

## **EHC Selected for Statewide Climate Change Advisory Committee**

*Nicole Capretz represents underserved communities asking for a strong statewide climate change plan*

SAN DIEGO, August 5, 2013 – Environmental Health Coalition (EHC), an organization that fights toxic pollution, announces [Associate Director Nicole Capretz](#) as one of the only two San Diegans selected to be a member of the thirteen-person statewide [Environmental Justice Advisory Committee](#) (Advisory Committee). Susan Riggs Tinsky from the San Diego Housing Federation is the other San Diego representative.

The Advisory Committee advises [California's Air Resources Board](#) on how to best protect and prepare low-income communities of color from the impacts of climate change while reducing toxic pollution and protecting air quality. The Air Resources Board is developing an update to the state climate action plan to detail how California plans to reduce greenhouse gases and meet the state's 2050 emission goals.

Capretz, who leads EHC's [Green Energy/Green Jobs](#) effort, says she was selected for her strong background advocating for environmental policy and social justice with EHC and her experience as the Chair of the City of San Diego's Environmental and Economic Sustainability Task Force. "Climate change is the most serious looming public health crisis facing the state," says Capretz. "Low-income communities are most vulnerable to the changing climate, sea level rise, heat waves, rising costs from high water and energy bills and lack of access to healthcare. I'm proud to be in a place that raises our community's voices to decisionmakers."

Environmental Health Coalition envisions California's future powered by local [solar energy](#) replacing fossil fuels and toxic pollution, with special emphasis on installing clean infrastructure in underserved communities and creating [green jobs](#) for community members.

The [Advisory Committee's meetings](#) are open to the public and scheduled for today, August 5 – Tuesday, August 6 at the San Diego County Administration Center. The Committee's final report and recommendations will be presented to the Air Resources Board on developing the 2013 [Scoping Plan](#) Update.

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COALITION: Founded in 1980, Environmental Health Coalition builds grassroots campaigns to confront the unjust consequences of toxic pollution, discriminatory land use, and unsustainable energy policies. To learn more about Environmental Coalition and its fight against

toxic pollution in the San Diego/Tijuana region,  
visit [www.environmentalhealth.org](http://www.environmentalhealth.org).