations of Teen Pregnancy," A report prepared for the Urban League of Greater New Orleans (1989).

**Wright, B.H.** "The Effects of Occupational Injury, Illness, and Disease on the Health Status of Black Americans," Pp. 128-139 in *The Proceedings of the Michigan Conference on Race and the Incidence of Environmental Hazards*, (1990).

**Beverly Wright.** Congressional Hearing Testimony, Subcommittee on Superfund and Environmental Health hearing entitled, "Oversight of the EPA's Environmental Justice Programs." Wednesday, July 25, 2007.

**Beverly Wright.** "LIABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS" Publication: Congressional Testimony Publish date: November 8, 2005.

## **BOOKS AND BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS**

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**Beverly Wright,** "Environmental Injustice and the State if Black New Orleans," Pp. 100-113 in McConduit-Diggs, Erika, State of Black New Orleans: 10 Years Post-Katrina. New Orleans: The Urban League of Greater New Orleans, 2015.

Robert D. Bullard., **Wright, B.** The Wrong Complexion: How Government Action Endangers the Health and Welfare of African American Communities, New York University Press, 2012.

Robert D. Bullard and **Wright, B.**, Race Place and Environmental Justice in the Aftermath of Katrina: Struggles to Reclaim, Rebuild and Revitalize New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2009.

**Beverly Wright** and Robert D. Bullard, "Black New Orleans Before and After Hurricane Katrina," Pp. 173-198 in Robert D. Bullard, The Black Metropolis in the Twenty-First Century: Race, Power, and the Politics of Place. New York: Rowman & Littlefield, 2007.

**Beverly Wright** and Robert D. Bullard, "Washed Away by Hurricane Katrina: Rebuilding a 'New' New Orleans," Pp. 189-214 in Robert D. Bullard, Growing Smarter: Achieving Livable Communities, Environmental Justice and Regional Equity. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2007.

**Beverly Wright,** "Living and Dying in Louisiana's Cancer Alley," Chapter 4 in Bullard, Robert D. The Quest For Environmental Justice: Human rights and the Politics of Pollution. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 2005.

**Wright, B.H.** "Just Sustainabilities: Development in an Unequal World," Pp. 125-145 in Ageyeman, J., Bullard, R.D., and Evans, B., Race, Politics, and Pollution: Environmental Justice in the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor, Earthscan Publication, MIT Press, 2003.

Bullard, Robert D. **Wright, Beverly H.**, "Environmental Justice for All," Pp. 448-462, xiii, 609, in Understanding Prejudice and Discrimination. Plous, Scott (Ed.), New York, NY, US: McGraw-Hill, 2003.

**Wright, B.H.** "Social Ecology and Substance Abuse Programs," Pp. 38 – 55 in Ma, G. X., and Henderson, G., Ethnicity and Substance Abuse, Charles C. Thomas Publisher.

**Wright, B.H.** "New Orleans Under Siege," Pp. 121-144 in Just Transportation: Dismantling Race and Class Barriers to Mobility, Philadelphia: New Society Publishers, 1997.

**Wright, B.H.**, Bullard, R.D, & Bryant, B, "Coping with Poisons in Cancer Alley," Pp. 110-129 in Unequal Protection. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 1994.

**Wright, B.H.** "Black Workers at Risk: Jobs for Life or Death," Pp. 183-201 in Dream And Reality: Hofstra University Lecture Series. West Port: Greenwood Press, 1990.

**Wright, B.H.** "Three Generations of Teen Mothers: A Preliminary Report," Pp. 45-74 in The State of Black New Orleans. New Orleans: Urban League of Greater New Orleans, 1989.

**Wright, B.H.** "New Faces of Segregation: The Case of New Orleans Public Schools," Pp. 41-55 in The State of Black New Orleans. New Orleans: Urban League of Greater New Orleans, 1987.

Bartley, M., & **Wright, B.H.** "Black Youth: A Lost Generation. Pp. 47-60 in The State Of Black New Orleans. New Orleans: Urban League of Greater New Orleans, 1986.

**Wright, B.H.** "Blacks in New Orleans: The City That Care Forgot," Pp. 45-74 in In Search of The New South: The Black Urban Experience In the 1970s and 1980s. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press 1990.

## **HONORS, MEMBERSHIPS & COMMITTEES**

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### Awards and Honors

- 2016 **Lifetime of Service to New Orleans Youth Award**, Orchid Society, New Orleans, LA.
- 2014 **Black History Month Honoree 2014**, New Orleans Black Chorale, Inc., New Orleans, LA.
- 2014 **5 Black Environmentalists Worth Celebrating On Earth Day**, Jessica Dickerson, The Huffington Post, April 22, 2014
- 2012 **Distinguished Alumni Award 2012 and Commencement Speaker**, Sociology Department, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York, Buffalo, NY.
- 2011 **SAGE Activist Scholar Award**, Urban Affairs Association, New Orleans, LA.
- 2010 **100 History Makers in the Making**, the Griot, New York, NY.
- 2010 **Conrad Arensberg Award**, the Society for the Anthropology of Work, New Orleans, LA.
- 2010 **Beta Kappa Chi Humanitarian Assistance Award**, National Institutes of Science, New Orleans, LA.
- 2010 **Proclamation in Recognition for receiving the 2009 Heinz Award**, New Orleans City Council, New Orleans, LA.
- 2009 **Heinz Award**, the Heinz Family Foundation, Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2009 **Freedom Sisters Award**, Ford Motor Company, New Orleans, LA.
- 2008 **Environmental Justice Achievement Award**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Justice, Washington, D.C.
- 2006 **Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award**, Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Program, Boston, MA.
- 2005 **Healthy Building Leadership Award**, the Institute of Local Self-Reliance, Washington, D.C.

- 2003 ***Distinguished Alumni Award***, State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York.
- 1993 ***Environmental Justice Award***, Citizens Clearinghouse for Hazardous Waste, Falls Church, VA.
- 1993 ***Environmental Justice Award***, Tulane University Chapter, Black Law Students Association, New Orleans, LA.
- 1987 ***Urban League Outstanding Achievement Award***, Urban League of Greater New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.
- 1987 ***Deblois Faculty Fellow, Outstanding Research in Quality of Life Issues***, School of Urban and Regional Studies, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.
- 1983 ***MAC Fellow***, Metropolitan Area Committee, City of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.
- 1983 ***Certificate***, Leadership Forum, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.
- 1980 ***Human Resources Fellow***, Certificate Program for the Advanced Study of Human Resources, Department of Economics, Howard University, Washington, D.C.
- 1979 ***Outstanding Young Women in America***, Who's Who.
- 1979 ***Urban Research Fellow***, Institute for Urban Affairs and Research Howard University, Washington, D.C.

Board Memberships

Member, **Gulf Study Scientific Advisory Board**, National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Durham, NC.(2011 - 2012)

Member, **City of New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board**, New Orleans, LA.(2010 - 2013)

Advisory Board, **Tony Mazzocchi Center – United Steelworkers of America**, Pittsburgh, PA.(Present)

Member Mayor Mitch Landrieu Transition Team, Environment and Sustainability Committee, New Orleans (2010)

Member, **Ethics Review Board for the City of New Orleans**, New Orleans, LA. (2010)

Founding President and Board Member African American Women of Purpose and Power (AAWPP), New Orleans (2008 – Present)

Member, **Gulf Coast Fund**, New Orleans, LA (2006 - 2012)

Member, **Parkway Partners**, New Orleans, LA (2006 – 2009)

EPA **National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC)** – Hurricane Katrina (2006)

Co-Chair, Advisory Board, **Environmental Justice Climate Change Initiative**, (2002 - 2015)

Member, **US Army Corps of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board**, New Orleans, LA (1998-2000)

Charter Member, **National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC)**, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC. (1993-1996)

Editorial Board, **Journal of Social and Behavioral Sciences** (1985-2007)

Program Chair, **Editorial Board Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists** (1988)

Board Member, **Metropolitan Council for Lifelong Living**, Metropolitan College, Program Development (1985)

Committee Memberships

Member, **Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Task Force**, New Orleans, LA (2010 - 2011)

Board Member, **Commission to Engage African Americans on Climate Change**, the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Washington, DC. (2009)

Member, **Mayor's Advisory Committee on Environmental Affairs**, New Orleans, LA., (1994-2002)

Chairperson, **Mayor's Committee on Solid Waste**, New Orleans, LA., (1994-2002)

Advisory Subcommittee, **National Environmental Conflict Resolution "Affected Communities."**

Member, **Executive Committee, Committee of 21**, (1997)

Advisory Committee, **We Speak for Ourselves**, The Panos Institute, Washington, DC, (1997)

Planning Committee, **People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit**, New York, NY (1990-91)

Member, **Women's Studies Steering Committee**, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC (1990)

Planning Committee, **National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, Commission for Racial Justice**, New York, NY. (1990)

EOD Committee Member, **the Urban League**, Winston-Salem, NC (1989)

Committee Member, **Research & the State of Black New Orleans Committee**, the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, New Orleans, LA (1987)

Research Committee Member, **State of Black New Orleans**, the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, New Orleans, LA (1986)

Chairman, **Metropolitan Council for Life Long Living Humanities Committee**, Metropolitan College Program Development (1985)

Executive Committee, **Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists** (1984)

University of New Orleans Representative, **Policy and Procedures revision sub-committee**, Office of Municipal Investigation (OMI) Review Committee, New Orleans, LA (1983)

Member, **Executive Committee, Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists** (1983)

Chairman, **Planning Committee**, Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists (1983)

Chairman, **1983 National Association Meeting-Planning Committee**, Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, New Orleans (1982)

Committee Chairman, **At Risk - The Black Adolescent** Symposium, Association of Black Psychologists, New Orleans Chapter, New Orleans, LA (1982)

Executive Committee, **Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists** (1981)

Planning Committee, **Juvenile Crime Symposium**, Association of Black Psychologists, New Orleans Chapter, New Orleans, LA (1981)

Member, **Task Force for the Improvement of New Orleans Public Schools**, New Orleans, LA (1981)

Subcommittee Co-chairman, **Symposium on Crime**, Urban League of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA (1981)

Member, New Orleans Public Housing Task Force (1980)

Planning Committee, **First Scholarly Meeting National Negro Women's Convention**, National Council for Negro Women (1979)

Public Relations Committee, **UNO Representative, International Year of the Child Task Force**, City of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA (1979)

## **GRANT AWARDS**

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*Voluntary Buy-Outs as an Alternative Damage Claims Arrangement*  
Southern University Institute for Environmental Issues and Policy Assessment  
(1992-1993) \$19,000

*Coping with Community Stressors*  
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
(1993-1996) \$131,109

*Socioeconomic Impact of Air Toxics Project*  
Environmental Protection Agency  
(1993-1998) \$604,000

*Mississippi River Avatar Project*, Public Welfare Foundation  
(1994-1999) \$190,000

*Lower Mississippi River Interagency Cancer Study*  
Environmental Protection Agency  
(1995-1996) \$20,000

*National Environmental Policy Impact*  
Science Applications International Corporation.  
(1995) \$11,000

<i>Mississippi River Avatar Communiversality Project</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1995-1996)	\$20,000
<i>Mississippi River Chemical Education &amp; Research Program, United Negro College Fund</i> (1995-1998)	\$96,000
<i>Environmental Justice Partnership Project: Communiversality along the River</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1995-1998)	\$319,000
<i>Public Part: Restoration Advisory Board Project</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1995-1999)	\$252,000
<i>Minority Worker Training Project</i> National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (1994-1999)	\$3,526,445
<i>Norco Refinery Project</i> Mott Foundation (1996-1998)	\$20,000
<i>Community Lead Education Project</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1996-1998)	\$250,000
<i>Campus Affiliate Program (C.J. Peete)</i> <i>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP &amp; HEALTH SUBGROUP</i> US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) (1996)	\$25,020
<i>Mississippi River Avatar Refinery Project</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1996-1998)	\$20,000
<i>Xavier Triangle Community</i> Worker Training & Construction Company Program US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) (1997-1999)	\$180,000
<i>N.O. E.J. Teacher Training Project</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1997-1998)	\$177,485
<i>Opening Doors of Communication for Pollution Prevention</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1997-1998)	\$20,000
<i>Community Health Surveying &amp; Education Initiative</i> Alton Jones Foundation (1998-2000)	\$130,000

<i>Building Environmental Stewardship, Student Campus &amp; Community Project for Pollution Prevention</i> United Negro College Fund (1998-2002)	\$50,000
<i>Mississippi River Chemical Corridor: Small &amp; Disadvantaged Business Profile</i> Environmental Protection Agency (1998-1999)	\$50,250
<i>West Dallas Brownfields Job Training</i> National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (1999-2000) (1998-1999)	\$213,056
<i>West Dallas Superfund Job Training</i> National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (1998-1999)	\$150,000
<i>Developing Measures of Community Protective Factors</i> Center for Disease Control Co-Investigator with Robert Goodman, Ph.D., Tulane University School of Public Health and Community Medicine (1999-2002)	\$642,308
<i>Norco Relocation</i> Jennifer Altman Foundation (2000-2001)	\$30,000
<i>Strategic Planning &amp; Assessment/Strategic Plan &amp; Research</i> Ford Foundation (2001-2002)	\$150,000
<i>Environmental Justice Analysis: Bienville Corridor Master Plan</i> (2001-2002)	\$50,000
<i>Environmental Justice Analysis: Louis Armstrong International Airport Expansion</i> (2001-2003)	\$50,000
<i>Minority Worker Training Project</i> National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (2005-2010)	\$6,989,152
<i>Hurricane Katrina Minority Worker Training Response Project</i> Department of Labor	\$99,500
<i>Katrina Survivor Project</i> The Ford Foundation (2007-2009)	\$400,000

<i>Healthy Rebuilding Project</i> W.K. Kellogg Foundation (2007-2008)	\$400,000
<i>Katrina Survivor Project</i> The Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation (2007-2008)	\$10,000
<i>Public Policy Task Force</i> The Cedar Tree Foundation (2008-2009)	\$100,000
<i>Katrina Survivor Project</i> Gulf Coast Fund (2009)	\$17,000
<i>Katrina Survivor Project/Public Policy Task Force/General Support</i> The Ford Foundation (2009-2010)	\$475,000
<i>Minority Worker Training Project – Supplemental Grant Award</i> National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (2009-2010)	\$400,000
<i>HBCU Community Partnership for Worker Training Utilizing Technology-Based Learning</i> U.S. Department of Labor (2009-2012)	\$966,000
<i>Public Policy Task Force</i> Gulf Coast Fund (2010)	\$10,000
<i>Katrina Survivors Home Rehabilitation Project</i> U.S. Department of H.U.D., City of New Orleans (2010-2011)	\$500,000
<i>Minority Worker Training Project</i> National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (2010-2015)	\$4,831,985
<i>Hazardous Waste Worker Training Project</i> National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (2010-2015)	\$955,375
<i>Coastal Communities Strategies to Monitor BP Wastes</i> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2011-2012)	\$30,000

*Clearing the Air on Emissions from the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill: Comprehensive Outreach to Affected Communities in Louisiana*

Environmental Protection Agency  
(2012-2014) \$115,000

*Deep South Center for Environmental Justice – Planning Support/Assistance Grant for Environmental Justice Training Workshop in New Orleans, Louisiana on September 25-27, 2013*

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
(2013-2014) \$15,000

*Hazardous Material Worker H&S Training Administrative Supplement for Hurricane Sandy Response MOU with Steelworkers Charitable and Educational Organization/The Tony Mazzocchi Center*

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
(2013-2014) \$186,335

*Increasing Community Awareness & Use of Environmental Information through Education and Outreach*

Environmental Protection Agency  
(2013-2018) \$1,000,000

*Community Participation in the EPA Refinery Rule Public Hearing*

Sierra Club  
(2014) \$3,000

*Community Participation in the EPA Refinery Rule Public Hearing*

Earth Justice  
(2014) \$3,000

*HBCU Climate Change Initiative, Student Participation in the People’s Climate March 350.org*

(2014) \$13,150

*HBCU Climate Change Initiative, Student Participation in the People’s Climate March*

Sierra Club  
(2014) \$9,000

*HBCU Climate Change Initiative, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference*

Lang Family Foundation  
(2014) \$3,000

*HBCU Climate Change Initiative: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference and COP21 Student Training*

Energy Action Coalition  
(2015) \$14,898

*Navigate NOLA Project*

New Orleans City Council Harrah’s New Orleans Casino Community Grants Program

(2015)	\$4,500
<i>HBCU Climate Change Initiative: Katrina 10 Convergence</i>	
Sierra Club	
(2015)	\$5,505
<i>HBCU Climate Change Initiative: COP21 United Nations Summit, Paris, France</i>	
Rainforest Climate Action Fund	
(2015)	\$2,500
<i>HBCU Climate Change Initiative: COP21 Student Training and COP21 United Nations Summit, Paris, France</i>	
SustainUS – Haury Grant	
(2015)	\$6,966
<i>HBCU Climate Change Initiative: COP21 Student Training at Katrina 10, COP21 United Nations Summit, Paris, France and 4<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference</i>	
U.S. Climate Action Network, Frontline Collaboration Small Grant	
(2015)	\$16,400
<i>Asthma Project</i>	
WeACT for Environmental Justice, Inc.	
(2015-2016)	\$5,000
<i>Environmental Career Worker Training Project</i>	
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	
(2015-2020)	\$6,123,444
<i>Hazardous Waste Worker Training Project</i>	
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	
(2015-2020)	\$4,352,206
<i>HBCU Climate Change Initiative: Growing HBCU Voices on Climate Change: The 4th Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference</i>	
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	
(2016-2017)	\$8,000
<i>HBCU Climate Change Initiative: 4th Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference</i>	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
(2016-2017)	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$35,492,589</b>

**PRESENTATIONS**

2016	“The Wrong Complexion for Protection: The State of Black New Orleans in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina,” Building the Beloved Community Town Hall Forum, the King Center, Atlanta, GA.
	“The Impact of TRI Data Usage in the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,” TRI Regional Workshop, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.

*"Communiversality in Action,"* 4<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference *"We Are One with Flint: It's Not Just about the Water,"* Dillard University, New Orleans, LA.

*"Toxics Release Inventory Data: Its Impact on the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,"* 4<sup>th</sup> Annual HBCU Climate Change Conference *"We Are One with Flint: It's Not Just about the Water,"* Generation Next: High School Initiative, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA.

2015

*"A Question of Human Rights: Transnational Targeting of Environmental Justice Communities,"* Federal University of Technology at Owerri (FUTO, Owerri, Nigeria).

*"Environmental and Health Inequities in the Lower Mississippi River Industrial Corridor,"* Spelman College/UNCF Mellon Faculty Teaching & Learning Institute *"Educating for Sustainability: Greening the Curriculum at Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)"*, Atlanta, GA.

*"A Winning Partnership: From Research to Action in an Environmental Justice Framework,"* Gulf South Rising Climate Justice Convergence, New Orleans, LA.

*"The HBCU Climate Change Consortium: Engaging African-American Students in Global Climate Conversations,"* HBCU Story Symposium, Fisk University, Nashville, TN.

*"From Research to Action: Engaging African-American Students in Environmental Justice Work,"* Spelman College Class Lecture, Atlanta, GA.

*"From Research to Action: Engaging College and University Students in Environmental Justice Work,"* Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, TX.

*"New Orleans Schools – 10 Years of Charters: An Assessment,"* National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) 95th Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

2014

*"A Question of Human Rights: Transnational Targeting of Environmental Justice Communities,"* Duke University Law School, Durham, NC

*"Environmental Justice and Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Communities,"* Community Trainings, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Plaquemine, Houma and New Orleans, LA

*"The Impact of Climate Change and Community Resilience in Post-Katrina New Orleans,"* 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual HBCU Student Climate Change Conference 2014: Bridging the Gap between Climate Change Theory and Experience, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

*"Building Safer & Resilient Communities in the Face of Climate Change,"* Climate Change and How Training Can Increase Worker & Community Resilience Technical Workshop, NIEHS Spring 2014 Awardee Meeting and Workshop, Los Angeles, CA

*"A Winning Partnership: From Research to Action in an Environmental Justice Framework,"* University Conversations on Environmental Justice, Leadership Training, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

*"Toxics Release Inventory: A Major Building Block of the Environmental Justice Movement,"* 2014 National Training Conference on the Toxics Release Inventory and Environmental Conditions in Communities, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC

“The Experience of Fenceline Communities: History, Context and Evolution,” EPA Workshop on Environmental Justice Communities on Proposed Updates to Emission Standards for Refineries, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

“New Orleans 2013 Workshop Recap,” EPA Region 6 Environmental Justice Community Training Workshop 2014, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Houston, TX

“Sustainability in an Environmental Justice Framework,” Applied Diversity: Conversation on Current Affairs, Global Citizenship Conference 2014, New Orleans, LA

“Environmental Health Inequities in the Lower Mississippi River Industrial Corridor,” Healthography, APHA 142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting & Expo, New Orleans, LA

2013

“The Impact of TRI Data Usage in the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,” TRI Webinar, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

“Leadership Development Training on Climate Change,” USCAN Leadership Development Training, Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs, Texas Southern University, Houston, TX

“Turning Disaster into Opportunity...Training a Workforce for a Green Economy,” Environmental Justice: Systems, Symptoms and Solutions, Gulf of Mexico Environmental Justice Conference, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Gulf Coast Program Office, Biloxi, MS

“Environmental Justice and Equity in the Face of Climate Change,” Brazilian Delegation, New Orleans Citizens Diplomacy Council, New Orleans, LA

“Disaster Recovery: Through Worker Training & Community Partnerships,” Ironbound Community Corporation, Newark, NJ

“Environmental Justice and Equity in the Face of Climate Change,” Revius O. Ortique Leadership Institute, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

“Environmental Justice in the Face of Climate Change,” EPA Region 6 Environmental Justice Community Training Workshop, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, New Orleans, LA

“Environmental Justice...Everybody’s Concern,” Freshman Convocation, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

“The Struggle for Environmental Justice: Lessons from Louisiana, The Sportsman’s Paradise,” Texas Southern University, Houston, TX

“The Perilous Consequences of Public Policy Decisions on Vulnerable Communities: An Analysis of Two Gulf Coast Disasters” New Jersey Climate Adaptation Conference on Reducing Risks to Vulnerable Populations, Rutgers The State University of New Jersey, Newark, NJ

“Dirty Deadly and Dangerous: The Need for a Just & Equitable Transition to a Green Economy” NAACP Pre-Conference Meeting, Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference, Washington, DC

“The Socio-Economic Impacts of Climate Change: A Focus on Post-Katrina New Orleans,” 1<sup>st</sup> Annual HBCU Student Climate Change Conference: Bridging the Gap between Climate Change Theory and Experience, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

“What Is Your Carbon Footprint?” S.T.E.M.-ULATING the Whole Child, 1<sup>st</sup> Annual HBCU Student Climate Change Conference: Bridging the Gap between Climate Change Theory and Experience, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

“Understanding the Human Dimensions of Environmental Disasters,” The Ecological Society of America’s SEEDS Leadership Meeting, New Orleans, LA

2012 “Climate Change Impacts and Disaster Recovery,” Fall 2012 New Orleans Fulbright Seminar, New Orleans, LA

“The Legacy of Toxic Wastes and Race in Communities of Color,” Distinguished Faculty for the Public Health Ethics Course, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL

“The Legacy of Toxic Wastes and Race in Communities of Color,” Monitoring Oil Wastes in Communities along the Gulf Coast: A Community Training, Mount Vernon Community Center, Mt. Vernon, AL

“The BP Oil Disaster: Where Did the Wastes Go?” The Impact of Disasters on Human Health and Vulnerable Populations Conference, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

Facilitator, “NIEHS and EPA Children’s Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers: Strengthening the Network,” Partnerships for Environmental Public Health (PEPH) Meeting, Research Triangle Park, NC

2011 “Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster: Responses and Lessons Learned in the Gulf,” National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Dillard University, New Orleans, LA,

“Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster” Federal Interagency Working Group Panel, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Mobile, Alabama

“Environmental Justice Collaborative Model,” Federal Interagency Working Group Panel Discussion, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), New Orleans, LA

“Breaking the Cycle of Race and Waste,” Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Risky Technology Community Forum, New Orleans, LA,

“Research in Action: A Winning Partnership,” Dillard University, New Orleans, LA.

“Response to: Geography of Vulnerability – Tracking Environmental and Public Health Impacts of the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster,” Beta Kappa Chi/National Institute of Science, Atlanta, GA.

“The Perilous Consequences of Public Policy Decisions: Weathering the Storms of Natural and Man-Made Disasters in the Gulf,” University of Oregon, Eugene, OR.

“Urban Land Use: Lessons from New Orleans on How to Destroy a Community,” University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.

“Risky Technology: The Newest Threat to Our Communities,” NAACP Region VI Just Energy Summit, Houston, TX

“Response to the Geography of Vulnerability: Tracking Environmental and Public Health Impacts of the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster,” Beta Kappa Chi National Institute of Science, Hot Zone Summit, 68<sup>th</sup> Joint Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

“Research in Action: A Winning Partnership,” Reclaiming the City: Building a Just and Sustainable Future Conference, Urban Affairs Association, University of Delaware, New Orleans, LA 2011

“Deepwater Horizon: Responses and Lessons Learned,” Good Jobs, Green Jobs Conference 2011, Washington, DC.

2010

“Equity, Justice and Recovery: Weathering the Storms of Natural & Man-made Disasters along the Gulf Coast,” New Directions in Environmental Justice - An Environmental Law and Justice Symposium, Florida A&M College of Law, Tallahassee, FL.

“A Safe Way Back Home...” Women’s Health and the Environment Conference 2010: New Science, New Solutions, The Heinz Endowments, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA.

“Communiversality: A Model for the Establishment of Community and University Partnerships,” First Annual Building Bridges: Community Partnerships and Learning, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY.

“Environmental Justice, Climate Change and Health: Lessons from Katrina”, Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA.

“Staying Afloat: Adaption to Climate Change on the Gulf and Beyond” Keynote Address, NAELS 2010 Conference, Loyola College of Law, New Orleans, LA.

2010 Good Jobs, Green Jobs National Conference on Environmental Justice, Air Quality, Goods Movement, and Green Jobs, Washington, DC.

“Public Health, Human Prosperity, and Justice: Public Policy in the African Diaspora” Keynote Address, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA.

“Efforts to Address Environmental Injustice and Improve Public Health in Post-Katrina New Orleans.” APHA 138<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Exposition, Denver, CO.

“Communiversality: A Model for the Establishment of Community and University Partnerships,” Dillard University, New Orleans, LA.

“Deadly Mix of Wastes and Race,” Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, New Orleans, LA.

“The Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,” Sino-American International Research Forum, The National Association of African American Studies, Beijing, Guilin and Shanghai China

Sichuan China Delegation "A Safe Way Back Home: Coming Home Safely, Clean and Green,"  
Dillard University, New Orleans, LA.

2009 Environmental Justice Expert Panel Meeting - October 28, 2009, National Environmental Public  
Health Conference Atlanta, GA.

"A Public Policy Task Force for a Sustainable and Equitable Recovery of New Orleans and the  
Gulf Coast" New Orleans, LA.

"Race, Place & the Environment in the Aftermath of Katrina", The Political Engagement Project  
Lecture Series, Ferris State University, Big Rapids, MI.

"From Katrina to Copenhagen: Promoting a Fair Climate Agenda", Keynote Address, New  
Orleans, LA.

"Commission on the Legal Empowerment of the Poor," World Resources Institute, Washington  
DC.

"Race, Place and Environmental Justice," Environmental Justice Workshop, The Environmental  
Justice Committee, Life & Environment, Cohn Institute for History and Philosophy of Science and  
Ideas, The Porter School of Environmental Studies, Tel Aviv University Law and Environment  
Program and the Environmental Justice Clinic, Tel Aviv, Israel.

Sociological Perspectives on Global Climate Change Workshop, National Science Foundation,  
Washington, DC.

The Berkeley Law Environmental Law Society cordially invites you to attend our Fifth Annual  
Environmental Justice Symposium: Just Water? Solving an Environmental Justice Crisis, Berkley,  
CA.

"City Climate Crisis Vignettes," ADVANCING CLIMATE JUSTICE: TRANSFORMING THE ECONOMY,  
PUBLIC HEALTH & OUR ENVIRONMENT, Fordham University Lincoln Center Campus, Pope  
Auditorium, New York, NY.

2008 US Climate Change Network State-Federal Conference: "Coming Together for Solutions,"  
Washington, D.C.

"Building Power, Bringing about Change," Good Jobs, Green Jobs: A National Green Jobs  
Conference, David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA.

"Race, Place, and the Environment after Katrina: Reclaiming, Rebuilding, Revitalizing" National  
Symposium, New Orleans, LA.

Presenter, American Meteorological Society Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

"Reclaiming, Rebuilding, Revitalizing after Katrina," The Dream Reborn, Environmental Justice: A  
2020 Vision for Building Healthy and Sustainable Communities, Memphis Cook Convention  
Center, Atlanta, GA.

- “Commission to Engage African Americans on Climate Change,” The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Washington, D.C.
- “Sociological Perspectives on Global Climate Change,” Workshop, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C.
- “Race, Place & the Environment in the Aftermath of Katrina”, The Bert G. Kerstetter Environmental Lecture Series, Environmental Justice Conference, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ.
- “Hurricane Katrina: Lessons Learned – Race, Place and the Environment in the Aftermath of Katrina”, Tufts University, Medford, MA.
- 2007 “Winning Partnership: A Community Response to Government in Action After Katrina”, Prescott College, Prescott, AZ.
- “Race, Place, and the Environment after Katrina,” Prescott College Master of Arts Colloquium, Prescott College, Prescott, AZ.
- 2006 “Race, Place, and the Environment after Katrina” National Symposium, New Orleans, LA.
- “A Winning Partnership for Training,” Rebuilding EJ Communities along the Gulf Coast Panel, Brownfields Conference, Boston, MA.
- “Surviving Katrina: The Interplay of Race and Class,” St. Joseph’s University, Philadelphia, PA.
- “A Safe Way Back Home,” Atlanta Katrina Survivor’s Forum, Clark-Atlanta, University, Atlanta, GA.
- “A Safe Way Back Home,” Houston Katrina Survivor’s Forum, Trinity United Methodist Church, Houston, TX.
- 21st Annual Empowering Women of Color Conference, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA.
- “Surviving Katrina: The Interplay of Race and Class,” Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- “Surviving Katrina: The Interplay of Race and Class,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
- “Surviving Katrina: The Interplay of Race and Class,” Brown University, Providence, RI.
- 2005 “EJ: The Struggle at Home and Abroad”, 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference, University of Oregon School of Law, Eugene, OR.
- “Quest for Justice in Areas of Acute Disparities”, Quality Education for Minorities (QEM), Washington, D.C.
- “Confronting Environmental Racism: Voices from the Grassroots”, National Association of Independent Schools Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
- 2004 “Service Learning and Civic Engagement Workshop”, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN.

“Clean and Just Production Where Sustainable Development and Economic Viability Come Together”, Clean and Just Production Roundtable, New Orleans, LA.

“Communiversity: A Partnership for Environmental Justice”, National Institute of Environmental Health Science Brownfields Conference, Portland, OR.

“Environmental Justice: The Struggle at Home and Abroad,” Environmental Protection Agency: Teacher Training Workshop, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.

“Integrating Academia and Activism...Moving Towards Participatory Research and Academic Activism,” UNCF/Mellon Education for Sustainability: Greening the Curriculum Workshop, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA.

“Implementing a Holistic Approach to Worker Training Programs,” Coalition of Black Trade Unionists National CARAT Team Conference, Atlanta, GA.

“The Black Urban Experience: Cities, Suburbs, and Metropolitan Regional Equity Atlanta Roundtable Meeting,” Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, GA.

“Women Activist in the Trenches Panel Discussion,” 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Week, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA.

“Integrating Academia and Activism,” Environmental Justice Climate Change Student Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2003 “Our Health Is in Our Hands,” The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Summit of Minority Communities, Memphis, TN.

“History of Community Involvement Along the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,” South African Delegates Phase-Out Tour to the USA, New Orleans, LA.

“Environmental Justice in the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,” NAACP Youth and Student Division, Miami, FL.

“Deep South Center for Environmental Justice: Who We Are,” State University of New York at Buffalo Alumni Award Ceremony, Buffalo, NY.

“Environmental Justice: At Home and Abroad,” Rhodes Campus-Community Partnerships Workshop, Memphis, TN.

“Environmental Justice Issues Affecting Minority Communities,” Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, Environmental Leadership Institute, Utica, MS.

2002 “Race, Politics, and Pollution: The Mississippi River Chemical Corridor, Tulane University-Corp of Engineers Comparing Rivers, New Orleans, LA.

Environmental Justice Training, Environmental Protection Agency Region Six Technical Assistance Grant, Oklahoma City, OK.

“Environmental Justice: The Struggle at Home and Abroad,” Women as World Citizens, Spelman College Convocation, Atlanta, GA.

“Human Rights at the Crossroads: Challenges and Solutions,” International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) Conference, New Orleans, LA.

“Environmental Racism: At Home and Abroad,” World Summit on Sustainable Development Prepcomm Four, Bali, Indonesia.

“The Bienville Corridor Project: Environmental Justice Issues and Concerns,” Lecture to Harvard and Tuskegee University Urban Design Graduate Students, Urban League, New Orleans, LA.

2001 “Clean Production: A New Economic and Environmental Vision for Louisiana,” Clean Production Workshop, New Orleans, LA.

“Environmental Justice Issues Affecting Minority Communities” Building Environmental Stewardship (BES) Conference, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL.

“Problems and Solutions to Environmental Racism,” World Conference Against Racism, Durban, South Africa.

“Environmental Justice and Climate,” Climate, Ethics Planning Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

“A Communiversity Partnership for Environmental Justice: A Model of the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice at Xavier University of New Orleans,” University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, NE.

2000 “Lead Exposure in the City of New Orleans,” A paper presented at the New Orleans Mayor’s Environmental Breakfast at the University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA.

1999 “Environmental Racism and the siting of Toxic Release Inventory Facilities in Louisiana,” a presentation at the 55<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Consortium on Human Rights, Geneva, Switzerland

“The Anatomy of a Community Environmental Justice Victory: The Shintech Case in Convent, Louisiana,” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, IL.

“Spatial Distribution of Toxic Release Inventory sites and Emergency Response: The Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,” a paper presented at a Congressional Symposium on Environmental Justice co-sponsored by members of the congressional Black Caucus, Hispanic Caucus and Progressive Caucus, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

“Defining Environmental Justice,” a presentation made at the Environmental Justice Symposium, sponsored by EPA Region VI, Kansas City, MI

1998 “Environmental racism: A case of the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor in Louisiana,” A paper presented at the Conference of the International Society of Ecological Economists, Santiago, Chile.

“Race, Poverty and Pollution in Cancer Alley,” a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.

“Implementing Environmental Justice Projects,” a presentation made at the Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, sponsored by the Waste Management Division of Federal Facilities Branch, Atlanta, GA.

“Environmental Justice and Community Economic Development,” a paper presented at the EDA Southwestern Region Economic Development Conference, New Orleans, LA.

“Environmental Racism,” a paper presented at the National Association of Black Journalists, Washington, DC.

“Mississippi River Chemical Corridor” a paper presented at the Congressional Black Caucus Briefing on the Shintech PVC Plant in Convent Louisiana, Washington, D.C.

“Environmental Justice: Race, Class and Pollution in the New Millennium,” A paper presented at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, Montgomery, Alabama.

“Testimony on the Siting of Shintech” a paper presented at The Emergency National Commission on Environmental and Economic Justice, Convent, LA.

“Military Toxins: Public Participation in Restoration Advisory Board Development,” A paper presented at EPA Region IV Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

1997 “Environmental Justice, Poverty and Women of Color”, a paper presented at the Women and the Environment in International Perspective, Madison, WI.

“Surviving the Toxics in Cancer Alley: A Case Study of Communities along the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor,” A paper presented at the Environmental Justice Global Ethics for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Melbourne, Australia.

“How Communities Use TRI and Right –To-Know in Their Struggle for Environmental Justice,” A paper presented at the Right To Know Conference, Washington, D.C.

“Disproportionate Exposure to Environmental Pollution: Convent, Louisiana,” A paper presented at the Annual Meeting of American Sociological Association, Toronto, Canada.

1996 The Association of Black Social Workers: Community University Partnerships: Communiversy Model. Johannesburg, South Africa.

Poster presentation of the Washington Office. United Nations Conference on Human Settlement. Istanbul, Turkey.

1995 “Environmental Issues Along the Mississippi River Chemical Corridor: Is Race A Factor?” A paper presented at Southern Sociological Society Conference, Atlanta, GA.

- 1992 "Social Justice Issues and the Environment," A paper presented at the Environmental Equity Hearing of the Louisiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, Baton Rouge, LA.
- 1991 "The Politics of the Environment in the South: A Minority Perspective," A paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Association, Atlanta, GA.
- "Never Pregnant Teens in High Risks Environments", paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, Nashville, TN.
- "The Environmental Justice Movement and the Promise of Networking," (with Robert Bullard) A paper presented at the 6th Annual Technological Literacy Conference of the National Association for Science, Technology and Society, Washington, D.C.
- "Surviving the Toxics in Southeastern, Louisiana: A Minority Perspective," A paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Cleveland, OH.
- National Science Foundation Panel - Research Experiences for Undergraduates, Biological, Behavioral, and Social Sciences, San Francisco, CA
- 1990 "The Environmental Equity Movement: Black communities Fighting Back", (with Robert D. Bullard) A paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Washington, D.C.
- "Three Generations of Teenage Mothers", paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid South Sociological Association, Little Rock, AR.
- MacArthur Foundation Conference: "Successful Adaptation for Adolescent Mothers and Infants: Individual, Family and Intergenerational Influences", New Orleans, LA.
- "The Effect of Occupational Injury, Illness and Disease on the Health of Black Americans," Conference on Race and the Environment, Hofstra University, Long Island, NY.
- Incidence of Environmental Hazards, University of Michigan, School of Natural Resource, Ann Arbor, MI.
- "Surviving the Toxics in Southeastern Louisiana", Invited Lecturer, Department of Conservation and Resource Studies, University of California, Berkeley, CA.
- "Never Pregnant Teens: A Comparative Study", Annual Meeting of the Institute of Mental Hygiene, New Orleans, LA.
- "Race and the Environment", Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference, Washington, D.C.
- "Surviving the Toxic Threat of Southeast Louisiana", presented at University of California, Berkeley - Seminar Series, Department of Conservation and Resource Studies, Freedom and Equality Conference, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY.
- Minority Student Affairs Workshop, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

- 1989 "The Anatomy of Black Grassroots Environmental Activism: Case Studies from the Southern United States", paper presented at the Mid-South Sociological Association, Baton Rouge, LA.
- "The Quest for Environmental Equity: Mobilizing the Black Community for Social Change," A paper presented at The American Sociological Association Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Minority Student Affairs Workshop, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.
- "Black Family Workshop," Emmanuel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, NC
- 1988 Fifth Annual Policy Institute, *Teenage Pregnancy Prevention*, Washington, D.C.
- "Toxics, Economics and Race," Southern Environmental Assembly '88, , Atlanta, GA.
- "Black Workers at Risk: Jobs for Life or Death" paper presented at Dream and Reality: The Modern Black Struggle for Equality, Atlanta, GA
- "Black Attitude, Public Policy and School-Based Clinic", paper presented at the Fifth Annual Policy Institute (Co-sponsored by the Joint Center for Political Studies) Washington, D.C.
- "Jobs vs. the Environment: Alerting Minority Communities", paper presented at the Southern Environmental Assembly '88, Atlanta, GA.
- 1987 "Teenage Pregnancy in New Orleans: The Sociological Perspective" paper presented at the New Orleans Chapter of the Association of Black Psychologists' Seventh Annual Symposium, New Orleans, LA.
- "Hazards in the Workplace and Black Health" paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Chicago, IL.
- "Blacks in New Orleans: The City That Care Forgot" paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association, Jackson, MS.
- "New Faces of Segregation: The Case of the New Orleans Public Schools" paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, Memphis, TN.
- 1986 "Blacks and the Environment" (with Robert Bullard) paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, Washington, D.C.
- "Pollution in the Workplace and Black Health" paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association, Jackson, MS.
- 1985 "Blacks in New Orleans: A Socio-historical Perspective", (with Jerry Wilcox) paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association, Little Rock, AR.
- 1984 "Factors Influencing the Self Esteem of Pregnant Teenagers", paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists in Nashville, TN.
- "The Politics of Pollution: Implications for the Black Community", (with Robert Bullard) paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Black Sociologists in San Antonio, TX.

"Adolescent Parenthood Workshop," sponsored by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Orleans Parish Public Schools, New Orleans, LA.

Urban League of New Orleans, Forum, *The Plight of the Poor in New Orleans*, New Orleans, LA.

New Orleans City Council Public Hearing, Amusement Tax Proposal, New Orleans, LA.

1982 "Blacks in New Orleans", The Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists Annual Meeting, Jackson, MS.

"Composition of Lower-Income Urban Black Families in a Tight Housing Market", (with Shirley Laska) paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, California.

1981 "Factors Influencing Teenage Pregnancy", The Mid-South Sociological Association Meeting, Shreveport, LA.

Black on Black Crime, Urban League, New Orleans, LA.

New Orleans Public Library Jambalaya Series, *Growing Up In New Orleans*, New Orleans, LA.

1980 "The Effects of Unemployment and Locus of Control on Rioting Behavior", Program for Advanced Study of Human Resources Workshop, Department of Labor, Hampton Institute, Hampton, VA.

1979 "Colored-Negro-Black: Ideological Change and the Civil Rights Movement", Southern Sociological Association Meeting, Atlanta, GA.

"Racial Group Identification and Self Concept", The Mid-South Sociological Association Meeting, Memphis, TN.

Consultant, Institute for Governmental Studies, Loyola University, *Conflict Management Workshop*, New Orleans, LA.

1978 "Internal vs. External Control and Self-Esteem", The Mid-South Sociological Association Meeting, Jackson, MS.

## **COMMUNITY FORUMS AND HOSTED MEETINGS**

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Toxics Release Inventory Regional Workshop, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, March 5, 2016

Community and Student COP21 Climate Change Training, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA November 12, 2015

Katrina 10 Climate Justice Convergence, COP21 Road to Paris Training, and HBCU Delegates Katrina 10 Lower Ninth Ward March/Second Line, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA, August 2015

Louisiana Environmental Justice Collaborative Action Plan Workgroup, New Orleans, LA, December 2014

Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Community Trainings, Plaquemine, Houma and New Orleans, LA, February 2014

Disaster Recovery Partnership Training, Ironbound Community Corporation, Newark, NJ, November 2013

“A Fierce Green Fire: The Battle for a Living Planet,” Film screening, Dillard University, New Orleans, LA, October 2013

EPA Region 6 Environmental Justice Community Training Workshop, New Orleans, LA, September 2013

Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Risky Waste Technology Community Forum, St. Maria Goretti Church, November 2012

African American Women of Purpose and Power/Urban League of Greater New Orleans Candidates Forum, November 2011

Risky Waste Technology Community Forum, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, June 2011

HBCU Environmental Health and Safety Compliance Conference, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, April 2011

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Director Linda Birnbaum, Deepwater Horizon Gulf Oil Disaster Roundtable on Lessons Process to Evaluate Safety Training of Gulf Oil Responders, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, February 2011

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Code Enforcement and Compliance Senior Enforcement Managers Meeting, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, January 2011

Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Monitoring BP Waste in Communities of Color Community Forum, November 2010

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Extramural Grants Process Workshop, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, October 2010

Health, Wealthy, Wise National Empowerment Conference, New Orleans, LA Sponsored by Kellogg, AT & T, Verizon, USDA, Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, and Unity Coalition, October 2010

African American Women of Purpose and Power/Urban League of Greater New Orleans Congressional Candidates Forum, October 2010

National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Gulf Workers Focus Group, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, October 2010

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Collaborative Convening, Development of Research Agenda on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, September 2010

Department of Health and Human Services Secretary, Katherine Sebelius, Listening Session, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, June 2010

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Debriefing of Impacts of Dispersants used for Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster, Dillard University, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, May 2010

Public Policy Task Force Research Roundtable, New Orleans, LA, April 14 - 15, 2010

African American Women of Purpose and Power/Urban League of Greater New Orleans Mayoral Candidates Forum, January 2010

2010 Conference on Environmental Justice, Air and Green Jobs: Evolution and Innovation, Sponsored by Environmental Protection Agency, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, New Orleans, LA, January 25-27, 2010

Public Policy Task Force - Symposium II, New Orleans, LA, October 8 - 9, 2009

Public Policy Task Force - Symposium I, New Orleans, LA, June 24 - 25, 2009

Community Training on Plasma Arc Technology, Eastern New Orleans, Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, New Orleans, LA, April 2009

Race, Place, and Environmental Justice: Reclaiming, Rebuilding, and Revitalizing, New Orleans, LA, May 15-17, 2008

Race, Place, and Environmental Justice: Looking Back to Look Forward, New Orleans, LA, October 19-21, 2006

## **WEBINARS**

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“Introduction to Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) for Communities,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenters: Dr. Beverly Wright, DUDSCEJ, and Shelley Fudge, USEPA, December 17, 2013.

“Introduction to My Environment, myRTK, and ECHO TRI Data Tools,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenters: Sandra Gaona, USEPA, Kim Balassiano, USEPA and Rebecca Kane, USEPA, March 10, 2014.

“Introduction to the Tennessee State University Environmental Justice Community Information Website,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenter: Dr. David A. Padgett, Tennessee State University, April 18, 2014.

“Chemical Safety & Environmental Justice: Straightforward Solutions for Environmental Justice Communities,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenter: Deborah Brown, USEPA, 2014.

“Using TRI to Better Understand Risks of Industrial Pollution,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenters: Caitlin Briere, EPA and Lisa Jordan, Drew University, December 16, 2014.

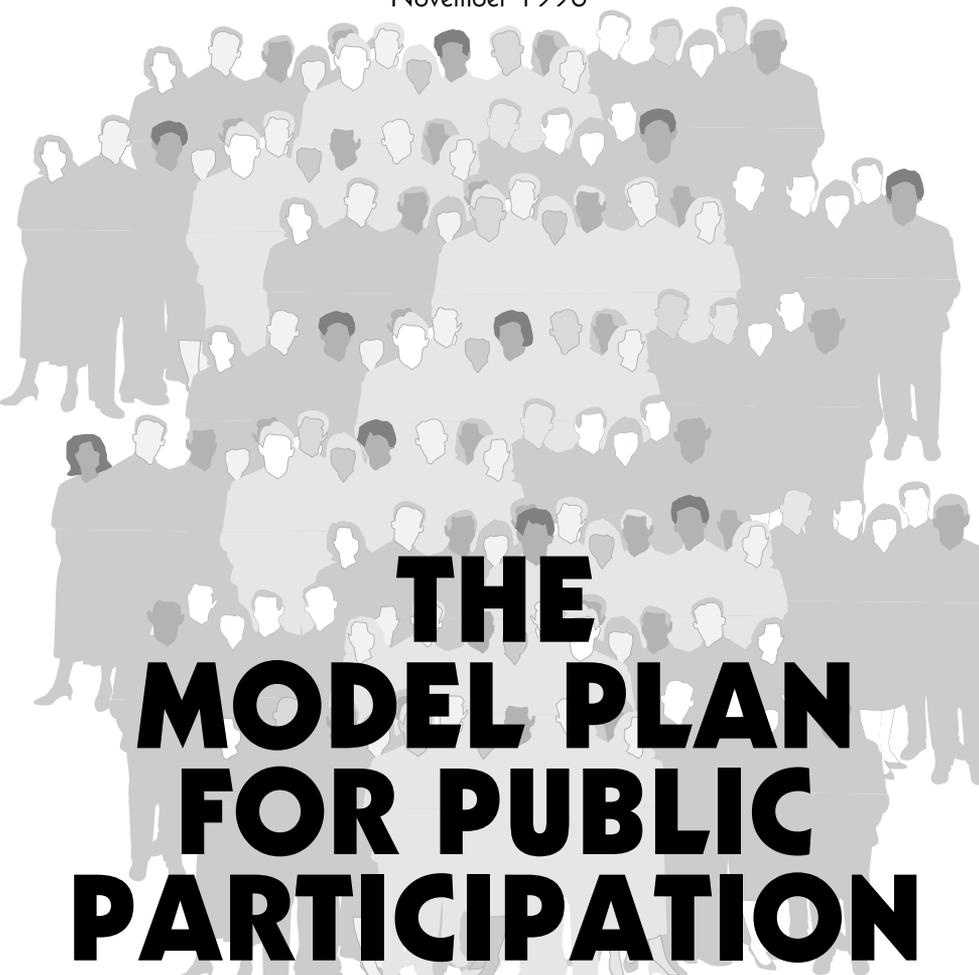
“Navigating the Toxics Release Inventory Website and Understanding Your Right to Know,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenter: Sarah Swenson, US EPA, June 23, 2015.

“Toxics Release Inventory Data for Health Professionals,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenters: Kara Koehn, and Jocelyn Hospital of the US EPA, October 22, 2015.

“Community Driven Environmental Collaborative Problem Solving,” Dillard University Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency, Presenters: Representative Harold Mitchell, Jr., U.S. Senate and Shelley Fudge, USEPA, November 12, 2015.

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November 1996



**THE  
MODEL PLAN  
FOR PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION**

Developed  
by the Public Participation  
and Accountability Subcommittee  
of the National Environmental Justice  
Advisory Council

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A Federal Advisory Committee to  
the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



National Environmental Justice  
Advisory Council



Dear Colleagues and Friends:

The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) considers public participation crucial in ensuring that decisions affecting human health and the environment embrace environmental justice. To facilitate such public participation, the NEJAC requested that its Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee develop recommendations for methods by which EPA can institutionalize public participation in its environmental programs. In 1994, the Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee developed the Model Plan for Public Participation. The plan is based on two guiding principles and four critical elements. The NEJAC adopted the model plan as a living document to be reviewed annually and revised as needed.

We are pleased to send you a copy of the Model Plan for Public Participation. We also have enclosed the Core Values for the Practice of Public Participation developed by *Interact: The Journal of Public Participation* and the Environmental Justice Public Participation Checklist developed by the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice for use by Federal and State agencies. We invite you to consider the model plan as a tool that will guide the public participation process. Please share this document with others who may be interested in encouraging broader community participation in the environmental decision-making process.

Please forward any written comments to:

NEJAC Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee  
c/o U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Environmental Justice  
401 M Street, SW (Mail Code: 2201A)  
Washington, DC 20460  
Phone: (202) 564-2515  
Hotline: (800) 962-6215  
Fax: (202) 501-0740  
Internet E-mail: [environmental.justice.epa@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:environmental.justice.epa@epamail.epa.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Moore".

Richard Moore, Chairman  
National Environmental Justice  
Advisory Council

## BACKGROUND

The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) is a federal advisory committee that was established by charter on September 30, 1993, to provide independent advice, consultation, and recommendations to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on matters related to environmental justice. The NEJAC is made up of 25 members, and one designated federal official (DFO), who serve on a parent council that has six subcommittees—Enforcement, Health and Research, Indigenous Peoples, International, Public Participation and Accountability, and Waste and Facility Siting. Along with the NEJAC members who fill subcommittee posts, an additional 34 individuals serve on the various subcommittees. The NEJAC has held meetings in locations across the United States, including Washington, D.C.; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Herndon, Virginia; Atlanta, Georgia; Arlington, Virginia; and Detroit, Michigan.

As a federal advisory committee, the NEJAC is bound by all requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of October 6, 1972. Those requirements include:

- Members must be selected and appointed by EPA
- Members must attend and participate fully in meetings of the NEJAC
- Meetings must be open to the public, except as specified by the Administrator
- All meetings must be announced in the Federal Register
- Public participation must be allowed at all public meetings
- The public must be provided access to materials distributed during the meeting
- Meeting minutes must be kept and made available to the public
- NEJAC must provide independent judgment that is not influenced by special interest groups

Each subcommittee, formed to deal with a specific topic and to facilitate the conduct of the business of the NEJAC, has a DFO and is bound by the requirements of FACA. Subcommittees of the NEJAC meet independently of the full NEJAC and present their findings to the NEJAC for review. Subcommittees cannot make recommendations independently to EPA. In addition to the six subcommittees, the NEJAC has established a Protocol Committee, the members of which are the chair of NEJAC and the chairs of each subcommittee.

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) maintains transcripts, summary reports, and other material distributed during the meetings. Those documents are available to the public upon request.

Comments or questions can be directed to OEJ through the Internet. OEJ's Internet E-mail address is: **[environmental.justice.epa@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:environmental.justice.epa@epamail.epa.gov)**.

Executive summaries of the reports of the NEJAC meetings are available on the Internet at OEJ's World Wide Web home page: **<http://es.inel.gov/oeca/oej.html>**.

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## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

### **A. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- I. Encourage public participation in all aspects of environmental decision making.

Communities, including all types of stakeholders, and agencies should be seen as equal partners in dialogue on environmental justice issues. In order to build successful partnerships, interactions must:

- Encourage active community participation
- Institutionalize public participation
- Recognize community knowledge
- Utilize cross-cultural formats and exchanges

- II. Maintain honesty and integrity in the process and articulate goals, expectations, and limitations.

## **CRITICAL ELEMENTS**

### **A. PREPARATION**

- I. Developing co-sponsoring and co-planning relationships with community organizations is essential to successful community meetings. To ensure a successful meeting, agencies should provide co-sponsors the resources they need and should share all planning roles. These roles include:

- Decision making
- Development of the agenda
- Establishment of clear goals
- Leadership
- Outreach

- II. Educating the community to allow equal participation and provide a means to influence decision making.

- III. Regionalizing materials to ensure cultural sensitivity and relevance.
- IV. Providing a facilitator who is sensitive and trained in environmental justice issues.

## **B. PARTICIPANTS**

- I. As the NEJAC model demonstrates, the following communities should be involved in environmental justice issues:
  - Community and neighborhood groups
  - Community service organizations (health, welfare, and others)
  - Educational institutions and academia
  - Environmental organizations
  - Government agencies (federal, state, county, local, and tribal)
  - Industry and business
  - Medical community
  - Nongovernment organizations
  - Religious communities
  - Spiritual communities
- II. Identify key stakeholders, including:
  - Educational institutions
  - Affected communities
  - Policy and decision makers (for example, representatives of agencies accountable for environmental justice issues, such as health officials, regulatory and enforcement officials, and social agency staff).

## **C. LOGISTICS**

- I. Where:
  - The meetings should be accessible to all who wish to attend (public transportation, child care, and access for the disabled should be considered).
  - The meeting must be held in an adequate facility (size and conditions must be considered).
  - Technologies should be used to allow more effective communication (teleconferences, adequate translation, equipment, and other factors).

II. When:

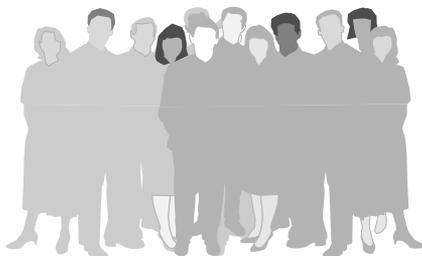
- The time of day and year of the meeting should accommodate the needs of affected communities (evening and weekend meetings accommodate working people, and careful scheduling can avoid conflicts with other community or cultural events).

III. How:

- An atmosphere of equal participation must be created (avoid using a “panel” or “head table”).
- A two-day meeting, at a minimum, is suggested. The first day should be reserved for community planning and education.
- The community and the government should share leadership and presentation assignments.

**D. MECHANICS**

- Maintain clear goals by referring to the agenda; however, do not be bound by it.
- Incorporate cross-cultural exchanges in the presentation of information and the meeting agenda.
- Provide a professional facilitator who is sensitive to, and trained in, environmental justice issues.
- Provide a timeline that describes how the meeting fits into the overall agenda of the issues at hand.
- Coordinate follow-up by developing an action plan and determining who is the contact person who will expedite the work products from the meeting.
- Distribute minutes and a list of action items to facilitate follow-up.



## **CORE VALUES FOR THE PRACTICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1. People should have a say in decisions about actions which affect their lives.
2. Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
3. The public participation process communicates the interests and meets the process needs of all participants.
4. The public participation process seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected.
5. The public participation process involves participants in defining how they participate.
6. The public participation process communicates to participants how their input was, or was not, utilized.
7. The public participation process provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.

Source: *Interact: The Journal of Public Participation*, Volume 2, Number 1, Spring 1996. *Interact* is published by the International Association of Public Participation Practitioners, a non-profit corporation established in 1990 to serve practitioners throughout the world seeking practical experience designing and conducting public involvement programs.

# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CHECKLIST FOR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

*Please note that this checklist was developed by Federal agencies for use by Federal and State agencies. It serves as an example of a process to be followed and does not include regulatory requirements. Please contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Justice for more information about the public participation process, within the regulatory framework.*



1. Ensure that the Agency's public participation policies are consistent with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act, the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.



2. Obtain the support of senior management to ensure that the Agency's policies and activities are modified to ensure early, effective and meaningful public participation, especially with regard to Environmental Justice stakeholders. Identify internal stakeholders and establish partnering relationships.



3. Use the following Guiding Principles in setting up all public meetings:

- Maintain honesty and integrity throughout the process
- Recognize community and indigenous knowledge
- Encourage active community participation
- Utilize cross-cultural formats and exchanges



4. Identify external Environmental Justice stakeholders and provide opportunities to offer input into decisions that may impact their health, property values and lifestyles. Consider at a minimum individuals from the following organizations as appropriate:

- Environmental organizations
- Business and trade organizations
- Civic/public interest groups
- Grassroots/community-based organizations
- Congress
- Federal agencies
- Homeowner and resident organizations
- International organizations
- Labor unions
- Local and State government
- Media/Press
- Indigenous people
- Tribal governments
- Industry
- White House
- Religious groups
- Universities and schools



5. Identify key individuals who can represent various stakeholder interests. Learn as much as possible about stakeholders and their concerns through personal consultation, phone or written contacts. Ensure that information-gathering techniques include modifications for minority and low-income communities (for example, consider language and cultural barriers, technical background, literacy, access to respondents, privacy issues and preferred types of communications).

-  6. Solicit stakeholder involvement early in the policy-making process, beginning in the planning and development stages and continuing through implementation and oversight.
-  7. Develop co-sponsoring/co-planning relationships with community organizations, providing resources for their needs.
-  8. Establish a central point of contact within the Federal agency to assist in information dissemination, resolve problems and to serve as a visible and accessible advocate of the public's right to know about issues that affect health or environment.
-  9. Regionalize materials to ensure cultural sensitivity and relevance. Make information readily accessible (for example, access for the handicapped and sight- and hearing-impaired) and understandable. Unabridged documents should be placed in repositories. Executive summaries/fact sheets should be prepared in layman's language. Whenever practicable and appropriate, translate targeted documents for limited English-speaking population.
-  10. Make information available in a timely manner. Environmental Justice stakeholders should be viewed as full partners and Agency customers. They should be provided with information at the same time it is submitted for formal review to State, Tribal and/or Federal regulatory agencies.
-  11. Ensure that personnel at all levels in the Agency clearly understand policies for transmitting information to Environmental Justice stakeholders in a timely, accessible and understandable fashion.
-  12. Establish site-specific community advisory boards where there is sufficient and sustained interest. To determine whether there is sufficient and sustained interest, at a minimum, review correspondence files, review media coverage, conduct interviews with local community members and advertise in local newspapers. Ensure that the community representation includes all aspects and diversity of the population. Organize a member selection panel. Solicit nominations from the community. Consider providing administrative and technical support to the community advisory board.
-  13. Schedule meetings and/or public hearings to make them accessible and user-friendly for Environmental Justice stakeholders. Consider time frames that do not conflict with work schedules, rush hours, dinner hours and other community commitments that may decrease attendance. Consider locations and facilities that are local, convenient and represent neutral turf. Ensure that the facility meets American with Disabilities Act Statements about equal access. Provide assistance for hearing-impaired individuals. Whenever practical and appropriate, provide translators for limited-English speaking communities. Advertise the meeting and its proposed agenda in a timely manner in the print and electronic media. Provide a phone number and/or address for communities to find out about pending meetings, issues, enter concerns or to seek participation or alter meetings agendas.

14. Consider other vehicles to increase participation of Environmental Justice stakeholders including:
  - Posters and Exhibits
  - Participation in Civic and Community Activities
  - Public Database and Bulletin Boards
  - Surveys
  - Telephone Hotlines
  - Training and Education Programs, Workshops and Materials
15. Be sure that trainers have a good understanding of the subject matter both technical and administrative. The trainers are the Ambassadors of this program. If they don't understand — no one will.
16. Diversity in the workplace: whenever practical be sure that those individuals that are the decision makers reflect the intent of the Executive Order and come from diverse backgrounds, especially those of a community the Agency will have extensive interaction with.
17. After holding a public forum in a community, establish a procedure to follow up with concrete action to address the communities' concerns. This will help to establish credibility for your Agency as having an active role in the Federal government.
18. Promote interagency coordination to ensure that the most far reaching aspects of environmental justice are sufficiently addressed in a timely manner. Environmental problems do not occur along departmental lines. Therefore, solutions require many agencies and other stakeholders to work together efficiently and effectively.
19. Educate stakeholders about all aspects of environmental justice (functions, roles, jurisdiction, structure and enforcement).
20. Ensure that research projects identify environmental justice issues and needs in communities, and how to meet those needs through the responsible agencies.
21. Establish interagency working groups (at all levels) to address and coordinate issues of environmental justice.
22. Provide information to communities about the government's role as it pertains to short-term and long-term economic and environmental needs and health effects.
23. Train staff to support inter-and intra-Agency coordination, and make them aware of the resources needed for such coordination.
24. Provide Agency staff who are trained in cultural, linguistic and community outreach techniques.
25. Hold workshops, seminars and other meetings to develop partnerships between agencies, workers and community groups. (Ensure mechanisms are in place to ensure that partnerships can be implemented via cooperative agreements, etc.)

- 26. Provide effective outreach, education and communications. Findings should be shared with community members, with an emphasis on being sensitive and respectful to race, ethnicity, gender, language, and culture.
- 27. Design and implement educational efforts tailored to specific communities and problems. Increase the involvement of ethnic caucuses, religious groups, the press, and legislative staff in resolution of Environmental Justice issues.
- 28. Assure active participation of affected communities in the decision-making process for outreach, education, training and community programs -- including representation on advisory councils and review committees.
- 29. Encourage Federal and State governments to "reinvent government" -- overhaul the bureaucratic in favor of community responsive.
- 30. Link environmental issues to local economic issues to increase level of interest.
- 31. Use local businesses for environmental cleanup or other related activities.
- 32. Utilize, as appropriate, historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) and Minority Institutes (MI), Hispanic Serving Colleges and Universities (HSCU) and Indian Centers to network and form community links that they can provide.
- 33. Utilize, as appropriate, local expertise for technical and science reviews.
- 34. Previous to conducting the first Agency meeting, form an agenda with the assistance of community and Agency representatives.
- 35. Provide "open microphone" format during meetings to allow community members to ask questions and identify issues from the community.

### **Bibliography:**

- "Interim Report of the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee," February 1993, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Keystone Center.
- "Community Relations in Superfund: A Handbook," January 1992, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Documents # EPA-540-R-92-009 and # PB92-963341.
- DRAFT "Partnering Guide for DoD Environmental Missions," July 1994, Institute for Water Resources, U.S.A.C.E.
- "Improving Dialogue with Communities: A Short Guide for Government Risk Communications," September 1991, Environmental Communications Research Program, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Cook College, Rutgers University.

# NOTES

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The NEJAC gratefully acknowledges the efforts of the following current and former members of the Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee who contributed to the development of this document:

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Office of Environmental Justice  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

*In Memoriam*  
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National Council of Churches



National Environmental Justice  
Advisory Council

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The *Model Plan for Public Participation* was prepared by representatives of the NEJAC Public Participation and Accountability Subcommittee and the U.S. EPA Office of Environmental Justice. The document is published by the Office of Environmental Justice and is endorsed by the NEJAC. This document is published as a living document that will be reviewed annually and revised as necessary.

Comments should be sent to the address below.

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