

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WORK GROUP**

**MAY 12, 2009
CONFERENCE CALL
1:00 -2:00 PM**

Attendance:

- Rhonda Anderson, Sierra Club National Environmental Justice Program
- Mark Becker, Michigan Department of Transportation
- Harold Core, Michigan Department of Civil Rights
- Jared Davis, Dow Chemical
- Sylvia Elliott, Office of Legal Services, Michigan Department of Civil Rights
- Lisa Goldstein, Executive Director, Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision
- Sara Gosman, Lecturer, University of Michigan Law School
- Abed Houssari, Manager, DTE Energy
- Brian Kandler, Detroit Regional Chamber Government Relations
- Tom Martin, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth
- Paul Mohai, Professor, University of Michigan School of Natural Resources
- Kelvin W. Scott, Director, Michigan Department of Civil Rights
- Frank Ruswick, Senior Policy Advisor, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Sara Smith, Office of Great Workplace Development, State of Michigan
- Patricia Spitzley, Chief of the Office of Legal Services, Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Brad van Guilder, Wayne County Community Organizer, The Ecology Center
- Donele Wilkins, Executive Director, Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice
- Emma Zavez, The Ecology Center

I. WELCOME & LOGISTICS

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by facilitator Sara Smith. The format of the conference call meeting and the agenda was reviewed.

II. REVIEW OF MODEL FORMAT - INITIAL DRAFT SUBGROUP REPORT

Frank Ruswick reviewed the format of the Subgroup draft report. The workgroup supported the format. The workgroup will review the document and return comments to Sara Smith by May 22, 2009.

III. REVIEW OF SUBGROUP REPORT SCHEDULE

The schedule for the Subgroup reports was reviewed by Frank Ruswick. There were 2 date changes in the schedule. The updated version will sent to all workgroup members.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SUBGROUP

A list of public participation meetings have been scheduled. If any Workgroup members would like to attend any of the sessions contact Harold Core..²

- 1) Detroit - May 20th, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Campbell Branch of the Detroit Public Library at 8733 W. Vernor.
- 2) Saginaw - June 11th, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Greater Coleman Temple, 2405 Bay Street. This is the church of Pastor Hurley Coleman, who is a member of the EJ Workgroup.
- 3) Petoskey - Steve June 12th at noon. Meeting is with Tip of the Mitt, location tba
- 4) Benton Harbor - June 23rd, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Greg Roberts and Dr. Robinson are still checking on locations.

V. EPA STATE E.J. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM

Attached is the narrative portion of the requested grant proposal. The applications were due April 10. Director Chester received a note from Sheila Lewis of EPA's Office of Environmental Justice dated April 17 stating that our application had met all the Threshold Eligibility requirements. DEQ was informed in a note dated May 12 that the application was not selected for an award. However, preparing the grant application was not wasted effort because it helped us to consider ways to begin implementing EJ in the DEQ.

VII. NEXT MEETING TOPIC (S)

The Workgroup will review the overlapping areas within each Sub-group report. The Workgroup will determine the appropriate steps for continuing to finalize the Sub-group reports.

VIII. NEXT STEPS and REVIEW THE DAY

Action Items:

- Subgroups will continue to refine their research and reports for next meeting.
- Workgroup members will review the Model Format – Initial Draft Subgroup Reports and let Sara Smith know of any changes/comments by May 22, 2009.
- B. Feighner will provided the EPA State E.J. Cooperative Agreements Program grant application Status and Sara will forward to the Workgroup.
- Workgroup members can contact Harold Core, coreh@michigan.gov, if they would like to attend the Public Participation focus groups.

Next meeting: Monday, July 13, 2009, 1:00-4:00 p.m. in Lansing. Subgroup Leaders will meet following the meeting at 4:00-5:00 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Sara Smith, Facilitator
Office of Great Workplace Development