California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA)

Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Environmental Justice Public Resources Code Sections 65040.12 & 71110-71115

Last Updated: April 29, 2002

Val Siebal, Chief Deputy Director

Background

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) has the responsibility of implementing environment justice obligations as set forth in Public Resources Code sections 65040.12 & 71110-7115 to ensure fair treatment of all communities and populations, including minority populations and low-income populations. Cal/EPA's broad responsibilities include the implementation of environmental justice in the design and implementation of programs, policies, and activities; the implementation of enforcement efforts; the design of public participation activities; and conducting health and environmental research and data collection.

The Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice is made up of the Cal/EPA Secretary, Boards, Departments, and Offices (BDO) heads and the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) director; and the formation of an external Advisory Group to the Working Group. It is the function of these two groups to assist Cal/EPA in developing an agency-wide environmental justice strategy and provide procedural recommendations to Cal/EPA to ensure meaningful public participation in the activities of Cal/EPA.

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