

Environmental Health Coalition Says Industry-Funded Referendum Signatures Gathered Using False Information

Community group questions integrity of petition signatures submitted by out-of-state corporate interest groups

SAN DIEGO, November 1, 2013 – Environmental Health Coalition (EHC), an organization that fights toxic pollution, says the corporations funding the Barrio Logan referendum efforts used egregious false claims to collect signatures. To document the lies that they fed to signature gathers, EHC [tagged its Youtube videos](#) with comments to emphasize the degree and quantity of misinformation shared by referendum signature gatherers. EHC also [posted a second blog](#) sharing more comments from residents who experienced similar situations.

"The signatures turned in today were collected amidst absurdly false statements made by multiple signature gatherers at multiple locations. They fooled registered voters into believing that jobs will be lost," said Takvorian. "These out-of-state, corporate polluters didn't get their way in the democratic process, so they are buying and lying their way into this community plan."

To confront industry spokesperson Chris Wahl who says it's an "isolated incident," Takvorian recorded [two videos of three signature gatherers sharing lies](#) handed down to them from the out-of-state corporations that are paying for the referendum. EHC also [posted two blogs](#) sharing comments and experiences from a growing number of residents who had similar encounters at a variety of stores throughout San Diego.

"Don't sign anymore petitions financed by industry interest groups," said Takvorian. "The industry doesn't care about our communities, and if they are successful with their campaign of lies, every community plan in San Diego will be subject to the same bullying tactics."

[Click here to read EHC's full press release about the Barrio Logan Community Plan approval.](#)

For more information on Environmental Health Coalition and its efforts in Barrio Logan, please visit www.environmentalhealth.org.

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COALITION: Founded in 1980, Environmental Health Coalition (EHC) builds grassroots campaigns to confront the unjust consequences of toxic pollution, discriminatory land use, and unsustainable energy policies. Visit us online at <http://www.environmentalhealth.org/>.