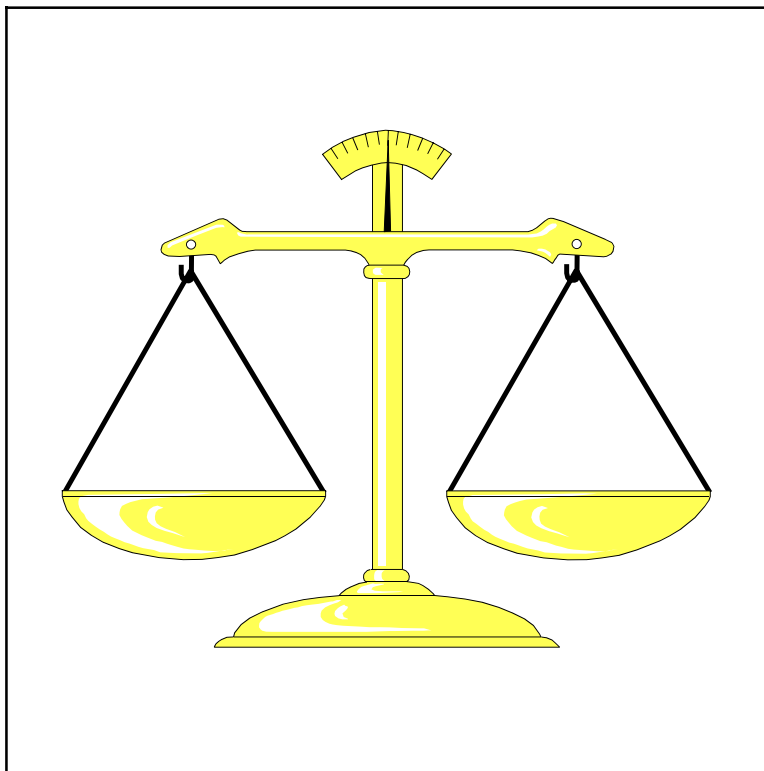




***U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN***



Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice

2004-2005

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SECTION I - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Environmental Justice Program for EPA Region III is located in the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice (OECEJ) under the supervision of the Office Director, Samantha Fairchild. She reports directly to the Regional and Deputy Regional Administrators. OECEJ has one full time FTE devoted to Environmental Justice (the Environmental Justice Coordinator), one additional FTE (Senior Community Involvement Coordinator) and an additional .5 FTE in support. Each of the Divisions/Offices in the Region has its own Environmental Justice Coordinator who interfaces with the Regional Coordinator.

The Regional approach to addressing environmental justice is a proactive one. Our approach is hands-on and is time and resource intensive. A considerable amount of time is spent working cooperatively with the states as well as other key stakeholders, providing consultation, technical assistance and information in support their efforts. The time and staff resources spent on these activities is significant and is taxing to the few resources available. However, the benefits of these labor intensive efforts are most significant. OECEJ and our Senior Management engage the stakeholders actively early in the process in an effort to resolve critical situations before they become elevated into major problems. The Regional policy also calls for open dialogue among stakeholders, and utilizes a collaborative model for problem solving. Environmental Justice is seen as an integral part of the way we do business in the Regional office, therefore our internal efforts revolve around the incorporation and integration of Environmental Justice into our daily business. The Region plans to continue pursuing this proactive approach to addressing environmental justice issues and concerns.

Beginning before President Clinton's Executive Order in 1994 and continuing through the present, OECEJ sponsored a variety of Environmental Justice Training activities for every division in the region. Basic training and updates have been provided regularly to maintain awareness, and to provide updated information as law and guidance emerge in this exciting area. Training has included review of the history of Environmental Justice, Regional case studies, interactive experiences through the use of facilitated training modules, Title VI training, the development and use of the Region's screening tool, and regular updates providing during Divisional planning and management meetings. These training activities are on-going and will continue into the future.

Additionally, OECEJ has worked with each Division to develop a Regional Environmental Justice Strategy that has been updated several times since their initial development, with updates occurring periodically. The office has also worked to train federal partners. We have made presentations for Regions IV, VII, and VIII, the Air Combat Command, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and the OPM Eastern and Western Training Centers through their Environmental Issues Seminars. We have yearly training sessions with States in our Region, the Cities of Baltimore and Philadelphia, numerous colleges and universities, professional organizations, workgroups, businesses, community groups and civic organizations. Facilitated training is also utilized to reach our stakeholders. Courses such as the "Principles of Solid Waste Management Planning" have been and will continue to be used to bring various

stakeholder groups together in a forum where they use a case study in order to collectively review, develop, and implement solid waste management plans. Originally developed in the Region for delivery as a part of the Agency's international activities; this facilitated training module offers an opportunity for all stakeholders to become engaged in the planning process, experience the steps of the planning process, and work through the planning and decision making process from a variety of stakeholder perspectives. The participants are able to gain experience through the case studies in how decisions are made, what types of planning and decision making occurs with respect to environmental projects, and what are the key issues and problems related to program and project development. This training will be offered a number of times over the next two years.

External efforts to inform and engage stakeholders include the Regional All States Environmental Justice Meetings that are held annually with the States in Region III. Since 1999, the Region and the states of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia have enthusiastically participated in these meetings. The Regional Office and the states co-sponsor these meetings that are designed to provide a forum for discussion of topics of Environmental Justice concern for the purposes of providing information, insight and consultation; and to build relationships both between federal and state and between states. Presentations are made by invited guests on various significant issues of Environmental Justice concern. Historically, our speakers and presenters have been public interest lawyers, lawyers who represent the regulated community, Regional and EPA Headquarters personnel, state and local representatives from the states in our Region, professionals from various public and private organizations, and citizens representing areas of concern provide the insight and information requested. As we plan future presentations, we will continue inviting guests with a wide variety of perspectives.

As an outgrowth of the Annual Region III All States Meetings we established a monthly Region III EJ conference calls. The participants in these calls have made a number of requests and recommendations as a result of our discussions during the All States meetings and conference calls. The states requested that our All States Meetings be held twice a year, with one of them being a topic-specific informational forum. In response to the request for twice yearly All States meetings, we began holding them twice a year in 2003. Additionally, the calls serve as a monthly forum where we discuss issues of environmental justice concern; provide insight and perspective on new methodologies, legal issues, and trends, and foster team building within our group.

Our Regional Office participates in the Environmental Justice Listening Sessions hosted by our states. During 2003, Listening Sessions were conducted in Maryland and the District of Columbia. In the coming years there were be Listening Sessions conducted across the Region.

The states and citizens expressed interest in our holding informative workshops and seminars of topics of environmental justice concern. In 2003, we held a highly successful Cumulative Risk/Impacts Workshop in Philadelphia and an Environmental Justice Forum in the District of Columbia. The Cumulative Risk Workshop was attended by more than 100 persons representing

state, federal and local agencies, community groups and organizations, academic institutions, professional organizations and other interests. Participants came from all across the United States, and we received correspondence from Canada and Western Europe regarding that meeting. Presenters from Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and Hygiene, FDA, EPA-RTP, the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia, private law firms, WEACTION, the Philadelphia Asian American Community, Jefferson Medical College, Temple University, Exelon, and our regional staff served as presenters and moderators for the workshop. A proceedings document was made available on our Regional Website, and the materials were also mailed to interested parties. Additionally in 2003, we held the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Justice Forum in the District of Columbia. The Chesapeake Bay Environmental Justice Forum was a multi-stakeholder meeting designed to highlight the diverse group of partners active and participating in various activities and engaged in the multitude of issues related to Environmental Justice and the Chesapeake Bay. The forum focused on fish consumption and water quality issues. A historical perspective of Blacks in the Chesapeake Bay was presented as one of the keynotes. Panels discussed issues, research and future visions related to the various aspects of the consumption of fish and shellfish. In addition, a number of compelling issues related to water resources, such as access to basic services, agricultural and industrial runoff, water quality assessment, and efforts to protect and renew Bay resources were discussed. An Environmental Justice Listening Session followed the panel discussions. The forum was attended by approximately 40 participants from the District of Columbia and around the region. Action items identified by the assembled group included the development of strategies designed to assure the participation of minority and low-income residents in Bay activities, efforts to identify basic resource needs in low-income and minority communities around the Bay, and continued education and outreach to minority and low-income communities in the Bay Watershed.

Our office also feels that it is imperative that all stakeholders have an opportunity to be heard and to engage in dialogues with our office. The Region provides opportunities for stakeholders to meet with us individually on topics and issues of concern. These efforts have been quite successful in the past and we will continue to pursue this path of action. This process, while labor intensive has provided us with much valuable information and has helped us to establish strong working relationships with many of our partners. Therefore the establishment of this open dialogue with stakeholders is seen as being an important mechanism for addressing environmental justice. Additional opportunities designed to assure that all stakeholders are kept informed and provided the opportunity to participate and be heard include, Listening Sessions, Environmental Justice Forums and Workshops, our active participation in community activities, staff speaking engagements, participation in group meetings, and other community involvement activities.

Consultation is provided to the states on a regular basis. Discussions with the states occurs on a variety of issues and initiatives. The Region attends state Environmental Justice Council meetings regularly, and participates in state workgroups and committees. This level of support will continue.

EPA. Region III has demonstrated its long standing commitment to environmental justice

through our efforts beginning before the signing of Executive Order 12898 and continuing now and into the future. The Region adapted its proactive approach to addressing environmental justice issues and concerns through collaborative problem solving as has been exemplified through our work in Chester, PA, South/Southwest Philadelphia, Bartram Gardens, Bio-Oxidation, Inc., and most recently with respect to the Park Heights Auto Body/Repair Shop Inspection Initiative. We have and will continue to work with all of our partners proactively in efforts to not only identify concerns, but to initiate the dialogues and help to institute the actions and processes required to bring about change and resolution of the issues at hand. In recognition of the need of all stakeholders to understand the complex issues in the realm of environmental justice, we instituted a number of varied training and educational initiatives. Our program has and will continue to provide this variety of training experiences for internal and external stakeholders including federal, state and local government, business and industry, professional groups and organizations, citizens and community groups, and academic institutions.

More than 500 federal employees from most federal agencies have been trained through our efforts (HUD, DOE, ATSDR, CDC, FBI, CIA, Secret Service, Department of the Interior, Army Corps Of Engineers, NASA, FAA, Air Combat Command, EPA Regions IV, VII, VIII, and others). The training and educational opportunities made available cover topics including, historical perspective, research efforts (risk assessment, cumulative risk, exposure assessment, environmental and public health indicators, research tools, investigative and evaluative methodology, and community characterization), regional case studies in environmental justice, title VI, environmental justice court cases, and interactive facilitated courses that incorporate the wide range of principles used in planning, scoping, and implementation of project plans. Not only have we taken this training to our various stakeholders, but we began the entire training and educational process by conducting sessions with the Divisional Offices within our Region. After initial training and awareness activities were completed, we have regularly provided updates and overviews throughout the Regional Office and will be continuing this most important process in 2004 and 2005. Goals of this "In House" training included providing basic information and awareness regarding environmental justice (actual introduction to the concept and history), incorporating environmental justice into the way we do business, identifying mechanisms for addressing concerns (the collaborative problem solving model) and providing examples that may help in identifying concerns and issues of relevance. In addition, this strategy is designed to lead to the development of proactive strategies and policies in order to more effectively address concerns. Tools and protocols were developed to assist us in assessing communities and sensitive populations to afford greater protection of human health and the environment. Partnerships have been formed with the state and local governments in the Region, with community groups and organizations, with academic institutes, professional schools and organizations that provided insight and feedback with regard to the issue of environmental justice and the concerns that we face.

In 2003, the Region's Environmental Justice Coordinator and the Special Agent in Charge of the Regional CID began teaching a Graduate Level Environmental Justice Course at the University of Pennsylvania. This course provides an overview of Environmental Justice, and allows for outreach to a larger audience. Regional personnel including the Deputy Regional Administrator,

the Director of OECEJ, Regional Project Managers, and the Senior Community Involvement Coordinator participated as guest lecturers in this course. Additionally, Environmental Justice Activists, community representatives, state and local officials, and attorneys presenting various interests participated as well. This course has provided additional opportunities for the Region to interface with a broad spectrum of stakeholders and to further serve the community at large. The course will again be offered in 2004, with future dates to be determined.

We have worked diligently to establish relationships and to build partnerships. We have conducted outreach, and have worked to help establish meaningful dialogue among our partners. We have made the commitment to address this most challenging issue, and we continue towards that goal now and in the future.

SECTION II - ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN NARRATIVE

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Organizational infrastructure and management support:

- *What is your Regional/Headquarters office's environmental justice policy?*

The Environmental Justice Policy of EPA Region III is a proactive one. The Region is committed to assuring that all citizens are treated and protected equally, treated fairly, and that our programs, policies, and practices are protective of all populations. We work actively and progressively with all stakeholders to provide information, education, and technical support in an effort to assure that the Regional Office complies with Executive Order 12898, that all stakeholders are meaningfully and appropriately involved in the decision making process as related to issues of environmental justice concern, to assure that all stakeholders are treated fairly, and to resolve issues and concerns before they become major problems. Our primary goals are:

- a. To take a proactive approach to addressing issues of environmental justice concern.
- b. Programmatic/Office environmental justice planning and implementation to ensure that all applicable aspects of operations, procedures, and activities include the address of Environmental Justice concerns.
- c. Region-wide planning and implementation to focus multi-media capabilities in an effort to assure the fair and appropriate treatment of all stakeholders. Determine data analysis/cumulative risk assessment procedures and limitations. Delineate an effective enforcement strategy. Identify successful programmatic involvement and internal/external coordination and outreach. Determine effective measurements.
- d. Establish a better working relationship with state and local governments, our fellow federal agencies, business and industry, and communities at large throughout the Region.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Organizational infrastructure and management support:

- *How will your Regional/Headquarters office's management communicate expectations about the Environmental Justice Program, review tangible/intangible outcomes, and*

evaluate performance?

Training, awareness and educational opportunities have been, and will continue to be provided to all offices regarding environmental justice. Periodic updates and new information are provided on an on-going basis in order to assure that the issues remain at the forefront. The Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator and the Director of the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice (OECEJ) will continue to facilitate discussion among the Division Directors and Divisional personnel regarding environmental justice and coordinate regional communication regarding environmental justice activities. OECEJ contains the multimedia enforcement and inspection component of the Region, and therefore will be able to fully incorporate environmental justice into the multimedia aspects of Regional work. Through its compliance assistance initiatives, multimedia inspections, and such projects as the auto-body shop inspections in Washington, DC and Baltimore, Maryland, more complete integration will be achieved. Additionally, the Director of OECEJ reports directly to the Deputy Regional Administrator who provides much needed support for the Region's Environmental Justice efforts. Region III has project/initiative specific language in Performance Partnership Agreements (PPAs) with the States of Maryland the District of Columbia, and Pennsylvania.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Organizational infrastructure and management support:

• *How will your Regional/Headquarters office's management communicate expectations about the Environmental Justice Program, review tangible/intangible outcomes, and evaluate performance?*

Our most significant measure of success is the manner in which problems are solved before they reach the critical stage. When an issue comes to the Region's attention, the offices are briefed, key issues and concerns identified and the stakeholders contacted. Communication is established with all stakeholders and appropriate conversations are held to assure that the issues are identified, the impacts of actions understood, and the potential ramifications of the actions clearly laid out. All aspects of the issue are explored and the various options discussed. The Region then facilitates meaningful discussion of issues, provided education, technical support, and appropriate advice. Ultimately, we measure our success by the ability of the Region to assist in bringing resolution to these issues. In cases where there are reductions in risk to a given population, those reductions will serve as measures of evaluation.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Operational resources / program support:

• *Identify the aggregate full-time equivalents (FTE) in your Regional/Headquarters office that will specifically focus on environmental justice issues. If responsibilities and duties are parceled out as collateral duties to one or more employees, please compute what the FTE equivalent would be.*

There is one full time FTE devoted to Environmental Justice in the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice. In addition, another FTE, the senior Community Involvement Coordinator has been assigned to the office. An additional 0.5 FTE is apportioned

in the office through the contributions of other staff.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Operational resources / program support:

- *What are the functions and day-to-day responsibilities of your Environmental Justice coordinator(s) and/or team?*

The Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator's duties include:

- 1) Oversight of Regional Environmental Justice Initiatives.
- 2) Design and development of integrated models for addressing environmental risk assessment, public health, and environmental justice concerns through quantitative and qualitative means.
- 3) Provide consultation, advice and technical support provided to Federal, State and local officials and agencies, citizens, environmental groups and organizations, business and industry, academia and other stakeholders regarding matters of environmental justice concern.
- 4) Design and development of risk and environmental assessment tools and risk evaluation methodologies for environmental, health, and risk assessment projects both nationally and internationally.
- 5) Development of strategic plans for addressing environmental justice concerns in Region III.
- 6) Review and evaluation of risk and exposure assessment data.
- 7) Review of environmental justice portions of EIS and other related NEPA documents.
- 8) Development of toxicity and exposure assessments, development of site conceptual models, and evaluation of cumulative risk.
- 9) Participation in national forums regarding risk and environmental assessment for policy and methodology development.
- 10) Delivery of outreach and educational presentations regarding environmental justice, risk and health assessment and research. Audiences for these presentations include: colleges and universities, professional schools and organizations, community groups and organizations, national organizations, trade organizations; and federal, state and local government.
- 11) Development of collaborative methodologies for addressing questions of environmental concern.
- 12) Coordination with state and local government, internal EPA, and other federal agencies on risk, environmental and environmental justice issues of concern.
- 13) Establishment of partnerships and development of closer working relationships among governmental partners.
- 14.) Manage Regional EJ Small Grants Program. Coordinate review and evaluation of EJ Small Grants. Coordinate work with the Regional Grants Management Office on the grants.
- 15.) Supervise ECO Summer Interns.

The Region's Senior Community Involvement Coordinator, in the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice, performs the following functions as a part of the

program activities:

- 1) Provide support to the Region EJ Coordinator in identifying potential EJ issues at sites of concern. This is done by applying his twenty years of community involvement experience throughout Region III and coupling it with the GIS Demographic Mapper developed by the EJ Coordinator.
- 2) Work with project managers whose sites have been identified as sites with potential EJ issues that may impact on EPA.'s efforts. This is done by developing and implementing community involvement plans, i.e. site visits, interviews, public availabilities, news media interaction., etc.
- 3) Maintain an open line to parties at sites of long term EPA. involvement where EJ issues are present.
- 4) Develop a regional guide for community involvement at sites with Environmental Justice issues in conjunction with Region III's states and certain of their local counterparts.
- 5) Conduct EJ community involvement training for the States in Region III. This began with the State of West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection in Charleston, WV on October 30, 2003 and will be continuing in other state and local jurisdictions.
- 6) Provide community involvement support for the Technical Outreach and Support to Communities (TOSC) program in Region. TOSC is a nationwide program administered by about two dozen universities funded by EPA to foster and enhance community based environmental protection.
- 7) Networking with the leadership of major minority special interest groups in Region III. The first event was an introductory meeting of the Region III Director of the Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice with Jerome Mondesire, President of the Philadelphia NAACP (the nation's largest chapter) and publisher of the Philadelphia Sun Newspaper (weekly).
- 8) Develop a news media communication strategies for events of Environmental Justice concern as the resident Public Affairs Specialist in the Region III EJ program.
- 9) Meet with community groups and organizations regarding the planning and development of outreach and education strategies. In October of 2003, a meeting was held with the Cobbs Creek Environmental Education Center to help them plan their new initiative in community outreach and education at their Philadelphia center.
- 10.) Review, evaluate and coordinate EJ Small Grants activities.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Operational resources / program support:

• Will your Regional/Headquarters office have any ongoing mechanisms for focusing on environmental justice issues, such as teams and workgroups? If yes, please list and describe. Also, state how these mechanisms are tied to other programs and activities in your regional/Headquarters office.

This Region has had this type of mechanism in place for quite some time. First of all, there is coordination on Environmental Justice between OECEJ and Senior Management. Whenever an issue of environmental justice concern comes to our attention, OECEJ meets with the DRA and the appropriate Environmental Justice contacts in the Divisions/Offices. Each Division or Office

has its own Environmental Justice Coordinator who helps to facilitate action in the program offices and serves as an environmental justice contact for issues and projects of concern. The Director of OECEJ also meets with all of the Division Directors, Enforcement Managers and other appropriate Regional contacts on a regular basis sharing information related to issues of environmental justice concern. During these meetings, as issues are raised, they are passed on for coordination between OECEJ and the respective program office. The Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator also interacts with agency personnel on these issues providing consultation and technical expertise.

Additionally, the Region has its All-States Meetings and monthly All-States conference calls which began in 1999 and serve as a very effective mechanism for the identification and addressing of environmental justice issues around the Region as a whole. For example, the states in the Region identified the need for focused workshops/seminars on Cumulative Risk. The Regional office is putting these workshops together as a result of this request. The states requested that we provide them with information on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Chester Pennsylvania Risk Study, the Saint Lawrence Cement Case, risk assessment, GIS screening tools, and many other issues. Discussions with our state partners contributed to the initiation of dialogues among the partners regarding the development of state strategies and pilot projects. The State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have developed their own Environmental Justice Working Groups, Maryland has an Environmental Justice Pilot project in the planning stage, Maryland and Pennsylvania have developed or are in the process of developing state Environmental Justice Strategies, and West Virginia is developing a Community Involvement Plan for Environmental Justice. The Regional Chesapeake Bay Environmental Justice Task Force held an Environmental Justice Forum in Washington, DC in May of 2003. The Regional Coordinator is a member of the Maryland TMDL, Delaware Valley Transportation Authority Environmental Justice, Region III Cumulative Risk Forum, and Permitting Workgroups. OECEJ and Headquarters are currently working with Washington, DC and Baltimore, Maryland on the Auto Body Shop Initiative. The Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator is also working as a member of the Science Advisor Council for the HSRC at Johns Hopkins University, as a member of the GIS Environmental Justice Tool Development Workgroup, the Cumulative Risk Workgroup, and several other advisory committees around the Region. Region III has project/initiative specific language in Performance Partnership Agreements (PPAs) with the States of Maryland the District of Columbia, and Pennsylvania.

Having enforcement and compliance assistance planning in the same office as EJ coordination opens communications and creates synergy among the efforts. For example, OECEJ is partnering with MDE and DC on projects funded by OECA to increase compliance and reduce the impact from auto body shops in EJ neighborhoods in Park Heights, Baltimore and Ward 5 in the District. During the planning of a compliance assistance activity, we included a session on communicating with Hispanic facilities. This session resulted in establishing regular communications with El Sol newspaper in North Philadelphia. We developed a multi-media compliance assistance plan for schools which includes an EJ component due to known environmental and compliance problems at poorly funded schools such as crumbling asbestos and lead in drinking water. These initiatives, as well as numerous others which are still in the planning stage, will be on-going projects.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Operational resources / program support:

• *Are there any specific programs/initiatives for which environmental justice will be listed as a funding priority? If yes, please list or attach.*

As previously indicated, the states in our Region have requested that we conduct cumulative risk forums in order to provide background as to the state and nature of cumulative risk investigations at this time, and to provide information that may be useful in assessing community risk. OECEJ has partnered with Maryland and DC on an integrated strategy and outreach project. The projects focus on auto body/repair shops in both cities in a given geographic area. MDE has chosen to conduct the project in the Park Heights section of Baltimore and DC has chosen Ward 5. The following is a brief outline of the steps involved in these projects: 1) identify the universe of facilities in the geographic area; 2) conduct inspections at a statistically valid number of randomly selected facilities to obtain a compliance rate for this sector in the particular area; 3) provide compliance assistance and pollution prevention outreach to the entire universe of auto body shops; 4) conduct a self certification program; and 5) measure the results of the compliance assistance efforts. Both Maryland and DC have received grants from EPA Headquarters to implement these integrated strategies. The states and the community groups have identified the universe of facilities, and are developing the compliance assistance materials to be distributed.

Both DC and MD have completed, with OECEJ.'s assistance, the checklist for the inspections, and written the Environmental Business Performance Indicators (EBPI). The EBPI will be used in the measurement phase of the project. The second round of inspections have been completed, and the state is planning additional assistance to the shop owners. The Park Heights Project has been awarded a \$100,000 grant through the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving Grants Program. It was also selected as one of the Second Round IWG Demonstration Project Pilots.

The results of these projects were measured by using the following measurement methods: determining the compliance rate at the beginning of the project and again after the outreach has occurred, determining the number of participants who self-certify, survey the auto body shops to determine any change in behavior with regards to complying with environmental regulations, determine if complaints in the area have decreased, and in Baltimore evaluate the POTW's DMRs to determine if there was a decrease in oil and grease discharges. These are just a few measures that have been in discussion. Region III is still working with both DC and Maryland to finalize measures for these projects. OECEJ will continue to assist the states in 2004 and 2005 with follow-up inspections at 46 auto body shops in D.C. and 30 auto body shops in MD.

Additionally, the Region is investigating conducting "Geographical Initiatives" in 2004 and 2005. The target areas and types of investigations to be undertaken are still under study at this time. One area under consideration for such an initiative is Reading, PA.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

GPRA alignment (link to mission and priorities):

- *How will your Regional/Headquarters office's environmental justice program be linked to your Regional/Headquarters office's main GPRA priorities?*

Our program is linked to GPRA Goal 5 and other of the Goals as applicable. In addition our program is linked to functional codes E800, E103 and L200.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

GPRA alignment (link to mission and priorities):

- *How will your Regional/Headquarters office's environmental justice strategies and activities be integrated into specific programmatic areas/functions? (e.g., permitting, community outreach, etc.)*

Our program is fully integrated into the Region's activities, therefore our activities cut across all programs. Our office coordinates with each office in the Region and assists with issues related to remediation, community involvement and outreach, EIS review, and any other related function. We have feedback mechanisms allowing for us to work cooperatively on these issues, and our communication and updates provided to the various offices help to insure continued cooperation and the integration of environmental justice into program activities. In 1994 each Division/Office in the Region developed its first plan for the development of an Environmental Justice Strategy. Since that time the plans have been revised and updated to reflect the need to integrate environmental justice into the programs. There are periodic training and updates of information regarding environmental justice in the Region. In addition, the Divisions/Offices have worked with OECEJ on a regular basis in an effort to assure that the integration occurs. EIS and other related NEPA documents are regularly reviewed by OECEJ. Divisions regularly refer questions to OECEJ and ask for expertise relating to outreach, education and community involvement, and assessment of risks to populations at risk. OECEJ has recently developed a Community Involvement guide for Environmental Justice which shall be distributed around the Regional Office and throughout the states in the Region. All of these activities are on-going.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

GPRA alignment (link to mission and priorities):

- *Will your Regional/Headquarters office utilize Performance Partnership Agreements (PPAs) and Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs) to specifically address environmental justice issues? If yes, please list and describe.*

Region III has project/initiative specific language in Performance Partnership Agreements (PPAs) with the States of Maryland the District of Columbia, and Pennsylvania.

INTERNAL ORGANIZATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

- *Will your Regional/Headquarters office's environmental justice program have any ongoing mechanisms to communicate with, receive input from, and otherwise consistently engage with other programs in your Regional/Headquarters office? If yes, please list and describe.*

The Region has Environmental Justice Coordinators in each Division. These people serve as one of the feedback loops for communication and input within the Regional Office. Other such mechanisms include the Senior Management Meetings, OECEJ weekly Staff Meetings, weekly meetings with the DRA, weekly enforcement managers meetings, brown bag lunches, briefings, and the various on-going training and update activities that the Regional Office has been undertaking since 1996.

INTERNAL ORGANIZATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

• Will your Regional/Headquarters office develop any related guidance to the staff regarding the integration of environmental justice in areas such as authorization/delegation, environmental education, grants and contracts, inspection, enforcement and compliance assistance, permitting, performance partnership, public participation, waste site cleanup/brownfields, etc.? If yes, please list and describe.

The Region has recently developed an Environmental Justice Community Involvement guide. This document will be made available to all of the Divisions within the Regional Office, to our states in Region III, and other interested partners. A training session has been held with the state of West Virginia on community involvement and Environmental Justice and internal training with all of the Divisions is planned for 2004 and 2005.

Each of the Divisions in the region already has an Environmental Justice Strategy that includes language related to the above issues.

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• Will your Regional/Headquarters office have any processes in place to receive input on environmental justice issues from external stakeholders, such as workgroups, advisory bodies, or listening sessions? If yes, please describe the process and explain how the input gathered may be (or has been) used by your Regional/Headquarters office.

The Regional Office has been conducting its All States Environmental Justice Meetings and All States Environmental Justice Conference Calls since 1999, which serves this purpose. The input received from the states during our monthly All States Conference Calls and Annual All States Meetings lead to our planning and conducting the Cumulative Risk Workshops in May of 2003. In addition, the Region participates in the Maryland and Pennsylvania environmental justice councils of those states where comment, concerns and input regarding state issues of environmental justice concern are heard, and action items formulated and addressed. Listening Sessions have been conducted in Maryland and the District of Columbia, with more sessions in the works for 2004 and 2005. In addition, our office is involved in a number of workgroups and advisory panels around the Region including the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Justice Task Force, Maryland TMDL Workgroup, Delaware Valley Transportation Authority Environmental Justice Workgroup, Region III Cumulative Risk Forum, Permitting Workgroup, two office staff our members of the HSRC at Johns Hopkins University as Senior Science and Senior Community Advisors, the GIS Environmental Justice Tool Development Workgroup, the Cumulative Risk Workgroup, and several other advisory committees around the Region. In addition, input from the states has led to presentations during our annual All States Meetings by

Charles Lee of OEJ on the IWG, Ann Goode, formerly Head of OCR regarding Title VI, Jerome Balter of the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia regarding the Chester, PA and Saint Lawrence Cement cases, and numerous presentations by regional and state staff on various Environmental Justice Issues of concern. It should be noted that the Regional Office utilizes all of these working relationships and a number of others to receive input. When issues are raised the appropriate parties are identified and contacts made in order to assure the notification and participation of the appropriate partners. The office also takes advantage of all speaking and outreach engagements as opportunities to receive input and to extend its range of contacts. When the appropriate internal and external partners are identified, discussions are held as appropriate.

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• Will your Regional/Headquarters office have any ongoing mechanisms to share information to external groups regarding environmental justice such as websites, faxback system, printed outreach materials, etc.? If yes, please list and describe. Also please mention the specific stakeholder group(s) which benefit from these outreach mechanisms.

Since 1999 the Monthly All States Conference Calls and the Annual All States Meetings have and will continue to serve this purpose. Additionally, Listening Sessions, Forums and Workshops are primary mechanisms for sharing information. The Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice also has a web site where information is shared. Additionally, the Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator has an e-mail group that is used to distribute environmental justice information throughout the Region. Monthly, a variety of topics and concerns of environmental justice interest are discussed on our conference call. Topics discussed include updates of the Saint Lawrence Cement Case, environmental justice screening tools, pilot projects being conducted by the states, the environmental justice legislation passed in California and Massachusetts. The Region has been keeping and updating a listing of Environmental Justice contacts in the region. Printed materials are mailed out to these contacts as they are made available. The Region's Cumulative Risk Workshop was attended by more than 100 people, and the proceeding are available at <http://www.epa.gov/reg3ecej/cumriskwkshop.htm>. The Region's Environmental Justice homepage is http://www.epa.gov/reg3ecej/environmental_justice.htm. Additionally, the Chester Risk Study, South/Southwest Philadelphia Environmental Study, The Anacostia Initiative, and other Regional studies and assessments are available through OECEJ. We also maintain supplies of the NEJAC Guide to Community Involvement, the NEJAC Waste Transfer Station Report, and a host of other documents.

The Region also participates in the ORD/Regional Cumulative Risk /Impact Workshops that have and are being held around the country. The Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator made a presentation at the November 2002 ORD/Region VI Cumulative Risk Workshop in Dallas, Texas, and is a member of the planning committee and a presenter for the ORD/Region I Cumulative Risk/Impact Science of EJ Workshop planned for May of 2004. The Regional Office has demonstrated a strong and lasting commitment to these efforts and will continue to do so in the future.

Stakeholders receiving benefit from these activities include, state and local governments within in the Region, academic institutions such as Morgan State University, University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, Drexel University , other Regional Offices, Federal Agencies, business and industry, the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia, the Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living, and numerous other groups throughout the region have received and will receive information.

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• *How will your Regional/Headquarters office identify stakeholders who could benefit from increased awareness about environmental justice and being more engaged in the collaborative problem-solving process?*

Our Region has worked, and will continue to work very actively with state and local governments, citizens groups, business and industry, and other institutions as appropriate in this regard. The Region's Environmental Justice Strategy as originally designed is built upon collaborative problem solving, as has been stated previously. The Region actively involves stakeholders in this process through education, training, face to face meeting, conference calls, workshops, and other interactive meetings. As previously stated, this is a labor intensive process that requires a significant amount of time and effort on the part of Regional personnel and our partners. We identify the appropriate partners on an issue by issue, site by site basis. Once the appropriate partners are identified, they are brought into the process by management, and fully engaged in efforts to address the concern.

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• *How will your Regional/Headquarters office promote collaborative problem-solving among stakeholders?*

The Region's Environmental Justice Program has been and will continue to be based upon the principle of collaboration problem-solving with stakeholders. Our Deputy Regional Administrator developed the Regional model that we have used since in 1998. For each situation there is a unique and case specific solution. Our model brings all of the stakeholders together in our collaborative model that allows for the resolution of problems based upon cooperation, mutual respect, and the realization or a need to identify solutions for these problems. There are three examples of the Region's use of collaboration with stakeholders: the withdrawal of a Bio-Oxidation facility in a low income community, the creation of a risk assessment program in the City of Chester, and the creation of the All-States Environmental Justice Conferences.

Bio-Oxidation

An Environmental Justice crisis was averted, during the summer of 1998, when Bio-Oxidation, Inc. withdrew their permit application for the construction of what would have been the largest infectious medical waste autoclave facility in the country in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The facility would have been built in a low income Hispanic and African American community without the community's health and quality of living concerns adequately addressed. The operation of the facility would have greatly increased truck traffic in the area around the plant

but also would have increased traffic in an African American neighborhood across town where the partially treated wastes would have been trucked from the Bio-Oxidation facility to the Harrisburg Incinerator for final incineration. Neither community had their concerns adequately addressed by the state or by Bio-Oxidation. In fact, the Harrisburg Housing Authority had granted a variance to allow the facility to be built in close proximity to public housing units without properly notifying their sister federal agency (HUD). The regional HUD Office contacted EPA, Region III, requesting information and insight on Environmental Justice, Title VI, and the specifics of the Bio-Oxidation, Inc. situation. The Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice held lengthy discussions with HUD concerning these issues, providing information, historical background, and other consultation. HUD expressed its concerns regarding the proposed project to the local housing authority, and began its own investigation of the situation. EPA Region III met early on in the permit siting process with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) to discuss the potential environmental justice issues they would face as the permitting agency should they approve the siting and permitting of the Bio-Oxidation facility. As a result of an educated public protest and media attention, and early discussions between EPA and PADEP, Bio-Oxidation withdrew their permit application. This was seen as a major victory for the communities which would have been disproportionately affected by the construction of the infectious waste facility.

City of Chester

Chester, Pennsylvania is located approximately 15 miles south of Philadelphia and rests along the Delaware River. Chester has a minority population of approximately 70 percent with the highest concentration of industrial facilities in Pennsylvania including two oil refineries, a large medical waste facility and other medical waste type facilities. Chester is also the home of the Delaware County wastewater treatment plant and a large trash to steam facility. Residents of Chester have long been concerned about the health effects of living and working among toxic substances. Chester has the highest infant mortality rate coupled with the lowest birth rate in the state. Chester is the poorest community in Delaware County. During 1995, EPA, Region III completed the Chester Risk Assessment Project as part of an initiative with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to study environmental risks, health, and regulatory issues in Chester. While the intent of the Risk Assessment was to provide a complete “cumulative risk study” utilizing exposure data for all environmental media and exposure pathways, the actual report is more of an Aggregated Risk Study due to the largely unknown nature of the interrelated exposures. However, the findings of the report were alarming. Blood lead in Chester children is unacceptably high with 60% of the children’s blood levels above the Center for Disease Control’s recommended maximum level. Both cancer and non-cancer risks from the pollution sources at locations in Chester exceed what EPA believes are acceptable. The report found that air emissions from facilities in and around Chester provide a large component of the cancer and non-cancer risk to the citizens of Chester.

In response to the findings in the Chester Risk Assessment Project, EPA recommended the implementation of aggressive lead paint abatement programs in Chester and that sources of air emissions which impact the areas of the city with unacceptable high risk should be targeted for compliance inspections and any necessary enforcement actions. Also, a voluntary emission reduction program should be instituted to obtain additional emissions reductions from facilities

which provide the most emissions in the areas of highest risk. The Chester Implementation Workgroup, made up of representatives from the stakeholder groups in Chester, has been set up to address issues identified by the community relating to health, quality of life and land use. Representatives from 30 different Federal, State, County or City Agencies/Departments, and citizens groups participated in this workgroup. The workgroup distilled the 50 problem areas identified into four or five key areas which predominantly impact the children and youth of the City of Chester. The first area to be addressed was the reduction of children's blood lead levels. EPA, HUD, CDC, HHS, and ATSDR participated in planning and strategy sessions along with the Health Department of the City of Chester and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The City of Chester obtained additional funding for its Childhood Lead Poisoning Program from the CDC and Delaware County, PA. Additionally, the City of Chester's Health Department developed a priority targets list based upon the information contained in the risk study report. The Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice has provided the partners with insights and perspectives on risk assessment, community and stakeholder involvement, public participation, and various aspects of environmental justice including; historical perspectives, trends, models, and strategy development. A Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP), as a result of an EPA enforcement action taken in Chester, was undertaken. The SEP was administrated by Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living. The project has now been terminated.

All-States Environmental Justice Conferences

Beginning in 1999, EPA Region 3's OECEJ has convened annual All-States Environmental Justice Conferences with all of the states, and the District of Columbia, in Region 3. The purpose of the conferences was to create a forum for open discussion of environmental justice guidance, policies, evaluative methodologies, real world problems and potential solutions for those problems among the Regional All-States group. These conferences also provide a forum where the experiences and knowledge gained through the efforts of the various group members as they address various issues of environmental justice concern are shared. These conferences have been an overwhelming success in that they opened a continuing dialogue between EPA and the states in the Region on environmental justice issues.

The first meeting was held in Baltimore. The keys topics of discussion were the history of the Environmental Justice movement in this country, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and stakeholder involvement. As a result of our very first meeting, the states in Region 3 requested that we hold regularly scheduled monthly conference calls to continue the dialogue, share experiences and to continue to identify potential solutions to real environmental justice issues. The monthly conference calls are continuing to be held.

In 2000, the meeting was held in Harrisburg, PA focusing on assessment, EPA's Title VI guidance document, and the development of Environmental Justice Strategies.

The Region 3 All-States Environmental Justice Conference for 2001 was held in Richmond, Virginia. The guest speakers for 2001 were Jerry Balter of the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia, and Charles Lee of OEJ. Mr. Balter discussed the Saint Lawrence Cement case from Camden, New Jersey which was a major Environmental Justice case being heard by the Third Circuit Court of the United States at that time. Charles Lee discussed the IWG and

provided updates on other national Environmental Justice issues of concern. Additionally, Virginia and Pennsylvania provided updates on their state Environmental Justice Programs, and EPA Region III provided background on Title VI, NEPA and Environmental Justice, and tools that could be used to assist in Environmental Justice assessment.

The 2002 Region 3 All-States Environmental Justice Conference was held on Dover, Delaware. Key speakers at that conference were Tom Voltaggio, Region 3's Deputy Regional Administrator, Charles Lee of OEJ, Devon Payne-Sturges of EPA. HQ; Reginald Harris, Samantha Fairchild, Daniel Isales, and Harold Yates of EPA Region 3, Andrew Sawyers and Bernie Penner of the Maryland Department of the Environment, Pam Nixon of West Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, and Alisa Harris of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Topics of discussion included cumulative risk assessment, the use of public health data in community assessment, Public Health Indicators, Federal Interagency Working Group Update/IWG EJ Revitalization Projects-Second Round, the December 2002 NEJAC Meeting, Saint Lawrence Cement and Congressional Black Caucus updates, State Grievance Procedures the Park Heights Auto Body Repair Shop Initiative, a Title VI Workgroup update, EPA Region 3's draft EJ Public Participation Plan, the West Virginia and Pennsylvania EJ Plans, and the Maryland EJ Pilot Project. The meeting also included a review of Environmental Justice legislation from around the country (presented by the EJ Interns), and an EJ site tour conducted by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. Due to the success of these conferences, the states in the Region requested that we move to a twice per year meeting schedule.

The 2003 All States Meetings were both held in Philadelphia. The first was a planning meeting for our group's year of activities including the Cumulative Risk Workshop and Chesapeake Bay EJ Forum. The Second was our first joint EJ All States Meeting with EPA Region II. That meeting focused on three areas, the status of our respective state and regional Environmental Justice Programs, an examination of our case study the Saint Lawrence Cement Case (including a community conducted tour), and the discussion of the development of additional assessment tools for identifying at-risk communities. The Regional Offices of EPA Regions II and III, as well as the states of Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and West Virginia were in attendance. The group intends to continue holding these joint meetings.

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• *Will your Regional/Headquarters office have any special initiatives or provisions to address issues for persons with limited English proficiency? If yes, please describe or attach.*

When we identify communities where English proficiency is limited, our office provides translations of documents into the primary language of that community, and when indicated provides staff members proficient in that language. Although all efforts thus far have been in Spanish, we do acknowledge that we will address needs for other languages when appropriate. An example of the Region's efforts is when some recent efforts involving Spanish speaking migrant farm workers that had difficulty speaking English. To resolve the problem, Spanish speaking Regional staff members were brought in to support the efforts of this office. In the

future when such needs for persons with limited English proficiency arise, we stand prepared to address them by providing translations and other informational support. It should also be noted that several staff members in OECEJ are Spanish speaking and regularly provide translations and communicate in Spanish as is required.

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• *In the course of your environmental justice outreach, will your Regional/Headquarters office utilize any informational materials translated in languages other than English? If yes, please list and describe.*

OECEJ has distributed materials in Spanish to communities for which English is a second language. Our office takes steps to characterize the communities that we serve through the use of Demographic Mapper, outreach to communities as a part of information gathering, and through communication with our partners in case evaluation and investigation. When such needs arise, we stand prepared to address them by providing translations and other informational support.

1. El Ozono y Su Salud Brochure Office of Air and Radiation EPA-452/F-00-001 Spanish
2. El Envenenamiento Por El Plomo y Sus Niños Brochure Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances EPA747-K-95-001 Spanish
3. El Plan Modelo Para La Participacion Publica Booklet Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance EPA 300-K-00-001 and EPA 300-K-96-003S Spanish English
4. Reduccion de los riesgos de contaminacion por plomo cuando remodela su casa Booklet Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances EPA747-K-97- 002 Spanish
5. Programa de Pequeñas Concesiones Guia de Solicitud Año Fiscal Guidance Publication Office of Environmental Justice Annual Spanish

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

• *Are there any specific grant programs for which environmental justice was listed as a funding priority? Please list and describe.*

While there are no program specific grants of this type in the works it should be noted that our Auto Body Initiatives in Ward 5 of Washington, DC, and the Park Heights Community of Baltimore have very strong Environmental Justice components. Such projects are and will continue to be targeted for at-risk communities that are of Environmental Justice concern.

Auto Body Initiative:

OECEJ has partnered with Maryland and DC on an integrated strategy and outreach project. The projects focus on auto body/repair shops in both cities in a given geographic area. MDE has chosen to conduct the project in the Park Heights section of Baltimore and DC has chosen Ward

5. The following is a brief outline of the steps involved in these projects: 1) identify the universe of facilities in the geographic area; 2) conduct inspections at a statistically valid number of randomly selected facilities to obtain a compliance rate for this sector in the particular area; 3) provide compliance assistance and pollution prevention outreach to the entire universe of auto body shops; 4) conduct a self certification program; and 5) measure the results of the compliance assistance efforts. Both Maryland and DC have received grants from EPA Headquarters to implement these integrated strategies. The states and the community groups have identified the universe, and are developing the compliance assistance materials to be distributed.

During FY02 Region III's OECEJ assisted DC in identifying the auto body shops in DC, and conducted 46 inspections in DC and 30 in Maryland on behalf of the states to determine the initial compliance rate of this sector in Park Heights and Ward 5. DC and Maryland experienced an influx of calls from auto body shops for compliance assistance and citizen tips reporting body shops out of compliance. OECEJ also assisted in coordinating the compliance assistance efforts and utilized expertise of the Region's Environmental Justice Coordinator in working with the community groups.

Both D.C. and MD have completed, with OECEJ's assistance, the checklist for the inspections, and written the Environmental Business Performance Indicators (EBPI). The EBPI will be used in the measurement phase of the project.

Region III is still working with both D.C. and Maryland to finalize measures for these projects. OECEJ continued to assist the states and in FY04 completed the follow-up inspections at 30 auto body shops in Maryland, and will be conducting the followup at the 46 auto body shops in DC. In the future OECEJ will continue to target at-risk communities and is open to creating specific progress for environmental justice causes.

DATA COLLECTION, MANAGEMENT, AND EVALUATION

• *List your Regional/Headquarters office's main data sets - the ways in which you collect environmental justice information. Also, describe how this information is utilized by your Regional/Headquarters office (e.g., environmental justice assessment, program tracking/evaluation, etc.).*

The information used from the various sources are used in current and future processes in which an environmental justice assessment is conducted. These information sources are detrimental to the operation and investigation of communities and facilities to find environmental justice issues. OECEJ utilizes a wide variety of data sets for information gathering. We utilize all of the demographic data bases available to the Region through out the Region's GIS team, risk information comes to us through CERCLIS, IRIS, HEAST, TRI, NPDES, RCRIS, ICIS, OTIS, STORET, TIRGRE, and a host of other EPA data sets. We also utilize state and local public health and environmental health data as available. We also have a large amount of available through the use of GIS and our Demographic Mapper which has been in use since 1994 and in its most recent for since 1996 with updates in 2000.

In addition we get data from other sources including but not limited to:

- State Environmental Justice Council Meetings
- EJ listening sessions
- Public availability sessions
- Public meetings
- Telephone inquiries
- E-mail inquiries
- Letters and faxed materials
- Newspapers, journals and other resource documents
- Community organization newsletters
- Public radio programs
- Workshops and Symposia
- NEJAC meetings
- Federal, State and local governmental meetings
- Academic forums
- Community fairs, forums and other informational and educational activities
- Consultations with Stakeholders
- Private meetings and communications

DATA COLLECTION, MANAGEMENT, AND EVALUATION

- *Will your Regional/Headquarters office have a method of identifying and highlighting best practices and lessons learned? If yes, please describe.*

The All States Meeting and Conference Calls, internal and external training, state Environmental Justice working groups, and the numerous presentations conducted by our office all serve as vehicles for providing information identifying and highlighting best practices and lessons learned. The presentations made through the OPM Eastern and Western Training Centers are examples of this type of activity. The Region's Environmental Justice Coordinator made a presentation before the American Public Health Association regarding the lessons learned and assessment methodology from the Region's Cumulative Risk/Community Risk Studies. Information from the presentations regarding the use of GIS and other screening tools had been made to NEJAC, Regions IV, VII, and VIII, the Agency's Enforcement Managers, FLETC, and the states in Region III.

The All States Meetings and Conference Calls serves as an ongoing mechanism for this type of information and feedback. Presenters from the States in the Region, the Region III Office, EPA Headquarters, environmental attorneys, and other invited participants make presentations highlighting pilot projects, new models for action, screening tools, evaluative methodologies, and various other information that is of strategic value to the group. As a testament to the usefulness and popularity of these meetings, the states in our Region have requested that we move to a twice yearly meeting format. As with the All-State Meetings and Conference Calls, the process is an on going process. The best practices and lessons learned will continue with these leasing forums.

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- *Will your Regional/Headquarters office plan to provide training on environmental*

justice? If yes, please list and describe.

There are both internal and external training done at the Region III Office. The Regional Office periodically offers Environmental Justice Training “In House.” There are future plans for internal training to be held beginning in the Spring of 2004 through 2005. External training planned in the near future includes: Morgan State University, the University of Pennsylvania, and University of Delaware (preliminary planning) . Below are a listing of some of the past external activities in support of these efforts.

Teaching/Training

1. Principles of Solid Waste Management Planning - Facilitator, EPA-HQ, July 1995. Audience - EPA-HQ, Peace Corps, UNDP, World Bank, USAID, OIA, and others. Hungary, September, 1996 and October, 1997; Poland, February, 1996 and September 1997; and South Africa, May 1997 and September 1997, South Africa, March and February 2000, South Africa, August - September 2001.
2. Environmental Justice - Training EPA Region III RCRA, June 1995. Audience - RCRA personnel with yearly updates since that time. Office of Regional Counsel, July 1998 with update in 2000, Water Protection Division Managers 1995, Environmental Justice Team 1996, 1998, 2000, Air Protection Division 1996, 1998, 2000, Chesapeake Bay Program Office 1996, 1998, 2000; Chesapeake Bay EC 2001.
3. Environmental Justice: Regional Experiences - Presenter, OPM Training Center, Lancaster, PA, May 1995. Audience - Senior Managers and staff of EPA-HQ, CIA, Secret Service, HUD, NASA, NIH, and the Armed Forces, also May 1996, October 1996, June 1997, July 1998, Air Combat Command, September, 1998, OPM Training Centers 1996, 1997, 1998, March 1999, October 1999, March 2000.
4. Environmental Assessment - Facilitator, Hong Kong, October 1994. Audience - Senior managers and staff of Hong Kong governmental agencies, University Professors, Senior managers and staff of Private Sector Industry.
5. Principles of Toxicology - Instructor, Hampton University, Spring Semester, 1994. Audience - Graduate Students. Associated with work at Abex Superfund Site education and outreach efforts.
6. Risk Assessment for Site Investigations - Instructor for State and Federal Facilities, EPA Region III, 1992, 1993, and 1994. Audience - Managers and staff of Federal Facilities, and State risk assessors.

Speaking Engagements

1. North-Central Philadelphia Environmental Awareness Group, June 1995.
2. Environmental Justice Symposium, 46th Street Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA. April 1,

- 1995.
3. Chester High School (Radio Program), May 1995.
 4. American Association of Blacks in Energy, Annual Conference, Richmond, VA, April 1995.
 5. West Chester University, March 1995.
 6. 46th Street Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA, March 1995.
 7. Governmental Affairs Radio Program, November 1994 and June 1997.
 8. City of Chester, PA, 6 times - 1994 and 1995.
 9. Pinn Memorial Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA, 1994.
 10. South/Southwest Philadelphia Meetings - Twice - 1994 - 1995.
 11. New Comfort Baptist Church, July 1997.
 12. Widener University, May 1996
 13. Allegheny University, January 1998
 14. Swathmore University, May 1996.
 15. NEJAC, December 1996, May 1998
 16. Bryn Mawr College, 1998
 17. Philadelphia Bar Association, May 1998
 18. City of Philadelphia, September 1998
 19. Drexel University, October 1998, April 1999, April 2000, April 2001
 20. University of Pennsylvania, October 1998, October 1999, October 2000, October 2001, October 2002
 21. Philadelphia Lead Forum, March 1999
 22. City of Philadelphia - Law department, June 1998
 23. American Institute of Chemical Engineers, October 1998
 24. Germantown Senior Service Corps, 1998
 25. Environmental Justice Research Symposium - Morgan State University, 1995
 26. Morgan State University - Environmental Science - 2001 and 2002.
 27. Eastern University, 2002
 28. Jefferson Medical College - 1998, 2000
 29. Senior Managers EPA Region III- 1996, 1997, 1998, 2000
 30. EPA Region VIII - 1998
 31. NEJAC Oakland - 1998
 32. American Institute of Chemical Engineers, 1998
 32. EPA Region IX - 1998
 33. EPA Region VII - 1999
 34. APHA - November 2002
 35. Annual All States Meetings 1999 - 2003
 36. Maryland Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities - 2001, 2002, 2003
 37. Region III Smart Growth Conference - 2002
 38. South Africa - 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003
 39. ORD Cumulative Risk Workshop - 2002
 40. Regional Cumulative Risk Workshop - 2003
 41. HRSC - 2003
 42. University of Pennsylvania - 2003
 43. FAA - 2002

44. OPPT - Community Partnerships - 2000, 2002

PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- *What methods will you utilize to promote shared learning, such as best practices and lessons learned among staff? If yes, please list and describe.*

The use of examples acquired from around the region is the main method to promote shared learning. The Regional Environmental Justice Training includes sessions on the Regional experiences. Such examples are: the Abex Superfund Site, the Chester Risk Study, the Baltimore Urban Environmental Initiative, the South/Southwest Philadelphia Environmental Risk Study, Bio-Oxidation, Inc. These examples and more serve as examples of successful approaches to addressing various issues and concerns. These cases and others provide numerous examples of what has and is being done with respect to Environmental Justice in the Region. The risk and environmental studies provide perspective on the potential risk and exposure issues faced by communities and provide concrete examples of what can be done to address these issues.

Activities used to highlight these activities include:

- In-House Training
- Training for state and local governments
- The Regional EJ All States Meetings
- Monthly EJ All States Conference Calls
- Symposia and Workshops
- Speaking engagements
- OPM Environmental Issues Seminars
- Workgroup and focus group meetings
- Personal communications
- Public availability sessions

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENT

- *Will your Regional/Headquarters office have a process by which an environmental justice assessment is conducted? If yes, please describe.*

Our office has been assessing the demographic characteristics of each site and facility location being investigated utilizing our Arc View based mapping tool, Demographic Mapper, since 1994 with a major revision in 1996 and updates in 2000. Demographic Mapper is used as an initial screening tool to assist in the characterization of the communities around each of the sites and facilities under investigation. Demographic Mapper is a screening tool which provides background information that helps us identify resource needs, characterize the community demographically, and gain a basic insight into community conditions. This information is followed up with site visits, conversations with stakeholders, and more in depth investigation by EPA staff and state personnel. The demographic information is used to identify minority and low-income communities, sensitive populations (children and the elderly), areas where there may be exposures to significant environmental exposures such as lead and poor indoor air

quality, and it helps us to assess the educational level of communities so that appropriate outreach and educational materials may be provided. The characterization information is used to help us identify the appropriate resources and to allocate them for our work at the site in question.

After the screening with our mapper is completed we meet with the appropriate internal staff and develop a strategy for our plan of action. We identify the key issues, stakeholders, do a needs assessment, and make appropriate contacts in order to begin a dialogue on the issues at hand. Through a proactive process, we proceed in a logical and deliberative manner to address the issues and concerns that come to light. Stakeholders are regularly briefed and dialogue remains open throughout the process.

When ambient data is available, and when appropriate environmental and/or public health data is available, that data is used for assessment purposes as well. See the Chester Risk Study, South/Southwest Philadelphia Environmental Study, and the Baltimore Urban Environmental Initiative for examples of these more detailed characterizations. Additionally, when site data is available in cases such as Eastwick in the City of Philadelphia, field data collected by the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Division was used for assessment of risk to the population close to the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ASSESSMENT

• *Will your Regional/Headquarters office rely on any information resources with which to conduct an environmental justice assessment, such as the Environmental Justice Mapper, Environmental Justice Toolkit, etc.? If yes, please list and describe.*

Yes. As stated previously, Region III utilizes a screening tool first developed in 1994, revised in 1996, and updated in 2000 called Demographic Mapper. Demographic Mapper is an Arc View based GIS tool that provides the Region with a vast array of information relating to any location in question in the Region. This screening tool provides the Region with a characterization of any location under investigation in order that we may be able to better serve and evaluate any area under consideration. Demographic Mapper not only provides the key demographic information such as the percentages of minority and low-income populations in the areas of concern, but it also provides information on such important indicators of risk as population density, age of housing (relates directly to the numbers of homes in the area containing lead based paint since lead based paint was used most extensively in homes built before 1950 but may also be found in homes built until 1977), numbers of homes with indoor air problems (wood or coal cooking or heating), female headed households, numbers of elderly, and numbers of children of childbearing age. This tool is a very important source of information and is important in the investigation for environmental justice communities and will be utilized in future investigations.

In addition, the Region uses its GIS capabilities to enhance the work done with Demographic Mapper. The office also will use Environmental Justice Mapper as a tool to supplement Demographic Mapper. Additional tools will be examined and identified for possible use in the coming years.

The Environmental Justice Toolkit is made available as a resource document for use in the Region and by our partners.

These tools all are used to supplement any ambient data, programmatic information, and resources of state and local government related to the environmental and public health of concern.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

- *Will your regional/Headquarters office have any performance measures specifically related to environmental justice? If yes, please describe.*

The Regional performance measures of success include the resolution of issues of concern and cases of Environmental Justice concern, effective interaction with and assistance provided to our stakeholders, conducting training and outreach activities around the Region, response to stakeholder needed, and the development of effective tools and instruments for assessment of concerns.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

- *Will your Regional/Headquarters office conduct any needs assessments, reports or other documents (produced internally or through a contract) to identify, quantify, and evaluate methods to strengthen and/or improve your environmental justice program? If yes, please list and describe.*

This office periodically reevaluates its needs, and is continually taking steps to improve and upgrade the program. Internally, OECEJ meets with Senior Management regularly and does periodic assessment to evaluate needs and progress. This, combined with our Annual All States Meetings and other reviews provides the appropriate feedback and review needed to assess the program. Feedback from our All States Meetings, have helped us understand the need for topic specific workshops and is being incorporated into our plans for the future.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

- *How will your region/Headquarters highlight the accomplishments and results from your Environmental Justice Action Plans?*

OECEJ provides regular updates to the Region through salient issues. We will continue with this process, by providing such information through our regular training and informational updates, and we will hold brown bag lunches as are appropriate. We also provide this information externally as we go out and do our outreach throughout the Region. Significant accomplishments will also be highlighted on the OECEJ Web Page http://www.epa.gov/reg3ecej/environmental_justice.htm.

**FY04-05 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ACTION PLAN
EPA REGION III**

Objective 1. Risk Reduction / Protect Environmental and Public Health - To ensure equal implementation of environmental laws to achieve significant risk reduction which will improve the environment and/or public health of affected communities.

Activity	Output	Outcome	Resources (FTE/\$)	Lead Contact
1. Conduct multi-media inspections in Park Heights and Ward 5 of Washington, DC for the Auto Body/Auto Repair Shop Initiatives	By September 30, 2004, the pilot projects will be completed in two communities	Improved compliance with environmental regulations related to the sector. Improvement in the quality of life in the areas. Establishment of partnerships to address area concerns. Improve understanding of environmental regulations and best management practices.	FTE <u>2</u> \$_____	Garth Connor Region III (215) 814-3209
2. Conduct enforcement and compliance assistance actions in areas designated for the Regional Geographic Initiative.	By December 2005, enforcement and compliance assistance actions are taken in two affected communities	Pollution is reduced in affected communities, and compliance with regulations is increased.	FTE <u>.5</u> \$_____	Reginald Harris Region III (215) 814-2988
3. Conduct follow-up sessions to the 2003 Region III Cumulative Risk Workshop	Conduct follow-up training and informational sessions related to areas of concern and interest identified in the initial workshop.	Areas of research and community interest are identified and the potential risks reduced through investigation and education.	FTE <u>.3</u> \$_____	Reginald Harris Region III (215) 814-2988

Objective 2. Outreach and Communication - To provide opportunities for meaningful involvement and ensure effective communication between the Agency decision-makers and stakeholders, including all affected communities.

Activity	Output	Outcome	Resources (FTE/\$)	Lead Contact
1. Conduct EJ Listening sessions in all of the States in EPA Region III	(a) By December 2005, three (3) listening sessions are conducted	(a) Citizens provide input and engage with other stakeholders in discussions that affect their communities (b) Increased community awareness of EPA activities, which leads to greater public participation (c) Number of citizens participating and number of communities reached	FTE __.2____ \$_____	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988
2. Continue work with the States in the Region through the All States EJ Meetings and Conference Calls	Continuation of the All States EJ Meetings and Conference Calls.	Continued team building, enhancement of Regional capacity as related to EJ. Expansion of workgroups and joint activities designed to address EJ concerns.	FTE __.2____ \$_____	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988
3. Continue stakeholder dialogues throughout the Region	Continue attendance and participation in State EJ Councils, and promote further dialogues with stakeholders on issues of concern	Increase awareness of EJ throughout the region and increase the numbers of partnerships and contacts among stakeholders and the Region	FTE __.3____ \$_____	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988

Objective 3. Training - To provide training for EPA managers and staff and others to enable them to incorporate environmental justice considerations into their decision-making process.

Activity	Output	Outcome	Resources (FTE/\$)	Lead Contact
1. Conduct In-House Environmental Justice Training	By December 2005, In-House Training will be conducted for all Divisions.	Regional employees learn to integrate EJ considerations into daily responsibilities	FTE <u>.5</u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988
2. Provide EJ training to the states in Region III through the All States EJ Meeting Process and state specific training	By December 2005, all states in the Region will have participated in our EJ Training	State employees learn to integrate EJ considerations into state policies and daily responsibilities	FTE <u>.2</u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988 Hal Yates Region III (215)-814-5530
3. Conduct facilitated training course for internal and external stakeholders	By December 2005, approximately fifty (50) people will have participated in this training	Stakeholders will use case studies to learn about the environmental decision making process and be able to understand the mechanics of decision making.	FTE <u>.2</u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988

Objective 4. Federal, State, Tribal and Local Government Coordination - To ensure effective coordination across all levels of government to address the environmental and public health concerns of affected communities.

Activity	Output	Outcome	Resources (FTE/\$)	Lead Contact
1. Work with the Interagency Working Group on the Collaborative Problem Solving Grants Pilots in the Region	By December 2005, five collaborative partnerships in the Region will have worked on their projects for approximately two years.	Collaborative partnerships in 5 affected communities help build capacity within the communities and assist in addressing their concerns	FTE <u> .2 </u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988
2. Continue the All States Meetings	Continued meetings will serve as a mechanism for continued outreach and communication between the Region and the states.	Continued partnership and team building to address EJ concerns	FTE <u> .2 </u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988
3. Work with states on their Environmental Justice Councils	Continued work with states on their EJ councils in an effort to provide continued support of their efforts to build and sustain their EJ Programs	Collaboration with partners to assure program growth and development in the states	FTE <u> .1 </u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988
4. Work with the State of Maryland, OEJ, and the Park Heights Community on the IWG Pilot Demonstration Project	Continue support of efforts in Park Heights related to the Auto Body/Auto Repair Initiative, and to support partner actions as a part of the IWG project.	Environmental improvement in Park Heights related to the Auto Body/auto Repair Sector. Increase understanding of environmental regulations, pollution reduction and change in the ways the methodologies for managing waste	FTE <u> 2 </u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988 Garth Connor Region III (215)-814-3209 Betty Barnes Region III (215)-814-3447

Activity	Output	Outcome	Resources (FTE/\$)	Lead Contact
5. Continued participation in National, State, and Local Meetings of Environmental Justice Concern.	Continued participation as presenters, moderators, facilitators, and audience members at Environmental Justice meetings around the country.	Provide information and insights to all stakeholders, learn and share lessons learned, provide vision and perspectives to stakeholders. Promote greater understanding and partnership through active participation in activities.	FTE <u> .2 </u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988

Objective 5. Grants and Contracts Administration - To promote effective and efficient management of all grants and contracts to ensure that the environmental and public health concerns of affected communities are addressed.

Activity	Output	Outcome	Resources (FTE/\$)	Lead Contact
1. Award EJ small grants to local community groups	All grant funds are awarded to the identified community groups in the respective fiscal years. (Note the amount of total funds awarded varies due to the variation in the size of the Regional awards by OEJ).	(a) Communities gain financial assistance in building their capacity to address local environmental and health issues (b) Strategies are developed and implemented to address EJ concerns in the affected communities	FTE <u> .2 </u> \$ <u> </u>	Garth Connor Region III (215)-814-3209 Hal Yates Region III (215)-814-5530
2. Serve as Regional Advisor to the Collaborative Problem-Solving grants Program	Assist the OEJ Technical Advisors, Project Officer and Program Manager with various aspects of the Program	(a) Establish comprehensive problem-solving mechanisms in order to address environmental justice concerns (b) Develop broad range of partnerships and collaborative working relationships.	FTE <u> .1 </u> \$ <u> </u>	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988

Objective 6. Environmental Justice Assessment - To conduct an assessment of the environmental justice indicators within affected communities as part of the decision-making process.

Activity	Output	Outcome	Resources (FTE/\$)	Lead Contact
1. Utilize the Regional Demographic Mapper and other assessment instruments to conduct assessments for each case that come forward	Screening assessment of each case.	Assessment will lead to appropriate evaluation of each case and to the characterization of the populations at risk, and will assist in needs assessment.	FTE __.1__ \$_____	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988
2. Investigate the development of appropriate public health and other secondary indicators that may be used to enhance assessment	A comprehensive list of public health indicators	Enhanced analytical methodology and the ability to address Environmental Justice concerns proactively.	FTE .5	Reginald Harris Region III (215)-814-2988