

**BAY-DELTA PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE**

Meeting Summary

Meeting Date/Location: April 12, 2002
Resources Building
Suite 1131
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA

Meeting Handouts: Attachment A

Welcome and Introductions

Martha Guzman, Environmental Justice Subcommittee Co-chair, began the meeting with a welcome and introductions of all in attendance at the meeting.

Meeting Notes of February 22, 2002, Environmental Justice Subcommittee Meeting and Follow-up from BDPAC Meeting

The meeting summary from the previous Environmental Justice Subcommittee meeting was reviewed. The accomplishments of tasks in the Environmental Justice Work Plan were discussed. This included discussion of the Environmental Justice Regional Workshops. Among issues related to environmental justice that were identified at the workshops is the need for resources including an Environmental Justice Coordinator. This was also a key discussion elevated to the BDPAC meeting. Wendy Halverson-Martin, Asst. Director, CALFED, indicated that CALFED Program is committed to hire an Environmental Justice Coordinator. There has been a \$22 million cut in the general fund support for the CALFED Program and there is another additional cut in the current year budget. These significantly impact the CALFED budget and abilities to meet the needs and commitments for the CALFED Program. Discussions are underway for the Secretary of Interior to move funds to the EPA to support the Environmental Justice Coordinator position or to provide direct support to use resources for the position. Resources Agency Secretary Nicols has indicated a priority to fill this position. More information regarding status to hire a Coordinator will be provided at the next Subcommittee meeting.

There is no revenue as a discrete line item in the current budget to support environmental justice activities. The Subcommittee discussion indicated stakeholders from the environmental justice communities may go to the legislature to support CALFED so that it can meet it's commitment to environmental justice.

The Subcommittee expressed that it did not want to see advancement of environmental justice compromised due to resource issues. The participants in the Subcommittee are investing time and effort to assist CALFED, and do not want this to be lost due to lack of resources. There should be assurance to provide for the Environmental Justice Coordinator plus to meet the priorities in the Environmental Justice Work Plan and identified by the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee wants clarity about resources on the table available to implement the Work Plan. Resource issues remain a priority and should have proportional support for environmental justice.

The Subcommittee indicated that it would assist in providing support to secure funds needed to advance environmental justice. This includes both State funds and federal support through the BOR for environmental justice activities.

Integration with the California Biodiversity Council (CBC) was identified as a possible mechanism to provide education and gain support to advance environmental justice. It was suggested to consider coordination with the CBC for a future meeting with an environmental justice theme and to nurture a relationship and promote awareness of environmental justice issues.

The Governance bill was discussed which would provide CALFED ability to control budget internally. The Subcommittee would like funds for environmental justice specifically earmarked in the Governance bill.

Strategy of Action Required to Develop a Revised Environmental Justice Work Plan and Annual Plan

The Subcommittee supports priorities identified in the Work Plan and wants to determine the resources needed for these priorities. This includes the Coordinator and other needs, and will defend the resources to meet these commitments and advance environmental justice in the CALFED Program.

The Subcommittee wants to revise the Work Plan and use this to set the course for development of an Annual Plan. Integration with other CALFED Program elements and Subcommittees is needed to effectively accomplish this. The approach will be to invite Program Managers and Subcommittee Co-chairs to Environmental Justice Subcommittee meetings. There can be mutual exchange of what the Program elements do and where there is environmental justice related activities and issues and so strategies for solutions can be developed. The goal is to integrate environmental justice into Program elements to address environmental justice issues.

The Water Use Efficiency Program and Watershed Program will be featured at the next Environmental Justice Subcommittee meeting. Program Managers will be asked to attend as will Subcommittee Co-chairs. This will be a first step towards the goal of integration of environmental justice in the CALFED Program elements. The Program Managers and Co-chairs will be asked to review the Work Plan and Annual Plan and provide input where environmental justice related actions are identified to be addressed.

The unedited notes from the Regional Environmental Justice Workshops will be circulated along with the Work Plan and Annual Plan to Program Managers who will be asked to review this material and provide input regarding integration of environmental justice in Program actions.

Talking points were discussed that would provide education and background regarding environmental justice. This includes description and definition of environmental justice and quality of life issues. Also, the reasons for doing environmental justice including legal authority and to address the goals of the CALFED Program. A matrix will be developed identifying issues and examples of integration will be provided. The Work Plan will be summarized with definition of priority CALFED activities such as the need for agency and department liaisons and other identified needs. The ROD commitment to environmental justice will be highlighted. It is planned for an environmental justice presentation for BDPAC at the September meeting.

Planning for Next Environmental Justice Subcommittee Meeting

The next Subcommittee meeting will be May 10, 2002, in Sacramento.