

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Environmental Justice Implementation Progress Report

February 2012

President Obama has extended the call for agencies to renew their commitment to Environmental Justice. Environmental Justice is identifying and addressing, as appropriate, the disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of programs, policies, and activities on minority, tribal, and low-income populations. Environmental Justice in the Labor context is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, income, or education level, with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of employment laws, regulations, programs, and policies.

The Department of Labor (DOL) continues to pursue Environmental Justice as a part of our efforts to protect the health, safety, equity, and security of workers, including low-income, minority, and Native American workers. The Department's Environmental Justice Strategy is in line with the mission of the Department and the Secretary's vision for the future: *Good Jobs for Everyone*. This vision includes ensuring that workplaces are safe and healthy; helping workers who are in low - wage jobs or out of the labor market find a path into middle - class jobs; and helping middle - class families remain in the middle class.

In August, DOL, along with other Federal agencies listed in E.O. 12898, signed a MOU that called for the development and publication of an Environmental Justice strategy, provision of opportunities for public engagement, and submission of annual Implementation Progress Reports.

This Implementation Progress Report documents the DOL Environmental Justice Strategy, DOL's engagement with the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice, DOL's engagement of the public concerning the Environmental Justice work of the Department, and the specific Environmental Justice programs or projects of DOL agencies including the work of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the Employment Training Administration (ETA), the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), the Wage and Hour Division, the Office of Recovery for Automotive Communities and Workers (ORACW) and the Civil Rights Center (CRC).

ACTIVITIES	DELIVERABLES	MILESTONES
<p>Development of 2012 Environmental Justice Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publish Public Comment Opportunity on Development of Environmental Justice Strategy ▪ Publish Draft Environmental Justice Strategy ▪ Publish Public Comment Opportunity on Draft Environmental Justice Strategy ▪ Publish Final Environmental Justice Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ September 2011 ▪ December 2011 ▪ December 2011 ▪ February 2012

ACTIVITIES	DELIVERABLES	MILESTONES
Participation in Interagency Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Secretarial participation in White House Environmental Justice event ▪ Participation in Environmental Justice Deputies' meeting ▪ Participation in monthly meetings of EJ IWG ▪ Planning and participation in stakeholder listening sessions ▪ Hosting EJ IWG meeting with Assistant Secretary for Policy participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ December 2010 ▪ March 2011 ▪ Ongoing ▪ 2011 ▪ January 2012

ACTIVITIES	DELIVERABLES	MILESTONES
<p>Public Engagement on Environmental Justice Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publish Public Comment Opportunity on Development of Environmental Justice Strategy ▪ Planning and participation in stakeholder listening sessions ▪ Publish Public Comment Opportunity on Draft Environmental Justice Strategy ▪ Revised draft Environmental Justice Strategy in response to comments concerning BLS, CRC, WHD, and public engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ September 2010 ▪ 2011 ▪ December 2011 ▪ January 2012

ACTIVITIES	DELIVERABLES	MILESTONES
<p>Specific Environmental Justice Programmatic Efforts</p>	<p>BLS Collection of data that can help identify disparities in the workplace safety and health environments faced by workers of different income, race, and ethnicity.</p> <p>CRC Enforcement of civil rights laws in programs that receive certain types of Federal financial assistance so that these programs provide equal opportunity for members of minority and tribal populations, and that the programs provide meaningful access for people with limited English proficiency.</p> <p>ETA Ensure that minority, tribal, and low-income individuals who have multiple barriers to employment obtain access to the training needed to secure good, safe jobs.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

