



MEMO

TO Environmental Justice Advisory Board

FROM Kimberly A. Morewood
Environmental Advocate
Office of Environmental Advocate

DATE Jan. 15, 2015

RE Environmental Advocate Reports

Weekly Report Oct. 10-17

DELCORA Permit Review with CEP, Delaware County- EA Alice Wright attended a meeting at Faith Temple Church with representatives from DELCORA, the Chester Environmental Partnership and Chester Councilwoman West to review the DELCORA request for modification to their existing permit application. Discussion included traffic, pipelines, Marcus Hook and Kimberly Clark activities. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA 484-250-5818)**

West Ambler Civic Association (WACA), Montgomery County- EA Alice Wright met with Otis Hightower, the incoming president of the WACA, the organization that represents the West Ambler community. Hightower is already involved and/or a member of the CAG, Whitpain Township Development Committee and Temple Center for Sustainability and has decided his activities in the Ambler community will be done under these organizations. EA Wright agreed to support Hightower's initiatives and they are in line with DEP involvements. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA 484-250-5818)**

EPA All States Environmental Justice Work Group-On Thurs., Oct. 16, OEA staff participated in the monthly EPA EJ work group conference call. Topics included a summary of the recent National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee's Public Meeting and discussion of the relevance of the issues addressed at the conference to the states. OEA staff also updated the group on the outcome of the Chester Environmental Partnership's Environmental Justice Conference at the University of Pennsylvania. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

Weekly Report Oct. 17-24

EPA Clearview Landfill, Darby Township, Delaware County- EA Alice Wright and SERO Solid Waste Environmental Cleanup Brownfields Redevelopment staff participated in a conference call for the EPA pre-meeting that will be held with the Eastwick Neighbors & Friends in Philadelphia. Attendees included EPA, DOH, DEP, Parks & Recreation, U of Penn CEET and Darby Creek Watershed Association. CIC gave a brief overview and selected remedy

for Clearview Landfill OU1 ROD, Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site. Attendees participated in a Q&A session after the presentation. (**Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818**)

The Philadelphia Land Bank Public Hearing, Philadelphia- EA Alice Wright attended the Philadelphia Land Bank public hearing regarding the draft Year One Strategic Plan. Representatives from all areas of the City, Chinatown, watershed associations, business owners, real estate agents, PILCOP, Habitat for Humanity, local unions, and Physicians for Social Responsibility gave recommendations. (**Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818**)

DEP Citizen Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting- On Tues., Oct. 21, OEA Director Kim Morewood gave a presentation on the Office of Environmental Advocate and the topic of Environmental Justice to CAC. (**Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731**)

SWRO DEP Elected Officials Update Meeting (New Regional Roundtable Format) - On Thurs., Oct. 23, OEA Dir. Kim Morewood participated in the regional Elected Officials Update meeting with SWRO RD Sue Malone, CRC John Poister, and LGL Brian Schimmel. About thirty legislative and local elected officials from Beaver, Armstrong and Westmorland Counties attended the introductory meeting. Introductions to key regional staff as well as an open question and answer session from various program staff were provided. The meeting was well received and officials requested that these meetings to continue. (**Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731**)

Weekly Report Oct. 24-31

Whitpain Township Community meeting, Montgomery County-EA Wright attended the meeting that was held at the American Legion Post in Ambler to hear about West Ambler Revitalization Plan update, Flood Mapping project by Temple Center for Sustainability, BoRit Cleanup by EPA, and U of Penn Superfund Research. EPA and Township officials discussed the revitalization plan and the BoRit cleanup. (**Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818**)

Clearview Landfill OU1 ROD Overview Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site:

EA Wright and participated in the Clearview Landfill OU1 Record of Decision Overview Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site Public Availability Session. EPA CI and Remedial Project Manager gave the presentation at the Eastwick Community Center. Representatives from governmental agencies and organizations attended the availability session to answer questions about their organizations' activities in the area. (**Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818**)

Univ. of Penn COEC (CEET) Stakeholder Advisory Board-EA Alice Wright attended the board meeting at the Smilow Center for Translational Research for an update by CEET Director, Marilyn Howarth on CEET renewal and research activities, community outreach activities in West and South Philadelphia. Lancaster County facilitator, statistician and Dr. for the Lead Coalition talked about the work being doing by the Lancaster Lead Coalition and gave a presentation on Childhood Lead Exposure in Lancaster County. CEET also gave an update on air quality in Philadelphia with a focus on South Philadelphia and collaboration with Philadelphia AMS. (**Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818**)

Weekly Report Nov. 3-7

DEP Environmental Justice Advisory Board Meeting- On Tues., Nov. 5, OEA staff attended the EJAB meeting and gave an update on OEA activities and the Environmental Health and EJ conference at Penn. Meeting topics included a grants update from Branden Diehl of the Foundations for PA Watersheds, outcomes of the EJAB listening session in Chester, a public comment and a presentation by Ellicott Dandy of OneAmerica on efforts to duplicate PA's EJAB in Washington state. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

Weekly Report Nov. 10-14

EPA's Environmental Justice: A New Model for Planning in Underserved Communities Call- On Wed., Nov. 12 OEA Director Kim Morewood joined the Planning and the Black Community Division of the American Planning Association; the Planning Webcast Series Consortium; and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Justice for a conversation on environmental justice. Expert speakers discussed how environmental justice is a forward-thinking, sustainable approach. Participants learned how citizens and professionals are making a visible difference in communities across the country through environmental justice. Presenters demonstrated why a discussion about environmental justice is important given the renewed focus on social equity and planning among professionals. Items addressed included: Tools, practices, and funding programs that will improve the proficiency of planners when working with underserved communities; Techniques for encouraging environmental justice that can be integrated into place-based efforts; Key strategies and best practices for addressing issues which target the social pillar of sustainability. Speakers included Charles Lee; Marva King, PhD; and Carlton Eley of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as well as Mildred McClain, Ed.D. of The Harambee House, Inc./Citizens for Environmental Justice. The call was moderated by Carlton Eley, U.S. EPA Office of Environmental Justice. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

Shell Proposed Petrochemical Facility Community Meeting, Midland, Beaver County: - On Thurs., Nov. 13, OEA Director Kim Morewood attended a community meeting for Royal Dutch Shell's proposed petrochemical plant in Beaver County. The format included an overview of the project with regard to the Water, Wildlife & Redevelopment. The audience had the opportunity to write down questions that were then answered by a panel of both Shell employees and external resources. The meeting was well received by 120+ community members in attendance at the Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center campus. Dir. Morewood discussed in detail the outreach plan for environmental justice areas around the facility with Clory Martin, the Social Performance Advisor for this project. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

Hunting Park Stakeholders, Philadelphia County- EA Alice Wright attended a meeting with Stakeholders to discuss the Philadelphia Land Bank Strategic Plan to utilize unused city space to produce food, urban farms and gardens. Stakeholders expressed an interest in the Strategic Plan emphasize on commercial aspect of the initiative. Unlike urban gardens, where food is consumed directly by the gardener(s), food from an urban farm is grown for sale and distribution to the broader population. Urban farms would offer unique benefits such as making fresh food available to local consumers, creating potential employment opportunities, and generating income in the Hunting Park community. The Stakeholders expressed an interest in participating in the City's efforts to community acceptance initiative. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818)**

Weekly Report Nov. 17-21

The Hill District Consensus Group Meeting, Pittsburgh, Allegheny County- On Fri., Nov. 14 OEA Director Kim Morewood attended the Hill District Consensus Group Meeting. Items discussed included: Lower Hill Redevelopment & Public Hearing; HYPE Initiative with update on after-school Programming; KBK Enterprises with New Addison housing update and Grow Pittsburgh with MLK Field update. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

DEP Northeast Regional Office (NERO) Visit, Wilkes Barre, Luzerne County- On Tues., Nov. 18 OEA Director Kim Morewood attended the NERO Managers Meeting to discuss the Office of Environmental Advocate and EJ policy and to get feedback from the regional staff. OEA Dir. Morewood provided a wall map of the EJ areas in the NE region to be displayed in the regional office. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

DEP North-central Regional Office (NCRO) Visit, Williamsport, Lycoming County- On Tues., Nov. 18 OEA Director Kim Morewood met with Regional Director Marcus Kohl to discuss the Office of Environmental Advocate and EJ policy and to get feedback from the regional staff. OEA Dir. Morewood provided a wall map of the EJ areas in the NC region to be displayed in the regional office. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

DEP Southwest Regional Office Visit (SWRO), Pittsburgh, Allegheny County- On Thurs., Nov. 20 OEA Director Kim Morewood attended the SWRO Administration staff meeting to discuss the status of the permitting process for the proposed Tenaska plant in Westmoreland County and to get feedback from the region on the Office of Environmental Advocate. OEA Dir. Morewood provided a wall map of the EJ areas in the SW region to be displayed in the regional office. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

PA All States Environmental Justice Workgroup Conference Call- On Thurs., Nov. 20 OEA staff participated in the monthly call to discuss communication and outreach to communities of EJ concern. A brainstorming session was lead by Steve Kelton of Washington's District Department of Environment. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

Weekly Report Dec. 1-5

Keystone Landfill, Dunmore Borough, Lackawanna County EA Alice Wright received over 50 community responses from residents of Dunmore indicating that they are opposed to any expansion of the landfill located in Dunmore Borough. Wright forwarded the responses to CRS and LGL in Northeast Region and OEA Director. The Northeast Region is gathering community comments to one location. OEA Dir. Morewood met with NERO Regional Director Mike Bedrin, CRC Colleen Connolly and Waste Program Staff on Tues., Nov. 18 to discuss an outreach plan. The NERO staff is working with the OEA to develop a fact sheet for the public meeting that will be held in the future. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

Chester Environmental Partnership (CEP) meeting, Delaware County- EA Alice Wright attended the (CEP) meeting to hear an update by Robert Hindt, Technical Service Manager, on DELCORA permit application for a major modification to their existing SW permit. The application relates to the existing sewage sludge incineration facilities located on site. The application requests

approval for the modification of the existing permit to increase the volume of sludge accepted at the facility from 120,000 gallons per day to 200,000. The permitted operation and waste types will not change. Hindt held a question and answer period on questions posed by CEP members. CEP members who attended the conference gave an update and discussed outcomes and accomplishments of the CEP Environmental Health and Environmental Justice in PA conference and recommendations for moving forward with the final report. Councilwoman West discussed City governmental activities in connection to recycling, education and training in the school system, all city municipal buildings are recycling and the partnerships with the County, Widener University and Chester school district. West introduced the City's candidates that will be attending the Host Municipality Inspector training in Harrisburg in December. Dr. Strand and John Waffenschmidt gave an update on the Save Your Soles Campaign and announced the (6) names of the (6) scholarships that were awarded to Chester students. PRC discussed the awards dinner, PRC recycling funds that they will partner with the City on recycling education in the schools. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818)**

Weekly Report Dec. 8-12

ECOS EJSCREEN Communications Team Conference Call-On Fri., Dec. 5, OEA Director Kim Morewood participated in the ECOS call regarding the roll out of the EPA's Environmental Justice tool EJSCREEN. The release has been postponed indefinitely however the communications team will still continue working on the message and materials for the project. The next working group session is scheduled for Wed., Dec. 17. **(Kim Morewood, OEA Director (717) 783-9731)**

Keystone Landfill, Dunmore Borough, Lackawanna County-EA Alice Wright continues to receive daily bulk comment letters opposing the Keystone Landfill expansion permit in Dunmore Borough and forwards to the NERO CRC and Central Office OEA for the record. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818)**

U Penn Conference-EA Alice Wright attended the symposium at U Penn Law School on, Race, Poverty and Change in America: The persistent dilemmas of equity, environment and equality. The symposium was sponsored by Penn Institute of Urban Research, Social Policy and Practice, Arts and Sciences, etc. Policies that represent the potential to reshape experiences and how matters of place, race, poverty and social change are used to debate persistent dilemmas around, access and opportunities within and outside political areas. The symposium focused on policies about access and opportunity, barriers, neighborhood blight, and education. Speakers included Susan Wachter from Penn Institute Urban Research, Elijah Anderson, Yale, Kelvin Jeremiah, and Philadelphia Housing Authority. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818)**

U Penn Dept. Earth & Environmental Science Forum-EA Alice Wright was invited to participate in a presentation by John Waffenschmidt of Covanta Energy to Penn medical and law students in Earth & Environmental Science Department, School of Arts and Science. The presentation focused on how Covanta does Risk Assessments both from health and economic perspective and how Covanta deal with issues like communities with respect to risk perception, risk communication and regulations. Waffenschmidt covered Health Risk Assessment in the Energy-from-Waste Industry, operating and communicating in an EJ community, and sustainable considerations and sustainable building and public infrastructure in urban/suburban/rural communities. After the presentation, students participated in a Q&A with Waffenschmidt and John Scott, Covanta and Wright, DEP. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818)**

Weekly Report Dec. 15-19

Keep PA Beautiful (KPB), Chester, Delaware County- EA Alice Wright attended a Chester City Council meeting for a KPB presentation by Heidi Pedicone, Director of Programs, KPB to Chester Councilmembers Portia West, Al Jacobs and Elizabeth Williams, Mayor John Linder and Chief of Staff Ron Starr, Widener Dr. Kathy Hornberger, and PRC Mario L. Cimino. Pedicone gave an overview of KPB and confirmed Chester City is a candidate for KPB program. Pedicone pointed out the benefits for Chester becoming an Affiliate: awards recognition and grants, resources, tools and training materials, a Board, professional training, surveillance cameras, etc. At the Environmental Justice Advisory Board Meeting held at Chester City Hall during the early part of 2014, Councilwoman West asked the DEP RDO, Cosmo Servidio, for assistance with illegal dumping in Chester. After researching the Delaware County's Illegal Dumping Survey report, we found Chester City had 14 out of the 24 dump sites in the entire county. Councilwoman Portia West initiated a Keep Chester Beautiful campaign to reduce illegal dumping sites in Chester. Pedicone explained the process for Chester City to become an Affiliate starting with forming a Team, obtaining a letter of support from the highest elected official for the jurisdiction interested in affiliation (Mayor Linder), securing the initial Affiliate fee and submitting the application to KAB. The Affiliate Application fee for Chester City is based on population of 35,000+ at a one-time certification fee of \$3,000. Dr. Strand sent a letter to Covanta requesting on behalf of the City of Chester and Councilwoman Portia West, that Covanta be the Donor for the one-time Affiliate Application fee of \$3,000, payable to Keep America Beautiful. Delaware Conservation District, Delaware County Recycling Coordinator, PA DEP RDO, WM, Darby Creek Valley Association, and Chester Ridley/Crum Watershed, PRC and the CEP are all supporters. The City has begun forming a committee for planning the Team that to date, includes Chester City Council and the Mayor, CEDA, PRC, CEP and Widener. Pedicone said as an Affiliate they can expect to have commitments and partnerships from companies and agencies like: DELCORA, PennDOT, Covanta, Delaware County, the business community and local Watersheds. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818)**

Weekly Report Jan. 12-16

University of Pittsburgh's Center on Race and Social Problems: Pittsburgh's Racial Demographics 2015: Differences and Disparities Demographic Report: Office of Environmental Advocate Director Kim Morewood and EA Lisa Kasianowitz attended a news conference at the University of Pittsburgh on Tuesday, Jan. 13, announcing the completion of a new report on Pittsburgh's racial demographics produced by the university's School of Social Work. The dean of the school, Larry Davis, discussed that the report provides indicators of quality of life by race and ethnicity based on diversity, families, education, economics, interracial group relations, health and criminal justice. The purpose of the report is to educate and inform people of the disparities that exist, and are growing, in the Pittsburgh area and prompt discussion and social change. **(Lisa Kasianowitz, EA, 412-442-4116)**

Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Dunmore Borough, Lackawanna County- EA Alice Wright continued forwarding bulk comment letters opposing the Keystone Landfill expansion permit in Dunmore Borough to NERO CRC and Central Office OEA. EA Wright forwarded drafted copies of Plain Language Summary, Meeting notice and other documents related to public meeting that had been drafted earlier. **(Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818)**

Chester Environmental Partnership (CEP), Chester, Delaware County- EA Alice Wright attended the CEP meeting that was hosted by Chester City Councilwoman Portia West and held at Chester City Hall in the Community Room. The discussions included a presentation by Alexander Mandell, Community Involvement Coordinate (CIC), EPA Region 3. Mandell provided a brief history on the Metro Container Superfund site in Trainer and on EPA superfund program. West introduced and announced that two City employees attended the HMI training in Harrisburg and are now certified to be the City Host Municipality Inspectors. West provided the CEP with numerous City Hall activities and updates on Keep PA Beautiful project and collaborations, bridge improvement projects and that PennDOT is the lead and oversees the improvements, a plan to add additional trucks for snow removal, cost benefit and partnerships. Liv Smith, Assistant Health Commissioner discussed website improvements, community health education, environmental health and food safety, animal control, housing code enforcements and fine collection, demolition and trash removal and building code permits and fines.

Philadelphia/Montgomery County Request for Assistance. (**Alice Wright-Bailey SE EA (484) 250-5818**)