

(DRAFT – 11/03)
California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE
(Mission, Purpose, Membership, Decision-Making)

Mission: The mission of the Environmental Justice (EJ) subcommittee is to provide advice and guidance to the Bay Delta Public Advisory Committee (BDPAC), California Bay-Delta Authority (CBDA), and all California Bay Delta Program Elements to ensure the implementation of the CBDA Program actions and policies includes the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. This includes identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health and/or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on all potentially affected communities.

Purpose: The subcommittee will work to make certain that EJ, EJ principles, and EJ concepts are fully integrated into all CBDA Program Elements. This shall be accomplished by the following activities, but not limited to those listed herein:

- Meaningful public participation
- Exchange of information
- Analysis of programs, issues and policies
- Training and education
- Fact-finding
- Community outreach

Membership: The Subcommittee shall consist of a balanced and diverse set of members representing key interests of importance to the CBDA. Each member will represent one of the five (5) CBDA regions as well as having a particular expertise, knowledge and/or background in some area pertinent to EJ. Each member will, additionally, have both interest in and knowledge about the CBDA and its role. Every effort will be made to strive for balance so that potentially affected communities are represented on the EJ subcommittee. Furthermore, five (5) members will represent some of the federal and state agencies that comprise the CBDA. A Federal and State Lead Agency will be selected to serve the EJ Subcommittee as well. All members, as well as the Lead Agencies will be subject to BDPAC approval. The subcommittee will have two co-chairs, also subject to BDPAC approval.

Decision-Making Protocol: The Subcommittee will use a collaborative, consensus-based approach to decision making whenever possible. The Subcommittee will seek unanimous agreement on all important decisions. This means that each individual member shall have an individual veto over any decision before it becomes final. Consensus is a participatory process whereby a group commits to thinking and working together in reaching a decision. Unanimous agreement may not always be achieved, but through focused and interest-based discussion closure on issues will be achieved.