



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Environmental Justice Annual Implementation Progress Report



Foreword

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

On February 11, 1994, President Clinton issued Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations* tasked each federal agency to make achieving EJ part of its mission. Executive Order 12898 (EO 12898) also states “each federal agency responsibility under this order shall apply equally to Native American programs.”

The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) *Environmental Justice (EJ) Strategic Plan* (Strategy) reflects a commitment to the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people. It formulates goals based on clear priorities and tangible benefits that consider programmatic, legislative, and regulatory responsibilities. The EJ Strategy emphasizes community participation, stakeholder involvement, and community empowerment. In addition, the EJ Strategy encourages new approaches to occupational and environmental science research for high risk communities and workers; embraces interagency coordination to facilitate environmental justice; and, heightens the sensitivity of managers and staff to EJ within the Department.

I am proud to present this report on implementation of the Department’s EJ Strategy. This report includes our activities for Fiscal Year 2012 and spans the full range of DOE’s mission and goals from basic science, to clean energy, environmental stewardship and nuclear security. I appreciate the contributions of both the DOE programs, and the many participating communities, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and companies who have acted together to make the Department’s EJ efforts a success.

David W. Geiser



Director
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Table of Contents

Foreword	i
I. Planning for Environmental Justice at DOE	1
II. Community Engagement	3
Legacy Management (LM)	3
III. DOE Headquarters and Field Accomplishments	5
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)	5
Environmental Management (EM)	6
Oak Ridge Operations (ORO)	7
National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)	7
Hanford Site (HAN)	10
Savannah River Site (SRS)	11
Health, Safety and Security (HSS)	12
Fossil Energy (FE)	13
Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)	13
Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)	14
Chief Human Capital Officer (HC)	15
Economic Impact and Diversity (ED)	16
IV. Intergovernmental Partnerships	18
EJ IWG NEPA Committee:	18
Federal Agency Training (LM)	18
National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program (LM)	19
Superfund Job Training Initiative (SJTI)	19
New York Power Authority – DOE EJ Partnership (LM)	19
Urban Waters Federal Partnership (EERE and LM)	20
V. Summary and Conclusions	22

I. Planning for Environmental Justice at DOE

The Department of Energy's (DOE) first *Environmental Justice Strategic Plan* was developed and implemented in 1995. In 2007, DOE reestablished its EJ Task Force to review and update both the strategy and develop an *Environmental Justice Five-Year Implementation Plan* (Implementation Plan). The purpose of the Implementation Plan was to develop a road map to implement and execute the principals and goals of the EJ Strategic Plan. The revised EJ Strategic Plan and Implementation Plan were released in 2008.

We have recently drafted a revised strategic plan and plan to release that document this spring. The new strategy was expanded to reflect our contributions toward commitments made by the 17 federal agencies that signed the EJ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 4, 2011. The MOU aims, in part, to address and reduce the disproportionate harm from environmental degradation that affects indigenous, low-income, and minority communities.

The new strategy will result in better integration of the requirements of EO 12898 and the MOU into DOE operations. The new strategy is consistent with the Department's overall Strategic Plan, specifically the goal to "Establish an operational and adaptable framework that combines the best wisdom of all Department stakeholders to maximize mission success."¹ The Department will undertake appropriate actions to protect human health and the environment from residual risks. The Department's Strategic Plan calls for applying advanced science, engineering, and cleanup of the environmental legacy of the national environmental cleanup goals.

DOE is responsible for the risk reduction and cleanup of the environmental legacy of the nation's weapons program, one of the largest, most diverse and technically complex environmental programs in the world. The Department will successfully achieve this strategic goal by ensuring the safety of DOE employees and the public, acquiring the best resources to complete the complex tasks, and by managing projects throughout the United States in the most efficient and effective manner.

The Department's strategic approach for EJ also reflects a commitment to advancing the quality of life for our communities. It formulates goals based on clear priorities and tangible benefits that consider programmatic, legislative, and regulatory responsibilities. It emphasizes community participation, stakeholder involvement, and community empowerment. It refocuses research to reflect the recognition of various health issues in minority, low-income, and tribal communities. It encourages new approaches to occupational and environmental-science research for high-risk communities and workers, embraces interagency coordination to

¹ 2011 DOE Strategic Plan

facilitate EJ, and heightens the sensitivity of our managers and staff to EJ within DOE. Opportunities to further the objective of EO 12898 include the following three principles:

Public participation

The Department's process for developing the Strategic Plan demonstrates a commitment to public involvement. DOE's EJ Program includes an objective to promote stakeholder awareness, understanding, and participation in the project decision-making processes; to maintain an active public affairs program that accurately identifies public and media concerns and provides timely information; and to establish stakeholder involvement and information to promote communication between stakeholders and the Department. This public participation process includes, but is not limited to, initiatives at DOE sites, and a broad national dialogue.

Fair treatment including enforcement of laws

The decision-making process for DOE initiatives is conducted in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA requires that all federal agencies involve interested stakeholders in their decision-making, consider reasonable alternatives to proposed actions, develop measures to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, and prepare environmental documents, that disclose the potential impacts of proposed actions and alternatives. DOE's EJ Program actively and consistently seeks compliance with NEPA, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. This includes:

- Actively seeking community input and considering public comments.
- Incorporating the views of stakeholders in making decisions.
- Informing the public in a timely manner.
- Empowering the public to participate in DOE's decision-making processes.

Building a sustainable approach that ensures the most vulnerable populations are protected

The EJ Program supports a sustainable approach to ensure meaningful involvement and protection for the most vulnerable populations. Initiatives included in this approach are: Clean Energy, Weatherization, Cleanup, Asset Revitalization, and a youth component including internships in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.

II. Community Engagement

The Department conducts a number of activities to implement its EJ Program. Building capacity within our communities in order for the communities to have meaningful involvement is a key component of the goals and objectives of the strategy. These capacity building activities, such as training and technical assistance programs, improve the capability of stakeholders to participate in DOE EJ programs and in the decision-making process. DOE has implemented a number of such projects to help communities obtain and retain the tools necessary to achieve EJ.

Legacy Management (LM)

Community Capacity Building Through Technology

This initiative supports the Department in its effort to build community capacity for meaningful participation in DOE and federal activities. It creates community technology centers and provides technical assistance to underserved communities. DOE, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has distributed more than 5,000 computers to underserved communities. The Department's Samuel P. Massie Chairs of Excellence serve as the technical support for this activity.

Community Leaders Institute (CLI)

The Department's EJ Program collaborates to convene the CLIs. A critical factor in the success of community development programs is a well-informed community. "Action" occurs when those with authority assume an informed and active leadership role. The purpose of the CLI is to help these leaders know how to access and obtain the information necessary for making good sound decisions and communicating that information to citizenry. The focus of the CLI is on the unique relationship between environmental protection, human health, EJ and economic development. Initially, this project served small towns and rural communities around DOE sites in the Southeast. In 2010, the project was expanded to serve Native Americans and Alaska Natives around the country. The CLI is a partner of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership.

Environmental Justice, Community Education and Advisory Project

The DOE EJ Program ensures compliance with EO 12898 and incorporates EJ core principles into our EJ Strategy. One such example is demonstrated through "Teaching Radiation Energy and Technology" (TREAT) Workshops. The overall goal of the TREAT Workshop is to educate kindergarten through 12th grade teachers and local community leaders who reside near the DOE Savannah River Site (SRS) facility in Aiken, South Carolina (area surrounding SRS has a high

population of African-Americans). Teachers and students learn first-hand about radiation, sources of radiation, radioactive waste management, effects of radiation on environmental health, and the negative impact of environmental radiation exposures to humans. Overall this project has made it possible for the successful implementation of TREAT and has trained over 400 community workers and K-12 teachers within the last 15 years (75 within the last 2 years). In addition, 20 students were trained in hands-on research on environmental radiation, waste management, and EJ education. During FY 2011 and 2012, ten students graduated with a B.S. degree in environmental science. Of these numbers, four students are currently working for their master's degree at various institutions.

In addition, this collaborative activity develops public involvement programs for adversely impacted communities and conducts public meetings and workshops. This collaboration is recognized as a model EJ program for communities around federal facilities.

III. DOE Headquarters and Field Accomplishments

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)

- The Building Technologies Program's Solar Decathlon hosted a Sponsors Meeting on October 4th at the Orange County Great Park in Irvine, California. This meeting resulted in partnerships between DOE's EERE and organizations including Wells Fargo, Bosch and the Bosch Foundation supporting the 2013 Solar Decathlon. Wells Fargo Foundation committed to a Sustaining Level Partner (the highest level possible) for the Solar Decathlon in 2013 and also in 2015. This support assists DOE by off-setting costs for site operations and logistics to make the Solar Decathlon a safe and successful educational and outreach event.
- EERE continues to fund STEM initiatives by supporting the primary investment objectives: learning; engagement; pre-and in-service educator/education-leader performance; postsecondary STEM degrees; STEM careers; institutional capacity; STEM system reform; and education research and development. The following link provides detailed information on EERE's investment commitments for STEM, [2010 Federal STEM Education Inventory Data Set](#).
- EERE continues to aggressively support the placement of interns and volunteers. In 2012, EERE placed eight Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program interns and 20 volunteers from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). The program was significantly enhanced by providing students with more opportunities to network within and outside of EERE by participating and attending hearings on Capitol Hill, training, conferences/meetings, networking opportunities within the Department and other federal agencies, and well as presenting briefings on their accomplishments and experience at EERE. Students were provided with clear direction and expectations that provided them with the necessary tools to be competitive in the workforce.
- EERE was responsible for creating the National Training and Education Resource (NTER). Through it, EERE helped contribute to the development of an interagency EJ training module.
- A large part of EERE technology deployment depends on the U.S.'s ability to innovate, produce, install, maintain, and service advanced energy technologies. EERE's workforce development and education activities support the further development and enhancement of these critical workforce skills. Projects include creating job task analyses for selected sectors, developing career visualization tools such as the Solar Career Map, creating a systems-based approach to teaching energy such as our Energy Literacy initiative, updating existing K-12 curriculum, and organizing school challenges and competitions. These activities are supported by a robust use of advanced learning

technology tools, including interactive simulations and game-based learning, such as the NTER. EERE provides a variety of competitions that promote a fun way to apply an understanding of science for students of all ages.

- EERE also provides program specific EJ training for DOE Headquarters' program offices, published a news flash on current EJ initiatives, and screen saver to provide employees with contact and resource information.
- EERE's Tribal Energy Program, through Sandia National Laboratories, has offered summer internships to Native American college students as a means of providing opportunities to conduct research, participate in a cross-disciplinary team, and provide hands-on experience working on tribal energy projects. Since 2002, 27 students have participated in the program, including 5 interns during the summer of 2012.
- Since 2002, EERE's Tribal Energy Program has funded 175 tribal energy projects investing more than \$41.8 million for tribes to assess their renewable energy resources, conduct feasibility studies and implement clean energy projects. Many of these tribes are disproportionately burdened by adverse human health and environmental affects, and projects such as these allow tribes to learn about and implement the environmental and economic benefits of clean energy while building community awareness.

Environmental Management (EM)

EM maintained 15 cooperative agreements with specific tribes located around EM sites/facilities and along transportation routes that carry EM wastes and materials. EM provided funding for the State and Tribal Government Working Group to hold two large national meetings in FY 2012, to discuss and address various issues of concern including those of tribes.

In FY 2012 EM convened two Tribal Leader Dialogues, which brought together elected leaders of tribal nations surrounding EM sites to meet with senior DOE officials and site managers. These unprecedented events marked the largest gathering of tribal leaders and DOE officials for high-level discussions focused on enhancing tribal involvement in EM's cleanup mission and the future of its sites, including economic development and federal contracting opportunities. The inspiration for the EM Tribal Leader Dialogues grew out of the DOE Tribal Summit in May 2011.

Examples of work performed through EM cooperative agreements with tribal nations are listed as follows:

- EM sustained tribal capacity building and environmental program work with all cooperative tribal agreements in FY 2012, resulting in continued critical involvement of tribes in a wide range of EM decision-making and transportation-planning activities at the Hanford Site, the Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the West Valley

Demonstration Project. As a result, there is enhanced protection of critically important tribal cultural resources, tribal treaties, and other rights and interests.

- EM continued to hire scientific and tribal staff to examine site cleanup strategies; and proposed work that may positively impact tribal rights, interests and support formal consultations.
- EM provided comments to site and contractor staff on impacts from DOE sites to tribal lands including participation in the Natural Resource Damages Assessment process.
- EM performed environmental monitoring activities and data collection on tribal lands to help determine impacts and supplement DOE data where applicable.
- EM established and maintained tribal transportation and emergency response programs.
- EM assisted DOE in performing work to preserve and protect cultural resources and properties on DOE sites as required by EM, with the assistance of tribes, made sound decisions that impact their interests, and help ensure that EM meets its compliance obligations.

Oak Ridge Operations (ORO)

- Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) formed in 1995, includes members chosen to reflect the race, gender, occupation, views, and interests of persons living near the Oak Ridge Reservation and are appointed by DOE to serve on a voluntary basis. The ORSSAB remained active through 2012, with ongoing membership recruitment efforts increasingly focused on achieving an ORSSAB makeup that reflects the diversity of the ORO area population.
- ORO mission related activities continue to incorporate EJ principles. In coordination with regulatory agencies and local stakeholders; ORO is evaluating options for reprioritizing treatment of mercury pollution exiting ORO facilities into the City of Oak Ridge.

National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)

- An Emergency Management grant program was instituted in fiscal year (FY) 2000 to fund the Emergency Preparedness Working Group (DOE-complex funded) to enhance rural county emergency response capabilities. To fund this grant, approved waste generators are charged an additional \$.50 per cubic foot of low-level and mixed-level waste disposed. Nevada Division of Emergency Management administers the funding, which is distributed according to applications submitted by the counties. The amount of funds is based on the amount of waste disposed at the Nevada National Security Site. Funds totaling \$413,554 were provided to enhance county emergency response capabilities in communities near the Nevada National Security Site.

- NNSA's Nevada Site Office (NSO) invites minorities (Native Americans, African-Americans, and Hispanics) to serve on the Nevada Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB - formerly known as the Community Advisory Board for Nevada Test Site Program), a citizen-based organization that is involved in staying apprised of the legacy environmental cleanup and long-term stewardship. A variety of approaches were taken to heighten awareness of the EM SSAB in Nevada among disparate communities, target distinct audiences and population groups (particularly rural residents and minorities), and encourage participation in the application process. Recruitment and outreach efforts included, but were not limited to the following activities:
 - Direct mailing to 18,000+ rural southern Nevada mail recipients
 - Membership announcements at regularly-scheduled public meetings, rural town board meetings, and community environmental organizations meetings, with applications provided
 - Announcements and applications on the Web page for the EM SSAB in Nevada
 - Electronic Newsflash to Nevada Site Office mailing list
 - News Release and Public Service Announcements to Clark and rural counties
 - Membership recruitment announcements to local municipalities and civic, environmental, professional, and volunteer organizations
 - Display advertisements placed in local and statewide newspapers
 - A combination of letters, phone calls, and in-person meetings to targeted organizations
- NSO supported distribution of its Operation Clean Desert Learning Trio (Trio). Trio is an elementary learning program geared toward teaching environmental issues to religious organizations, community centers located in low-income neighborhoods, and at-risk schools and schools in rural areas. In FY 2012, the following items were distributed: 2,384 activity books, 826 computer game CDs, 67 teacher's guides, and 605 student worksheets.
- NNSA provided \$8.4 million in funding to minority serving institutions to advance scientific research, student internships, faculty fellowships, and curriculum development. Of the total \$8.4 million awarded, \$4.4 million was awarded to the MSI Program which includes support to our Samuel P. Massie Chairs of Excellence Program; and grants that support Native American and Hispanic academic development and advancement. The remaining \$4 million was used to initiate our new Minority Serving Institutions Partnership Program (MSIPP) in which the objective is to build a sustainable educational pipeline. This Program allows specific HBCUs the opportunity to collaborate with our national labs around specific topical areas of interest to NNSA and our national labs in a consortium capacity. This \$4 million supported a total of eight consortium grants.

Approximately 171 minority students participated in summer internships around the NNSA complex and with NNSA site contractors and small businesses.

- NNSA provided \$50,000 to fund a partnership between its Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) and University of New Mexico - Los Alamos (UNM-LA) to provide scholarships for Native American high school students to attend a 2-year degree program at UNM-LA. Without this program, the students would not have financial means to attend college. The majority of the students increased their grade point average, thereby qualifying them for the State of New Mexico college fund. During the summer, these students participated in the LANL intern programs.
- NNSA and EM jointly fund a program (\$2.1 million/year) that allows four tribal governments to develop and maintain environmental monitoring programs and to provide technical input to NNSA decision-making processes. The tribes are located adjacent to LANL. The program also funds a community-based educational model (CBEM) initiative at Santa Fe Indian School (SFIS), an Indian-owned residence high school that incorporates community-based subject matter into the curriculum. Over 35 SFIS students, most graduates of the CBEM program, have won Gates Millennium Scholarships.
- As a result of Santa Clara Pueblo comments related to EJ, which were submitted to the 2008 LANL Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS), NNSA provides funding to the Pueblo, a federally recognized tribe, to prepare a proposal to conduct a Santa Clara-specific human health risk assessment. The action is being tracked as a NEPA requirement under the resulting SWEIS Mitigation Action Plan.
- LANL management and operating contractor (LANS, L.L.P.), Board of Governors extended the LANL Community Commitment Plan for five more years. The Plan invests about \$3M/year of LANS "at-risk" fee into regional community outreach activities. The areas of outreach include education, economic development, and community giving. Seven northern New Mexico counties, most of which are impoverished, make up the northern New Mexico region of impact.
- LANL was selected as one of four DOE sites that were formally assessed for their implementation of DOE's EJ Program in FY 2012. LANS and NNSA EJ practitioners, community stakeholders, and others were interviewed, and evidence documents reviewed during the assessment. A favorable final report is published that includes scores of activities being conducted by LANS, laboratory programs, and NNSA; many of which aren't referred to as EJ activities but support the intent of EO 12898.
- LANS, L.L.P. far exceeded its negotiated FY 2012 goals for contracting with small and minority businesses. This performance is exceptional given that it has been sustained over the past several years, most recently in a constrained federal budget environment.

Hanford Site (HAN)

- HAN utilizes its federal facility agreement known as the “Tri-Party Agreement,” or “TPA” to focus and ensure effectiveness of the HAN’s environmental restoration and clean-up activities. The TPA is frequently modified and updated to address changes in environmental laws, and adjustments in clean-up policies and priorities. The TPA includes a Community Relations Plan that vigorously encourages involvement of tribal nation representatives, and members of low income, disadvantaged and other minority populations in the TPA modification and decision making processes. During 2012, the TPA continued to be modified and updated when necessary. HAN remained focused on assuring public input was solicited and incorporated into the changes that were made, and that the views and values of tribal nation representatives and members of low income, disadvantaged, and other minority populations were incorporated into HAN’s decision-making processes.
- HAN continued to support the Public Information Repositories to give the public access to information on TPA activities and provide documents for public comment. HAN also continued its performance of annual audits to assure completeness of the content of the TPA repositories. In addition, HAN continued to evaluate adopting an all-electronic (i.e., paperless) access system with attendant enhancement of data terminals and other access hardware.
- HAN continued operation of the TPA enhanced database and search engine to assure the public ongoing and effective access to clean-up and operations information. The effectiveness of the improved access system was evaluated by Operational Assessments conducted at remaining TPA Public Information Repository locations not previously covered. Operational Assessment inquiries were expanded to explore new approaches to enhance information access for the public at the Repositories.
- HAN continued supporting Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) operations. HAN continued to provide the HAB with briefings on HAN clean-up and operations activities. HAN also continued to solicit and receive advice that was factored into government decision making at HAN. HAN continued its efforts to assure the HAB’s membership reflects diverse viewpoints in the affected community and region. Board membership includes people who are affected by DOE site cleanup activities, including minorities and members of tribal nations.
- HAN continued its commitment to the operation of a robust public involvement program. Publication of important and relevant information continued on the HAB website, and was updated throughout 2012. As part of DOE’s contractor oversight program, effectiveness of public involvements activities and systems at DOE’s public reading rooms was assessed and confirmed to be highly successful.

- The Tribal Nations Program Coordinator within the Office of Communications and External Affairs remained responsible for implementing DOE's American Indian Policy at the HAN. The Cultural Resources Program Manager continued protecting physical items and real property that are deemed important to the social, religious, and cultural values of the Native American people.
- HAN Cultural and Historic Resources Program continued to work with tribes to enhance their involvement in cultural resources protection. Meetings were conducted to discuss projects which could impact culturally sensitive areas, or traditional cultural properties. Tribes were invited to attend field walk-downs and participate in monitoring of project activities and field surveys. HAN's oversight program continued assessments of contractor conformance with cultural and historic resource protection requirements with a focus on correcting any deficiencies found.
- HAN continued its commitment to include EJ in any Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP). In 2012, no incidents occurred that required formation of a SEP.

Savannah River Site (SRS)

SRS is a partner in the TREAT Workshops.

- Four community outreach meetings were held in the surrounding SRS counties. Approximately 65 to 70 stakeholders attended each meeting. The SSU interns presented research projects which focused on working with stakeholders for improved community environmental conditions.
- SRS representatives and SSU interns participated in the 2012 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program. The conference convened participants from federal agencies, academia, business and industry, nonprofit organizations, local community activists, and stakeholders to dialogue on achieving equality of environmental protection.
- SRS conducted a tour for interns from Savannah State University (SSU). After the tour, the interns were required to give presentations to the class on what they learned about the site, opportunities for employment in the environmental fields, and the importance and diligence of safety in nuclear industries. The SSU interns submitted a report highlighting their research findings.
- SRS participated in a CLI. The purpose of the CLI was to focus on the unique relationship between environmental protection, human health, EJ, and economic development.
- SRS continued to mentor and nurture SSU interns to encourage them to consider graduate school opportunities in environmental science, environmental engineering, and environmental health-related disciplines. Three SSU interns, sponsored by SRS, attended

the 2012 Society of Environmental Technology and Chemistry (SETC) Conference. The SETC Conference offered networking and graduate school opportunities nationwide.

- SRS provided SSU interns hands-on training for sample collection and processing, greenhouse studies, fish, plant and soil/sediment sample extraction, and the operation of professional instruments.
- SRS creates opportunities for communities to participate in employment and entrepreneurial activities at Superfund Sites. The Superfund Job Training Partnership with DOE and EPA training did not occur in 2012. This initiative will continue in 2013, 2014, and 2015, contingent on contractors' needs.
- In 2012, five DOE United Negro College Fund Mentors for Environmental Scholars interns from SSU were hired and mentored on the activities at the SRS EJ Program.

Health, Safety and Security (HSS)

- HSS developed a publically available EJ webpage that contains active links to EO 12898, the DOE EJ Strategy and its five-year implementation plan, annual progress reports and the MOU. The HSS EJ website also contains links to the White House Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) guidance on EJ and the NEPA and five EJ compliance tools developed by the EPA. The HSS searchable library continued to include guidance documents on topics such as cleanup and remediation under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act which can have implications for minority and low income populations.
- The [Environmental Justice Information Brief](#) was updated and posted on the EJ webpage.
- The annual Joint DOE Contractor Environmental Attorney's Training held in October 2012 included training on EJ. This training was provided to 45 lawyers throughout the DOE complex who are in the position to ensure EJ integration in decision making.
- Participants in the July 2012 Sustainability Assistance Network (SAN) conference call conducted by the HSS's Office of Sustainability Support (HS-21) were provided with the history of EJ and EJ updates. Particular emphasis was placed on introducing the SAN participants to the On-line EJ training course that assists DOE employees in gaining a greater awareness of EJ and the strategies for incorporating EJ into DOE policies, decisions, and daily operations. SAN participants are drawn from program offices and sites throughout the DOE complex.
- HSS reviews the applicability of EJ when developing the contents of training courses and guidance documents.
- HS-21 continued to assist the Department in remaining cognizant of emerging EJ trends and issues by participating in all EJ meetings conducted by EPA and CEQ. The office coordinated the collection of EJ-related information from Sustainability Assistance

Network (SAN) coordinators across the Department on questions raised by EPA and CEQ on EJ issues.

Fossil Energy (FE)

FE continues to use the NEPA process to identify and evaluate disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects in minority, low-income, and tribal communities, within the context of EO 12898. In 2012, there were no Final EISs or Records of Decisions issued. However, there are several EISs in progress, each in different stages of the NEPA process. These projects are ongoing and include: DOE/EIS-0431 Hydrogen Energy California IGCC Project, DOE/EIS-0473 W.A. Parish Post Combustion CO₂ Capture and Sequestration Project, DOE/EIS-0464 Lake Charles CCS Project DOE/EIS-0460 and FUTUREGEN 2.0 Oxy-Combustion Large Scale Test. NEPA analysis addressed activities that integrate EJ with activities and processes related to human health and the environment, in each of the projects.

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

- BPA had a total of 79 students on the rolls. Based on self-identification, 34 percent of those students were minorities, including:
 - 10 percent African-American
 - 10 percent Asian
 - 3 percent Hispanic/Latino
 - 5 percent Native American
 - 6 percent mixed race

The college recruiter created a recruitment plan for reaching out to colleges and universities in order to advertise student opportunities. The diversity and recruitment team also worked with various community partners (e.g., Black United College Fund, Urban League, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Native American Youth & Family Services, and Summer Youth Connect) to ensure that the community is informed of student opportunities. The diversity and recruitment team attended diversity-focused career events to share student opportunities (e.g., Hispanic Heritage Fair, Women in Trades, University of Texas El Paso Event, Walla Walla University Event, Howard University Event, Pendleton Hispanic Youth Conference, NiXyaawii Tribe Career Fair, Hispanic Employment and Business Fair, United Way Diversity Event, Salish Kootenai Career Event). BPA partnered with internal resources such as Internal Resource Groups, Pluralism Council, and Cross-Agency Diversity Work Team to assist in the talent search for a diverse student applicant pool. These groups provided representatives to attend conferences with a diversity focus (American Indian Science and Engineering Society,

National Society of Black Engineers, American Association of Blacks in Energy, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Asian Bar Association, and Society of Women Engineers).

- A total of 50 students were hired from the Student Temporary Experience Program and the Student Career Experience Program. Based on self-identification, 32 percent of those students were minorities, including:
 - 10 percent African-American
 - 10 percent Asian
 - 0 percent Hispanic/Latino
 - 2 percent Native American
 - 8 percent mixed race
- BPA also sponsored two work-experience opportunities for American Indian Science and Engineering Society students. Both were extended an opportunity to be employees, one in Transmission Services as an electrical engineer and the other in Fish and Wildlife as an Environmental Specialist. The Tribal Affairs organization supported 10 scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 for Native American students.

BPA implements extensive environmental, fish, and wildlife mitigation and recovery efforts, particularly in the Columbia River Basin, which is in the Pacific Northwest region of North America, near BPA. This work is implemented by BPA's tribal partners under agreements known as the Columbia Basin Fish Accords. Direct funding to tribes from the BPA Fish and Wildlife program increased to \$107.5 million in 2012. Since 2004, BPA-funded work by tribes has treated over 10,000 acres of habitat and provided access to 930 miles of habitat for fish.

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)

- Identified Departmental activities that may have a disproportionately high adverse impact on human health or environmental effect on minority, low-income, and tribal populations. In 2012, several EISs were conducted for individual construction, upgrade, or renewable energy projects. There were no disproportionately high adverse impacts on human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, and tribal populations for these projects. WAPA continues to use NEPA criteria for identifying disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, and tribal populations. This activity is ongoing.
- Continued to provide technical assistance such as anemometers, wind/hydro study results, and Open Access Transmission Tariff (OATT) procedures to tribes. Provide technical assistance to tribes located within WAPA's service area on interconnection processes, OATT procedures, small and large generation issues, NEPA information,

cultural resources issues, permitting, and probable cost. WAPA hosted a series of tribal webinars dealing with developing renewable energy projects on tribal lands to help improve possibilities for tribal economic development.

- Conducted consultation with tribes and collect public input for proposed WAPA projects. In FY 2012, WAPA conducted over 50 public and 25 tribal meetings through the NEPA process. A section of each meeting is dedicated to identifying minority, low-income, and tribal populations, and receiving input on EJ concerns and improvements to DOE's EJ Strategy. As a regular course of business, WAPA participates in a number of meetings and workshops to identify other federal and private mechanisms for the agency to enhance research and data collection to facilitate and improve EJ activities.
- Continued to address EJ through a high standard NEPA process. For all projects, NEPA analysis addressed activities that integrate EJ with activities and processes related to human health and the environment. In 2012, several EISs were conducted for individual construction, upgrade, or renewable energy projects. There were no disproportionately high adverse impacts on human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, and tribal populations for these projects. NEPA is implemented in connection with agency projects across our 15-state service area. Under NEPA, EJ is addressed by identifying disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority, low-income, and tribal populations.

Chief Human Capital Officer (HC)

HC continued its partnership with LM in support of Environmental Justice Learning and Development Programs for the purpose of increasing EJ awareness across the Department as well as enhancing workforce competencies. HC will continue to provide a trusted advisor to LM for training and technical assistance programs by supporting the following LM/EJ initiatives: Environmental Justice Five-Year Implementation Plan; annual National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program; EJ Task Force; Online training programs; Interagency Working Group collaboration; technical support to EJ training module development for use by federal agencies, as directed by MOU signed by agency heads and CEQ.

DOE will continue to provide minority students opportunities to serve as interns in DOE offices and laboratories. The goal is to increase the number of minorities in the fields of environmental science and engineering, and the potential for a career at DOE.

The Department will continue to partner with university graduate and undergraduate programs. Students receive mentoring at DOE labs from scientists and environmental engineers, opportunities to apply practical research while earning school credits. DOE will also

continue to provide opportunities for university faculty and student interns to attend EJ community workshops and meetings.

Economic Impact and Diversity (ED)

- **Public Dissemination of Environmental Justice-related Initiatives:** ED distributed information about economic development opportunities and STEM education to minority, low-income, and tribal populations in 2012 through diversity.energy.gov.
- **Participation in DOE's Annual Fall Environmental Attorney's Training:** ED presented a session on the environmental and cultural protection provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples recently adopted by the United States at DOE's 2012 Annual Fall Environmental Law Attorney's Training at DOE headquarters. Attorneys across the complex were also able to participate via video teleconference.
- **The 6th Annual State of Environmental Justice in America Conference:** ED sponsored the April 3-5, 2012 Conference. Presentations included the Department's activities surrounding EJ and opportunities for Minority Serving Institutions to increase its dealings with the Department during the "Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Other Minority Serving Institutions Alternative and Renewable Energy and Environmental Justice Research Forum." ED participated in Title VI complaints panel discussion.
- **American Indian Research and Education Initiative (AIREI):** In 2012 ED, along with the Office of Science, funded AIREI which is a partnership between the Energy Department, the American Indian Higher Education Consortium and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society to bring science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) research and education funding to our nation's tribal colleges and universities and other U.S. universities around the country. This program funded student/faculty teams at six schools - three pairs of tribal colleges and mainstream universities - to bring energy projects to tribal land.
- **The Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program:** This program offers talented students summer internship positions with the U.S. Department of Energy and its national laboratories. Positions involve scientific research or a focus on policy, business, and government relations. Students receive an intensive 10-week assignment to develop professional skills and enhance their leadership capabilities. In 2012, 54 students participated in the Program.
- **Atlanta Universities Consortium (AUC) Sustainable Campus Community Initiative (ASCCI):** DOE's award to Clark Atlanta University with sub awards to Spelman College, Morehouse College, Santa Fe Community College, Guam Community College and Haskell Indian Nations University provides capacity building in the areas of alternative, renewable, and green energy technologies. ASCCI will groom a future generation of

energy conscious leaders by training and educating high school and college students through a solid curriculum in energy and science disciplines by addressing clean, green, alternative, and renewable energy technologies; and energy conservation and weatherization.

- **Scholarships:** In 2012, ED provided over \$300,000 in scholarship awards to students through various partnerships with non-profit organizations and universities including the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, the National Action Council on Minorities in Engineering, the University of Maryland- Baltimore County, Fisk University, and Spelman College.
- **Pre-College Programs:** ED supports pre-college STEM programs at Minority Serving Institutions including Hampton University and the University of New Mexico- Main Campus. The programs prepare high school students for college and stimulate their interest in STEM disciplines through hands-on enrichment activities. ED provided over \$100,000 in support for Pre-College STEM programs in 2012.

IV. Intergovernmental Partnerships

DOE is an active member and partner agency in the EJ IWG; DOE is also represented on the NEPA and Title VI subcommittees of the EJ IWG.

EJ IWG NEPA Committee:

Recognizing that NEPA provides an important opportunity to advance the consideration of EJ through meaningful engagement of minority, low-income, and tribal populations potentially impacted by federal actions, the EJ IWG formed the NEPA committee. The committee is co-chaired by the Department of Transportation and EPA and currently includes representatives from approximately 20 departments and agencies. The committee's purpose is to improve the efficiency of the NEPA process across the federal government to enhance the consideration of EJ through the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. Thus, the NEPA committee supports federal agency NEPA implementation to "focus federal attention on the environmental and human health conditions in minority communities and low-income communities with the goal of achieving EJ."

Since its inception in May 2012, the NEPA committee has taken several steps toward achieving its mission, such as:

- Commenced a series of inter-agency meetings to identify and promote best practices related to EJ and NEPA analyses, including those related to public engagement and the mitigation and monitoring of environmental and human health impacts.
- Commenced a series of cross-agency training on existing tools, methods, and agency-specific focal areas for further incorporating EJ analysis within the NEPA process. The training is designed to inform agencies of the current state of NEPA-related EJ efforts across the federal family.
- Commenced the development of a national NEPA training module on EJ. The national training module will provide federal officials, at all levels, with a foundational understanding of NEPA's role in addressing EJ issues.
- Created the EJ Resources Compendium, gathering in one place the publically available NEPA and EJ-related documents from federal agencies (e.g., regulations, guidance and circulars), providing hyperlinks to each document for quick access. The committee will publish the compilation online.

Federal Agency Training (LM):

DOE made a commitment to provide the content of its newly developed Online Environmental Justice Training model to the EJ IWG and federal EJ member agencies at no cost. The initiative

was accomplished through the National Training and Educational Resource (NTER) along with the support of some key DOE personnel. This model netted tangible cost savings, not only for the Department but to the EJ IWG members.

National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program (LM):

Held April 11–13, 2012 in Washington, DC. Leaders from various sectors engaged in 3 days of free exchange of new ideas and new approaches to EJ. This interactive training session featured voices of experience, research, discussions, and thought-provoking dialogue. The program format featured needs and challenges of communities, governments, municipalities, tribes, faith-based organizations, and others with an interest in environmental matters and EJ. The conference highlighted programs and collaborations that worked, as well as initiatives that were not successful. This interactive forum gave conference participants the opportunity to network with a variety of interests from diverse quarters. Conference participants saw examples of approaches that produced positive results through innovation and collaboration.

Superfund Job Training Initiative (SJTI)

The SJTI is a job readiness program funded by the EPA to provide free training for underserved citizens. A number of graduates received full-time employment after receiving their general equivalency diplomas. The SJTI is a partnership among EPA, DOE-Headquarters, DOE-SRS, Savannah River Nuclear Laboratory, Parsons, and the Imani Group (a community-based organization). The initiative began in December 2008 and will continue in 2013, 2014 and 2015, contingent on contractor's needs.

New York Power Authority – DOE EJ Partnership (LM)

The DOE EJ Program and Tennessee State University has entered into a partnership with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to address EJ awareness and concerns within the NYPA.

NYPA addresses community engagement activities in its EJ Plan by partnering with EJ communities and all stakeholders to strengthen environmental protection in low-income and minority communities. NYPA has partnered with community groups and organizations such as United Puerto Rican Organization of Sunset Park in Brooklyn, NY and the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo to address EJ and similar concerns in disenfranchised and affected areas collaborating in community projects and services. NYPA intends to continue and expand such efforts to promote and achieve EJ as part of its commitment to its neighboring communities.

DOE and TSU are involved in the training aspect of NYPA's Implementation Plan. DOE and TSU will provide EJ training to selected NYPA managers and employees, consistent with similar

training that was provided to DOE. This training will consist of an interactive classroom-type setting with PowerPoint presentations, as well as printed handouts.

Urban Waters Federal Partnership

DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) is the premier institution for renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development in the U.S. government. EERE works in three major areas: reducing our dependence on imported oil; finding ways to make cost-competitive electricity from renewable resources; and optimizing the efficiency of our homes, buildings and factories.

As the newest member of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, EERE will support clean energy deployment around urban waterways and will strengthen the relationship between DOE and local leaders in Partnership Communities.

EERE staff will provide tier one customer support to Urban Waters Federal Partnership communities to help them navigate EERE's programs and more easily access resources that can help them achieve their city's clean energy objectives. Since joining in October 2012, EERE staff has participated in the 2012 Urban Waters Federal Partnership National Training Workshop and conducted introductory phone calls with Partnership pilot communities.

There are six primary mechanisms in which EERE engages with local officials that will bring value to the Partnerships efforts.

- 1) *The Solution Center*: The Solution Center is the home for DOE's Technical Assistance Program (TAP), which provides state, local, and tribal officials with resources to advance successful, high impact, and long lasting clean energy policies, programs, and projects. (For more information see: [EERE Solution Center](#))
- 2) *Clean Cities*: Clean Cities advances the nation's economic, environmental, and energy security by supporting local actions to reduce petroleum consumption in transportation. (For more information see: [EERE Clean Cities](#))
- 3) *Solar Energy Resource Center*: SunShot, through the Solar Energy Resource Center, maintains a collection of resources on solar technologies and best practices to implement solar, both at the local level and with large-scale deployment. (For more information see: [EERE SunShot Initiative](#))

- 4) *Wind Powering America*: Wind energy and government intersect at many levels, including regulations, policy, and developable public lands. (For more information see: [EERE Wind Powering America](#))
- 5) *SEE Action*: The State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network (SEE Action) is a state and local-led effort facilitated by the DOE and the EPA, to take energy efficiency to scale and achieve all cost-effective energy efficiency by 2020. (For more information see: [State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network \[SEE Action\]](#))
- 6) *Better Buildings Challenge*: The Better Buildings Challenge supports commercial and industrial building owners by providing technical assistance and proven solutions to energy efficiency. (For more information see: [\[URL to be provided at a later date\]](#))

V. Summary and Conclusions

This is a report of accomplishments made in the fifth year of our current EJ Strategy and Five-Year Implementation Plan. The report contains a number of activities and collaborations conducted in 2012. The accomplishments throughout the Department demonstrate a strong commitment to EJ and clear proof that EJ is being integrated into the fabric of our programs, policies, and activities.

The DOE EJ Strategy is implemented through a collaborative partnership with both internal and external stakeholders. Our intent for the Department's EJ Program is that all DOE stakeholders continue to feel a positive degree of ownership in the Program and will play a key role to make achieving EJ for all a reality.