

Toxinformer

Environmental Health Coalition

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Spring 2006

VICTORY!

no more lead in candies!



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The new "Protect Children from Lead in Candy Law" went into effect on January 1st, 2006. EHC wants to thank everyone who was part of this historic community victory. By signing a petition, calling or writing to your elected officials, participating in community action -- you made it possible.

We also want to recognize those store owners who voluntarily pulled the toxic treats off their store shelves and all of the "dulcerías" who graciously allowed us to film their stores.

Enormous thanks to media outlets KGTV/Channel 10 and Univision for covering this story and bringing the critical information to the public. EHC congratulates the excellent environmental health investigation conducted by the Orange County Register under the leadership of Jennifer McKim, which made international headlines.

To all who supported this effort by giving foundation grants and individual contributions: Thank you!

And to all of those that we could not name because we don't have enough space, you know who you are and you know that without you, this would not have been possible.

La nueva ley "Protejamos a los niños contra el plomo en los dulces" entro en efecto el 1 de enero del 2006. EHC desea agradecer a todos y cada uno que fueron parte de esta histórica victoria de la comunidad. Ya sea firmando una petición, llamando o escribiendo a sus funcionarios elegidos, o participando en la acción comunitaria--usted la hizo posible.

También deseamos reconocer a aquellos dueños de tiendas que voluntariamente quitaron los dulces tóxicos de sus estantes y a todas las dulcerías que amablemente nos permitieron filmar en sus tiendas.

Gracias enormes a los medios de comunicación especialmente a KGTV/Canal 10 y Univision por cubrir esta historia y traer importante información al público. EHC felicita la excelente investigación de la salud ambiental realizada por el Orange County Register, la cuál hizo titulares internacionales bajo la dirección de Jennifer McKim.

A todos aquellos que apoyaron este esfuerzo a través de donaciones, fundación y contribuciones individuales: ¡Gracias!

Y a todos aquellos que por no tener suficiente espacio nos es imposible nombrar, ustedes saben quiénes son, y ustedes saben que sin su ayuda, esta victoria no habría sido posible.

THANK YOU!/¡GRACIAS!

STAY INFORMED! Become a member of EHC today! **¡Manténgase informado! ¡Únase a EHC hoy mismo!**

Yes, I want to become a member of EHC. I am enclosing my tax-deductible membership contribution of:

Si, Deseo convertirme en miembro EHC. Envío mi contribución deducible de impuestos como miembro.

Name/Nombre: _____

Street/Calle: _____ City/Ciudad: _____

State/Estado: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: (W)/Teléfono: (T) _____ (H)/(C) _____

Email/Correo Electrónico: _____ @ _____

Check enclosed/
Cheque adjunto Please charge my/
Cargo a tarjeta de crédito Visa Mastercard

Exp.Date/
Fecha vencimiento _____

\$15 \$25 \$40 \$100 \$250 \$ _____ Other/Otra

Card No./Núm. Tarjeta _____

Signature/Firma _____

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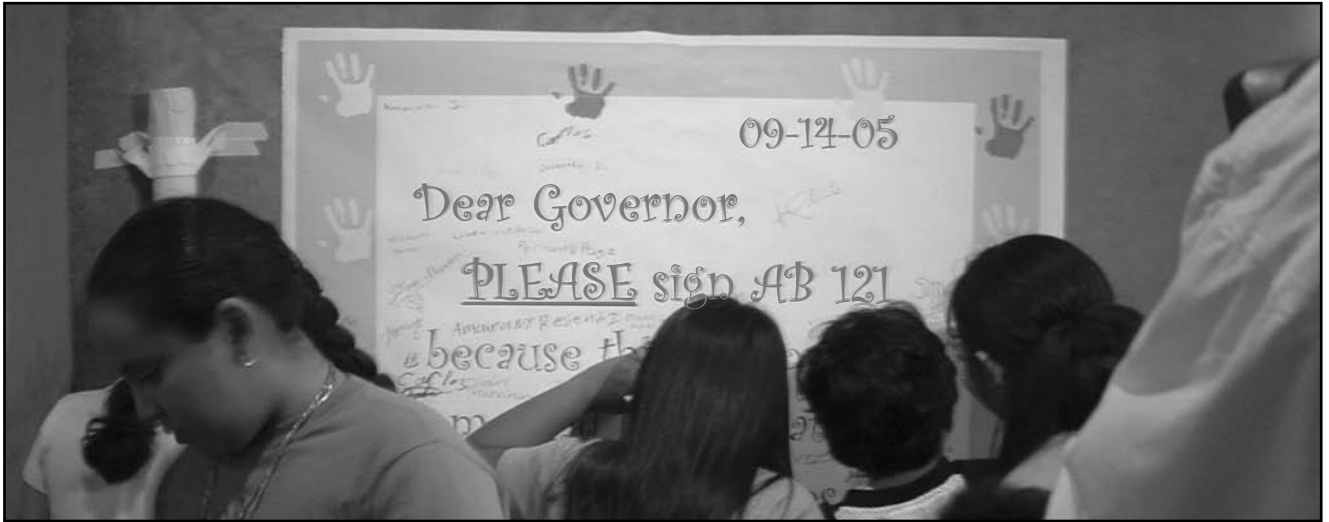
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Community Victory!

California, 1st in the Country to Make Lead in Candy Illegal

When the news reached the group of women gathered at an EHC community meeting, they were ecstatic. Many of them could not believe it. After three years of tireless work they now would have the pleasure of saying: We did it! This was their day of celebration.

On October 7, 2005, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law Assembly Bill 121, authored by Assemblyman Juan Vargas, from San Diego. Born from a concern of Environmental Health Coalition members, this bill establishes a comprehensive statewide system to identify, test, and remove lead-contaminated candy from store shelves. It establishes a zero tolerance for lead except for that which is naturally

occurring. This 'naturally occurring' standard will be established early this year.

Maria Radilla, an EHC leader and community health promoter, or *promotora*, says: "I'm very happy that, after three long years, justice will finally be done to protect our children from eating this poison."

MANY PEOPLE, ONE HUGE VICTORY!

For three years, EHC led the fight to get lead-contaminated candies off store shelves in California to protect the health of all children. It would not have been possible without the involvement of hundreds of people, organizations, foundations, and elected officials that supported our efforts; or without the leadership of legislators like Assemblymember Juan Vargas, Senators Joseph

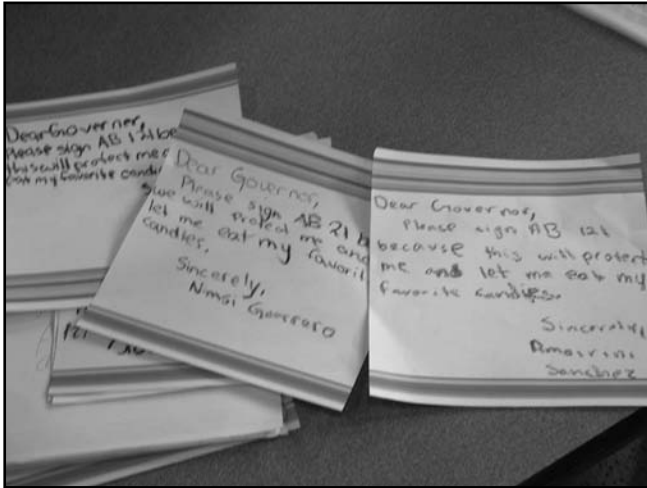
Dunn and Deborah Ortiz and former Assemblymember Marco Firebaugh.

In a coordinated statewide effort, a strong coalition of grassroots environmental justice, environmental and health organizations came together with community residents to make this common sense rule a reality. The media played a big role in educating the public and keeping the issue in the news. Enormous thanks go to *The Orange County Register* for its in-depth investigations and multipart stories in English and Spanish.

But this victory belongs mainly to one group: the EHC promotoras. This is their victory.

The promotoras worked countless hours alongside

“ I am very happy that after three long years, justice will finally be done to protect our children from eating this poison.”



The Governor received hundreds of notes from California children.

EHC staff. From collecting Mexican candies at stores in their neighborhoods to becoming trained educators about the dangers of lead in these candies to gathering petition signatures to organizing rallies with children and their parents, they made this victory happen!

FROM LOCAL ACTION TO NATIONAL AWARENESS

News of EHC's efforts to eliminate the problem of lead in candy spread quickly; not only in Southern California but everywhere

the suspect treats are sold. EHC has been sharing our experiences and tactics with other agencies, organizations and local governments. So far, New Mexico, Baltimore and New York are working on similar legislation.

But ultimately it all goes back to the community and how much they wanted this law. The effort that they put into achieving this law has been an inspiration to many. It is an example of what true community power can achieve and we

all would like it to serve as a model for other communities around the country.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Now that the law has passed and implementation is beginning we cannot rest on our laurels.

"It's unfortunate that we needed a law to protect children's health" comments Maria Coronel, a promotora, but she is very optimistic about the future: "Soon our children will be able to enjoy some of their favorite candy without worrying that lead is in them."

Currently the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) within the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal-EPA) is conducting the necessary scientific research in order to establish the "naturally-occurring" standard and processes to be followed to determine safe candies. Further down the road, those candies found to be safe will be widely published and be available to the public, parents, schools, candy warehouses, retailers, and distributors throughout the State. And once again the promotoras will go back to the stores, now bringing good news.

The success reflected by this important win at the state level highlights the core concepts of EHC and our mission: that justice and social change is achieved when empowered communities work together towards one goal.

“Soon our children will be able to enjoy some of their favorite candy without worrying that lead is in them.”

The implementation phase of the new law has just started. We advise you not to consume the candies listed in EHC's People's Health Advisory Available on EHC's website. Please look at that advisory on our website or call us for a list of lead-contaminated candies. Luz Palomino or Leticia Ayala at 619-474-0220

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The media played an essential role in disseminating the dangers of lead.

EHC Communities Reject the Governor's Agenda

Your Vote Is Your Voice!

We said it in November 2004 as we looked at the results of that election: "Community power is growing, and in future elections it will be an even stronger force."

Our prediction came true on November 8, 2005. EHC's Voter Empowerment efforts defeated an agenda that had nothing for the community and everything for the special interests of Governor Schwarzenegger. Every one of the propositions supported by the Governor was defeated.

Georgette Gomez, EHC community organizer,

worked with the successful EHC Voter Empowerment team: "One of the reasons for getting involved in the 2005 Special Election was because the voices of our communities are often ignored. It was crucial that our community's voice be heard loud and clear," she said. All elections are important, but "we were facing a number of horrible propositions that would have a significant effect in the quality of life and in the health of our people," she added.

EHC focused on 11 precincts, all communities where we have been deeply involved for many years, including the neighborhoods

Voter Empowerment Project's Key outcomes

- 79% of all voters contacted were identified as supporters of EHC campaigns and ballot issues. This was done via door knocking and phone calling.
- 55% of EHC identified voters voted on November 8
- 666 community residents signed support petitions for the Barrio Logan Vision or the Children's Right to Lead Safe Housing Ordinance, two critical EHC issues that are currently at the forefront of our efforts.

of Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights and Grant Hill, with approximately 3100 voters.

VOTER TURNOUT AND EDUCATION

The challenges around this election started the moment it was official. There were only a few months to organize and coordinate our efforts on eight ballot propositions and millions of dollars were being raised to sway voters. By the time the elections were over, nearly \$304 million had been spent, making it the most expensive election in California's history.

EHC took a different approach. EHC leaders and staff knocked on every registered voter's door in the target precincts and engaged them in discussions about local issues and the relevance of the state propositions.

To prepare our leaders, EHC conducted a full-day voter empowerment and community organizing training that promoted the integration of key EHC campaign issues into the voter contacts. Maria Robles, an EHC leader, commented: "it gave me the necessary information and it showed



EHC's Voter Information Doorhanger delivered the message to voters.

me how to share it." For her it was a very personal experience: "I wanted to get involved so that I could inform my community about what propositions had the potential of helping us and which ones could harm us." And when presented with the possibility of being part of it once more, she quickly replied: "I truly enjoyed being out there, talking to people. Right there, I could see that when people have the right information and they see



I truly enjoyed being out there, talking to people.

Right there, I could see that when people have the right information and they see that you care, they also want to go out and vote.



that you care, they also want to go out and vote. This made me want to be more active in these efforts."

Many voters expressed frustration at the lack of information they had received and were grateful for the opportunity to talk with EHC about the critical issues they were asked to decide on. They also praised the EHC's Voter Guide for providing easy to understand information.

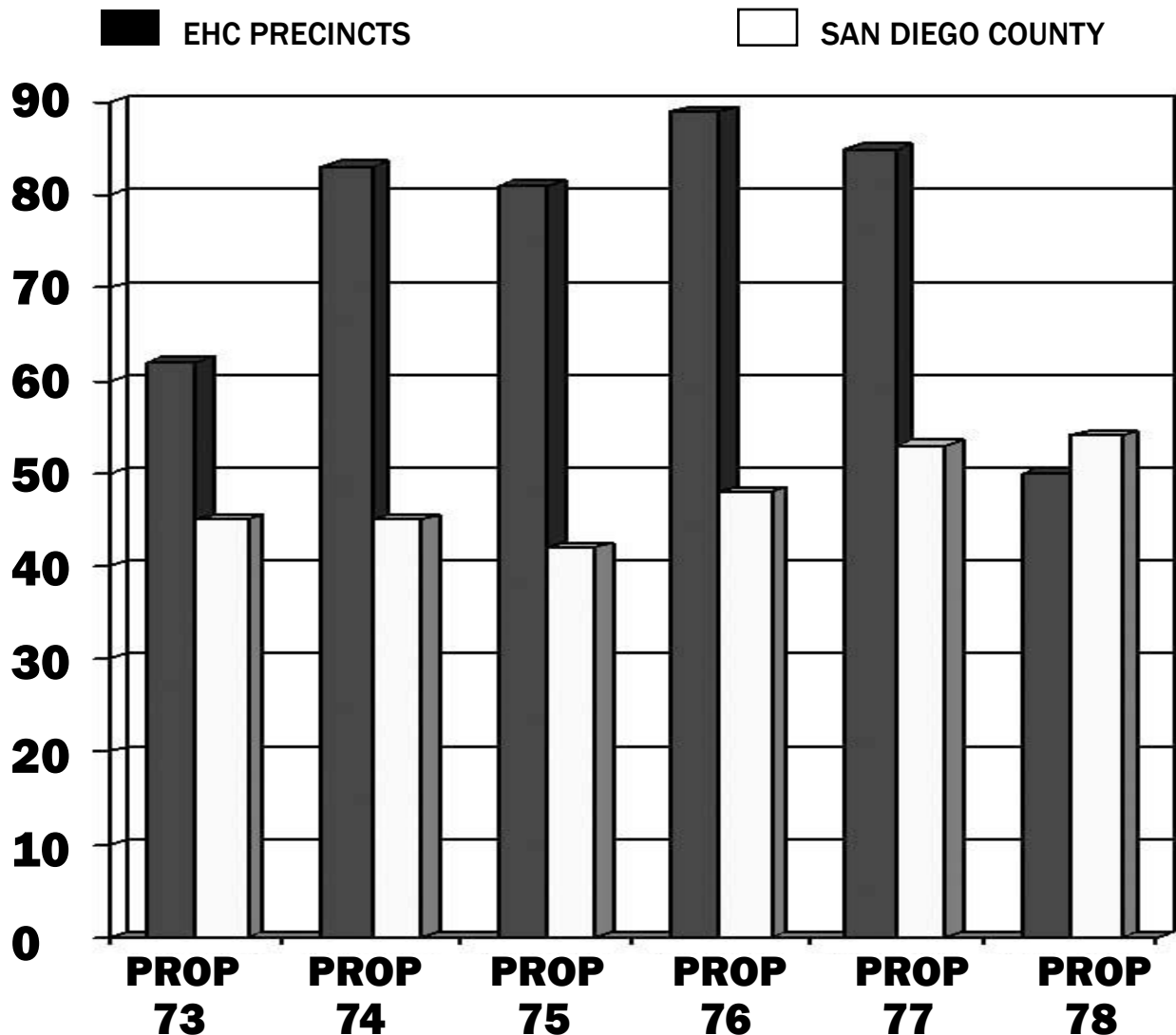


CHART 1. VOTERS IN EHC PRECINCTS DEFEATED THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSITIONS BY A WIDE MARGIN.

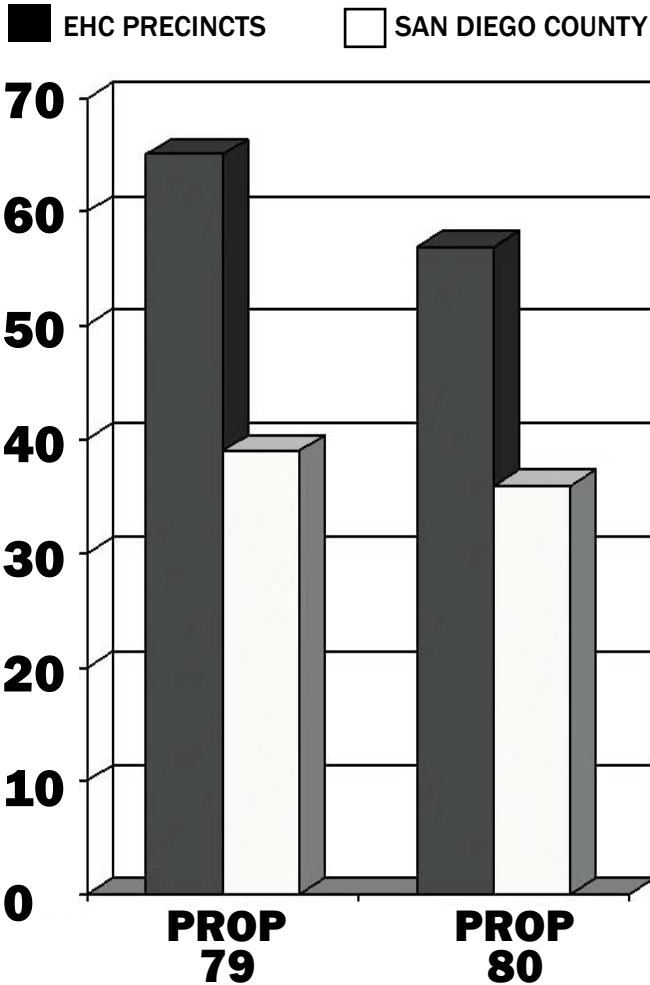


CHART 2. ALTHOUGH DEFEATED STATEWIDE, THESE TWO PROPOSITIONS RECEIVED OVERWHELMING SUPPORT IN EHC PRECINCTS.

Voter turnout for special elections is always lower than for regular elections, but voter turnout in EHC precincts declined only 7 points between the 2004 presidential and the 2005 special elections, compared to a 23 point decline in the county.

THE RESULTS

The thunderous success of the results indicates that EHC's work was very effective.

Voters in the target precincts overwhelmingly defeated the 6 propositions

on the Schwarzenegger agenda. Furthermore, the margin of defeat reaffirms the strong values that our communities share: a support for health care for all, public health and environmental protection, and truly representative government.

EHC urged voters to vote NO on six of the eight propositions on the ballot: 73, 74, 75, 76, 77 and 78. These measures were rejected statewide, but as seen in Chart 1, the percent of NO votes in EHC precincts

was generally much larger.

But perhaps more revealing to effectiveness of this project, were the results on the remaining two propositions. EHC urged a YES vote on 79 and 80. Ultimately defeated statewide, props 79 and 80 received a wide margin of success in EHC's target precincts (65 & 57% respectively). Despite the fact that these propositions received very little media or campaign attention, EHC's message for a yes vote clearly resonated with voters, as illustrated in Chart 2.

With every election we validate our belief that building electoral power is critical to winning environmental and social justice. Once again we have proved that, together...Sí Se Puede!

“One of the reasons for getting involved in the 2005 Special Election was because the voices of our communities are often ignored. It was crucial that our community's voice be heard loud and clear.”

2005 Special Election Propositions

Prop 73
Access to health care for minors

Prop 74
Teachers tenure

Prop 75
Union dues

Prop 76
State budget

Prop 77
Redistricting

Prop 78
Limiting prescription drug access

Prop 79
Expanding prescription drug access

Prop 80
Energy regulation

For more detailed information on each proposition, see Toxinformer, October 2005, or go to the EHC website.

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Chula Vista Leads the State in Adoption of Comprehensive EJ Policies

EHC Recognizes Historic Efforts with Difference Maker Award

The City of Chula Vista made history on December 13, 2005. In a landmark vote by the City Council, Chula Vista adopted the first General Plan Update (GPU) in the County that includes specific and comprehensive policies that promote environmental justice. Chula Vista is among the earliest in the state to

include such policies in their GPU. A General Plan is a document that cities and counties adopt for a 20 year period to guide development within their jurisdictions.

Chula Vista's GPU, as adopted, finds that "The promotion of environmental justice on a local level may be accomplished through

a broad range of actions taken on various fronts, including through land use planning and policies at the General Plan level." Furthermore it provides for the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and income levels with regard to development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of

environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Expressing his satisfaction with the new GPU, Chula Vista Mayor, Stephen Padilla commented: "I'm very proud that our City is the first in the County to adopt significant environmental justice policies in our General Plan."

Specific policies rooted in Environmental Justice Objectives as adopted by the GPU

- Avoid siting industrial facilities and uses that pose a significant hazard to human health and in proximity to schools or residential dwellings.
- Site industries in a way that minimizes the potential impacts of poor air quality on homes, schools, hospitals, and other land uses where people congregate.
- Build new schools and residential dwellings with sufficient separation and buffering from industrial facilities and uses that pose a significant hazard to human health and safety.
- Avoid siting new or re-powered energy generation facilities and other major toxic air emitters within 1,000 feet of a sensitive receiver, or the placement of a sensitive receiver within 1,000 feet of a major toxic emitter.
- Provide public outreach efforts and public involvement opportunities for residents affected by proposed City projects.
- Plan for equitable development of facilities and... promote more livable communities by expanding opportunities for transit-oriented development.

Other important provisions advocated by EHC adopted in the GPU

- Pursue 40% city-wide electricity supply from clean renewable sources by 2017.
- Requires additional environmental analysis for any residential housing sited within 500 feet of a high-traffic freeway.
- Recognizes the need to "Promote social, regional and economic cohesion and build sustainable cross-border economic development."

EHC's work at the local and state level paved the way for the recognition of the need for environmental justice policies. Since the early 1990's EHC has promoted good land use planning that ensures separation of industrial and mobile sources of pollution from homes, schools and other sensitive uses. This work led to the California Air Resources Board Air Quality and Land Use Guidance, to the Cal EPA Environmental Justice Policy Recommendations on Land Use, and to language included in the 2005 Regional Comprehensive Plan from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), which served as the basis for the current language in the Chula Vista GPU.

Please contact Laura Hunter if you are interested in details on the implementation of these policies. 619-474-0220

@ laurah@environmentalhealth.org

WWW.ENVIRONMENTALHEALTH.ORG

“Our City is the first in the County to adopt significant environmental justice policies in our General Plan.”

But the involvement of EHC leaders at a local level was essential in incorporating that language in the GPU. EHC leaders Theresa Acerro and Susan Fuller participated in the Open Space, Environment, and Sustainability subcommittee of the General Plan.

EHC recognized the City of Chula Vista by presenting it with a “Difference Maker” award on February 14, 2006. In accepting the award, Mayor Padilla commented, “I am absolutely committed to environmental justice and protective planning policies in order to ensure that we don’t recreate the health problems that bad planning has caused in the past. Our children are our

most precious asset and our City is going to do what is necessary to protect them.”

As San Diego is in the midst of its own planning

process, it is the perfect timing for our elected officials to step up to the plate and follow Chula Vista’s example by implementing similar policies.



Beatriz Barraza, President of the Board of Directors, presents the Difference Maker Award to Chula Vista Mayor Stephen Padilla as Board member Clarice Gaylord and EHC Executive Director Diane Takvorian look on.



Metales Y Derivados Update

Landmark Bi-national Toxic Site Cleanup Project Advances

On June 24, 2004, Environmental Health Coalition (EHC) and its Tijuana affiliate, the Colectivo Chilpancingo Pro Justicia Ambiental, joined Mexico’s top environmental minister, the governor of Baja California, and the mayor of Tijuana in finalizing an agreement for comprehensive cleanup of Metales y Derivados, a toxic site that has plagued Colonia Chilpancingo residents for more than a decade. The landmark cleanup is on schedule.

However, reassessment of pollution levels is necessary due to a February 8th fire at the site. This raises new and serious health concerns in the neighborhood. “What burned up was highly toxic material,” said Amelia Simpson, Director of EHC’s Border Environmental Justice Campaign. “We are more concerned than ever about a quick resolution to the remediation plan, site security, and the dangers of exposure in the adjacent community.” EHC and the Colectivo have

called for health care to be provided for workers and colonia residents as well as air quality assessment that documents the dangers caused by immediate exposure to smoke from the fire and from residual conditions.

Another fire, at approximately the same time, broke out in a nearby squatters’ settlement of maquiladora workers and their families, completely destroying an estimated 50 dwellings made of scraps of wood, plastic, cardboard

and other materials. Residents formed a bucket brigade and attempted to put out the fire by scooping water from the highly contaminated Río Alamar.

“On top of the long-term exposure to lead and other toxics from Metales y Derivados with which the entire adjacent community has lived for over ten years, now they’re facing even greater dangers,” declared Magdalena Cerda, EHC Community Organizer. “The fire makes the problem of Metales y Derivados worse.

These two fires underline the deep injustice that NAFTA and corporate globalization brought to this community.”

EHC and the Colectivo have been calling for an end to NAFTA-style free trade agreements that benefit manufacturing companies or maquiladoras, but fail to

hold them responsible when they pollute or compel them to provide workers with living wages and basic services such as housing, electricity, running water and sewage. Workers and their families have no choice but to live in dangerous conditions.

At a meeting of the Metales y Derivados

Technical Workgroup in December 2005, a preliminary analysis of the Metales y Derivados sampling showed high levels of lead inside the perimeter of the site. It is extremely important that community residents and visitors avoid entering the site, especially following the fire. The final

cleanup plan is expected to be ready by June 2006. Allocation of resources is a critical problem, pointing to the urgency of enacting a Superfund-type program in Mexico in order to ensure that toxic sites such as Metales y Derivados are cleaned up without delay.

Achievements to date in the Metales Y Derivados remediation project:

- 1,936 tons of above-ground hazardous waste, considered the most dangerous at the site, were removed between June 2004 and September 2005.
- 50 soil samples were subsequently taken from in and around the site for analysis and use in planning the final cleanup.
- Representatives of EHC, the Colectivo, government officials from Mexico's SEMARNAT, Profepa, and State Ecología Departments and from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have conducted regular meetings of the Metales y Derivados Technical Workgroup to plan and monitor the cleanup process.
- The archive documenting this landmark, bi-national, community-driven project includes manifests for all wastes removed during the cleanup, as a guarantee of accountability to the community.

TRADE AGREEMENTS: How do they affect me?

Trade agreements like NAFTA can bring a polluter to your neighborhood but cannot make the polluter clean up its act. That's what happened in Colonia Chilpancingo with Metales y Derivados. Trade Agreements are extending their reach deeper and deeper into our lives. For example, California laws establishing labor and environmental standards can potentially be challenged under international trade agreements as unfair barriers to trade. This fall, Governor Schwarzenegger disappointingly vetoed Senate Bill 348 (Figueroa). SB 348 would have required the approval of both the Legislature and the Governor before California could be bound by provisions of international trade. As it stands, the Governor alone has the power to commit Californians to regulations that can nullify our state laws.

State laws that could be potentially challenged under trade agreements include:

- California's vehicle pollution emissions regulations, recycled content procurement requirements for paper and other products, standards for renewable energy purchasing
- California's food and product labeling laws aimed at informing consumers and protecting public health
- California's laws prohibiting state purchases from companies that use sweatshop labor, policies that provide preferences for small businesses in contract bidding, and
- The "Buy California Grown" program

Please contact Amelia Simpson or Jorge Osuna if you are interested in more information. 619-474-0220

Waiting to Inhale in National City...But not for long.

In December 2003 Dr. Cindy Waters, then principal of Kimball Elementary, testified at the City Council of National City that her student body was experiencing a drastic increase in diagnosed asthma. School records showed that in 2003 fifty students had been diagnosed with this debilitating disease. Her testimony sparked a response from the Council that, to this day, is bringing about changes. Soon after the meeting, the National City Asthma Committee (NCAC) was formed, co-chaired by Council members Frank Parra and Luis Natividad.

The NCAC researched the issue and determined that National City children are suffering from asthma rates that are twice that of the state rate. As reflected in EHC's survey of Old Town National City residents (see Toxinformer, Summer 2005) one of the primary factors contributing to the asthma rate is a poor history of planning that has resulted in the co-location of polluting industrial uses and homes. In the Old

Town neighborhood there are 130 businesses mixed in with 200 homes; 20 of those businesses are autobody and paint shops which are responsible for close to 70% of the disease-causing emissions released into the neighborhood.

The Land Use Subcommittee of the NCAC tackled the problem of relocating these autobody shops. Under the leadership of Councilmember Parra, EHC and other members of the Subcommittee developed two long-term strategies for 'cleaning up' the air in Old Town and throughout National City, both consistent with the views expressed by the community in the survey.

STRATEGIES FOR CLEANUP

The first strategy is a city wide ordinance that would force relocation of "non-compliant" businesses over a specified period of time. Better known as the amortization ordinance, it insures that polluting businesses are not allowed to continue polluting in residential

neighborhoods forever.

Secondly, "good" businesses need to be given the opportunity to stay in the City, away from residential areas. The NCAC is exploring opportunities to construct an industrial park where polluting businesses can re-locate and operate without impacting peoples' health.

These strategies have been extremely well received by the community and by the business sector. The National City Chamber of Commerce has officially endorsed industrial relocation.

The amortization ordinance is ready to go to the full City Council. If passed, the task then becomes finding a relocation site for the industrial park. The sites being considered for this park are all located in various areas of National City that are currently zoned for industrial uses.

EHC is proud to work with the other members of the NCAC to eliminate asthma in National City. The group

working to end the pattern of injustice which has tainted National City's air for decades, includes St. Anthony's Organizing Ministry, Kimball Elementary, Paradise Valley Hospital, American Lung Association, and the National City Building and Safety Department among others.

Please look to our website to keep informed about the process and the next steps. Because in National City, we are ready to breath...again.

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[@tonyl@environmentalhealth.org](mailto:tonyl@environmentalhealth.org)



Annual Report - 2005 - Reporte Anual

Message from the Executive Director

2005 was a bumpy year in San Diego. The resignation of two San Diego City council members and the Mayor hampered Environmental Health Coalition's efforts to improve the quality of life for those most at risk from toxic pollution. The Children's Right to Lead-Safe Housing Ordinance and a new community plan for Barrio Logan were both put on hold.

Still, by empowering our leaders and working in local and statewide coalitions, EHC accomplished a great deal in 2005. The intertwining of two critical courses of action -- grassroots organizing and policy advocacy -- into a cohesive strategy is the basis for our success.

We look forward to continuing to build the progressive movement in San Diego in 2006, and remain steadfast in our commitment to environmental and social justice.

Diane Takovian

Who Is EHC?

Environmental Health Coalition is dedicated to environmental and social justice. We believe that justice is achieved when empowered communities act together to make social change. We organize and advocate to protect public health and the environment threatened by toxic pollution. EHC supports efforts that create a just society and which foster a healthy and sustainable quality of life.

EHC works in communities that are most adversely affected by toxic pollution and have traditionally been disenfranchised. These include the Logan area in San Diego, the western sections of National City and Chula Vista, and Colonia Chilpancingo in Tijuana. Our main campaigns are:

- The **Border Environmental Justice Campaign** works to reduce toxic pollution caused by maquiladora industries in Tijuana and to promote fair trade and globalization for justice.
- The **Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning** works to eliminate sources of lead exposure to protect children's health.
- The **Clean Bay Campaign** works to cleanup, restore and protect San Diego Bay and bay tidelands from industrial and Naval polluters and development activities.
- The **Toxic-Free Neighborhoods Campaign** organizes in communities of color to advocate for the prevention of toxic pollution from industrial and mobile sources.

Mensaje de la Directora Ejecutiva

2005 fue un año agitado en San Diego. La renuncia de dos miembros de la Asamblea de San Diego y del alcalde, obstruyeron los esfuerzos de la Coalición de Salud Ambiental por mejorar la calidad de vida de aquellos que están en mayor riesgo debido a la contaminación tóxica. La Ordenanza del Derecho de los Niños a una Vivienda Libre de Plomo y un nuevo plan comunitario para Barrio Logan fueron puestos en espera.

Aún así, al empoderar a nuestros líderes y trabajar en coaliciones a nivel local y estatal, EHC logró un gran avance en 2005. El entrelazamiento de dos importantes cursos de acción --la organización de base y Abogacía de política -- en una sola estrategia cohesiva, ha sido la base de nuestro éxito.

Nos complace poder continuar con la construcción del movimiento progresista en San Diego en el 2006, y permanecemos firmes en nuestro compromiso con la justicia social y ambiental.

¿Quién es EHC?

La Coalición de Salud Ambiental esta dedicada a la justicia ambiental y social. Creemos que la justicia se logra cuando las comunidades empoderadas actúan unidas para lograr el cambio social. Nos organizamos para abogar por la protección de la salud pública y el ambiente que está amenazados por la contaminación toxica. EHC apoya los esfuerzos que crean una sociedad justa y que fomenten una calidad de vida sana y sustentable.

EHC trabaja en comunidades mas adversamente afectadas por la contaminación tóxica y que tradicionalmente han estado desconectadas del proceso publico. Estas incluyen el área Logan en San Diego, las secciones oeste de National City y Chula Vista y la colonia Chilpancingo en Tijuana. Nuestras principales campañas son:

- La **Campaña Fronteriza Para la Justicia Ambiental** trabaja para reducir la contaminación tóxica causada por la industria maquiladora en Tijuana y para promover el comercio justo y la globalización para la justicia.
- La **Campaña para Eliminar el Envenenamiento por Plomo en los Niños** trabaja para eliminar la exposición a las fuentes de plomo para proteger la salud de los niños.
- La **Campaña para una Bahía Limpia** trabaja para limpiar, restaurar y proteger la Bahía de San Diego y las marismas de los contaminadores industriales y navales así como de actividades de urbanización.
- La **Campaña para Barrios Libres de Tóxicos** organiza comunidades de color para abogar por la prevención de contaminación tóxica proveniente de fuentes industriales y móviles.

Annual Report - 2005 - Reporte Anual

What did EHC achieve in 2005?

By building a base of empowered communities, EHC achieved tangible and positive changes that improved the quality of life for all residents and that protected the environment. In 2005 EHC:

Eliminated Toxic Hazards

- **1,936 tons of the most hazardous wastes were removed** from the Metales y Derivados site.
- Working with other partners, **made 130 housing units lead-safe in San Diego and National City** and helped
- **secure \$10 million of new federal funds** to make San Diego and National City housing free of lead and other environmental hazards.
- **Diesel emission reductions** continued in Barrio Logan when, in April 2005, the San Diego City adopted a resolution prohibiting diesel trucks from driving on its residential streets and main thoroughfare.



Promoted Environmental Justice

As a result of EHC leadership, organizing and advocacy:

- **Chula Vista** adopted the first General Plan Update in the County that includes specific and **comprehensive policies that promote environmental justice.**
- **California** passed the first state law to ban the sale of lead-contaminated candies. The **"Protect Children from Lead in Candy Law,"** establishes a comprehensive statewide system to identify, test, and remove lead-contaminated candy from store shelves.
- The **California Air Resources Board** adopted the **"Air Quality and Land Use Handbook,"** which recommends the separation of industrial facilities and residences or other sensitive land uses, such as schools, and hospitals.
- All four Congressional **swing votes from California,** including Representative Susan Davis, **voted against CAFTA.** Unfortunately, the trade measure passed with 2 votes on July 28, 2005.

Empowered Leaders and Residents

- Over 1000 residents, 16 community organizations and 28 businesses **endorsed The Barrio Logan Vision.**
- Voters in the EHC precincts **overwhelmingly defeated Governor Schwarzenegger's special interest agenda** in the November election.
- 50 EHC leaders completed the first three sessions of **Salud Ambiental, Líderes Tomando Acción (Environmental Health, Leaders Taking Action.)**
- **Community-based, activist research** completed in 2005 includes the **Survey of Fishers on Piers in San Diego Bay,** which will be used to advocate for the cleanup of contaminated sediments, and **Reclaiming Old Town, National City,** a survey to guide community planning. A community health survey and water testing are underway in Colonia Chilpancingo.



¿Qué logró EHC en 2005?

Al construir una base de comunidades empoderadas, EHC logró cambios tangibles y positivos que mejoraron la calidad de vida para todos los residentes y que protegieron el ambiente. En 2005 EHC:

Eliminó Riesgos Tóxicos

- **1,936 toneladas de los más peligrosos desperdicios fueron removidos** del sitio de Metales y Derivados.
- Trabajando con otros grupos, **hizo 130 unidades de vivienda libres de plomo en San Diego y National City** y ayudó a
- **Asegurar \$10 millones de fondos federales nuevos** para convertir las viviendas de San Diego y National City en libres de plomo y de otros riesgos ambientales.
 - Las **reducciones de emisiones de Diesel** continuaron en Barrio Logan ya que, en Abril de 2005 la Ciudad de San Diego adoptó una resolución prohibiendo a los camiones de diesel circular por sus calles residenciales y principales avenidas de paso.

Promovió la Justicia Ambiental

Como resultado del liderazgo, organización y apoyo de EHC:

- **Chula Vista** adoptó la primera Actualización del Plan General en el condado, que incluye **amplias políticas específicas que promueven la justicia ambiental.**
- **California** aprobó la primera ley estatal que prohíbe la venta de dulces contaminados por plomo. La **"Ley que Protege a los Niños del Plomo en los Dulces"** establece un sistema exhaustivo a nivel estatal para identificar, probar, y retirar dulces contaminados con plomo de los estantes de las tiendas.
- El **Consejo de Recursos Atmosféricos de California** adoptó el **"Manual de Calidad del Aire y Uso del Suelo,"** que recomienda la separación de instalaciones industriales y residenciales y de otros tipos de usos de suelo sensibles, como escuelas y hospitales.
- Todos los cuatro **votos congresionales indecisos** de California, incluyendo a la Representante Susan Davis **votaron en contra del CAFTA.** Desafortunadamente, el tratado comercial fue aprobado por 2 votos el 28 de Julio de 2005.

Líderes y Residentes Empoderados

- Más de 1000 residentes, 16 organizaciones comunitarias y 28 negocios **firmaron La Visión para Barrio Logan.**
- Los Votantes en los precintos de EHC **derrotaron abrumadoramente la agenda de intereses especiales del Gobernador Schwarzenegger** en la elección de Noviembre.
- 50 líderes de EHC completaron las primeras tres sesiones de

Salud Ambiental, Líderes Tomando Acción.

- **Investigación de activistas con base en la comunidad** completada en 2005 incluye la **Encuesta de Pescadores en los Muelles de San Diego,** que será usadas para conseguir apoyo para la limpieza de sedimentos contaminados y **Reclamando Old Town, National City,** una encuesta

para orientar la planeación de comunidades. Una encuesta de salud y pruebas al agua están llevándose a cabo en la Colonia Chilpancingo

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What does EHC hope to achieve in 2006?

Eliminar Toxic Hazards

- Secure adequate funding for the completion of **Metales y Derivados** cleanup. The community will continue to pressure the government to come up with the funding needed to complete the clean up.
- Win removal of the **South Bay Power Plant** and replace it with renewable energy options.
- Win passage of the **Children's Right to Lead-Safe Housing Ordinance** by the San Diego Council, creating an effective way to eliminate lead hazards in all of San Diego.
- Gain approval by the Regional Water Quality Control Board for protective cleanup levels and order the shipyards and Navy to remove **toxic sediments in San Diego Bay** to protect the fisheries and those who eat the fish.
- Eliminate polluting businesses in **Old Town National City** through passage of an 'amortization law' and construction of a new industrial park.



Prevent Future Environmental Injustice

- Work in coalition with the California Environmental Justice Working Group and other allies to **gain adoption of cumulative impacts standards** to guide all California Environmental Protection Agency permitting processes.
- Build the **progressive environmental, economic and social justice movement** in California by empowering voters locally and participating in the California Alliance.
- **Defeat all NAFTA-like free trade agreements** that put corporate greed above the protection of human rights, the environment and democracy.

Empower Leaders and Residents

- EHC leaders will advocate for new **community and redevelopment plans for Barrio Logan, Old Town National City, and the Chula Vista Bayfront** that recognize the relationship between land use and environmental health, that preserve the community character and that promote fair housing.
- Continue to build the capacity of EHC leaders through **Salud Ambiental, Líderes Tomando Acción (Environmental Health, Leaders Taking Action)**.
- **Empowered voters** will join EHC and other progressives to win local and state agendas for justice.
- Build a new generation of environmental justice activists through the **EHC Youth Apprenticeship Program**.



¿Qué espera lograr EHC en 2006?

Eliminar Riesgos Tóxicos

- Asegurar fondos suficientes para terminar la limpieza del sitio de **Metales y Derivados**. La comunidad continuará presionando al gobierno para que obtenga el dinero necesario para completar la limpieza.
- Lograr el retiro de la **Planta de Energía Eléctrica South Bay** y su reemplazo con opciones de energía renovable.
- Lograr la aprobación de la **Ordenanza del Derecho de los Niños a una Vivienda Libre de Plomo**, por la Asamblea de San Diego, creando un medio eficaz para eliminar los riesgos de plomo en todo San Diego.
 - Lograr la aprobación por el Consejo Regional de Control de Calidad del Agua para que existan niveles de limpieza de protección y que se ordene a los astilleros y a la Marina retirar los **sedimentos tóxicos en la Bahía de San Diego** para proteger a los criaderos de peces y a los que consumen el pescado.
- Eliminar negocios contaminantes en **Old Town, National City** a través de la aprobación de una 'ley de amortización' y la construcción de un nuevo parque industrial.

Prevenir Futuras Injusticias Ambientales

- Trabajar en coalición con el Grupo de Trabajo de Justicia Ambiental de California y otros aliados para **lograr la adopción de estándares de impactos acumulativos** que guíen todos los procesos para permisos de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de California.
- Construir el **movimiento progresista de justicia ambiental, económica y social** en California empoderando a los votantes locales y participando en la Alianza California.
- **Derrotar a todos los tratados de libre comercio tipo NAFTA** que colocan la codicia corporativa por encima de la protección de los derechos humanos, el medio ambiente y la democracia.

Empoderar a Líderes y Residentes

- Los líderes de EHC apoyarán nuevos **planes comunitarios y de renovación para Barrio Logan, Old Town National City, y la bahía de Chula Vista** que reconozcan la relación entre uso de suelo y salud ambiental, que preserven el carácter de la comunidad y que promuevan vivienda justa.
- Continuar construyendo la capacidad de los líderes de EHC a través de **Salud Ambiental, Líderes Tomando Acción**.
- **Los votantes empoderados** se unirán a EHC y otros progresistas para ganar metas locales y estatales por la justicia.
- Construir una nueva generación de activistas de justicia ambiental a través del **Programa de Aprendizaje para Jóvenes de EHC**.

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Financial Statement / Estado financiero as of June 30, 2005 / a partir del 30 de junio de 2005

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES / ESTADO DE ACTIVIDADES

OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUE / ENTRADAS Y INGRESOS	
Foundation and Grant Revenue / Ingresos por contratos y subsidios	\$1,979,143
Contributions/Other - Afiliaciones/Otros ingresos	60,559
<u>Total support & revenue / Total de ingresos y ganancias</u>	<u>\$2,039,702</u>
EXPENSES / GASTOS	
Program Expenses / Gastos de Programas	\$1,550,932
Management & General / Servicios de apoyo	342,854
Fundraising / Recogida de fondos	51,317
<u>Total expense / Total de gastos</u>	<u>\$1,945,103</u>
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR / ACTIVO NETO AL INICIO DE AÑO	\$1,715,478
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR / ACTIVO NETO A FIN DE AÑO	
Unrestricted / no restrictivo	\$794,646
Temporarily Restricted / restrictivo temporal	920,832
<u>Total Assets / Activo Total</u>	<u>\$1,508,922</u>

Supporters/Apoyos

EHC's strength comes from its members —individuals who contribute their energy and money to help us achieve environmental justice in the San Diego/Tijuana area. We thank all of you who helped make 2005 such a successful year, especially the more than 50 individuals who are EHC leaders in the Community Action Teams.

La solidez de EHC viene de los miembros —individuos que contribuyen con su dinero y energía para ayudarnos a alcanzar la justicia ambiental en el área de San Diego/Tijuana. Les agradecemos a todos los que nos ayudaron a hacer de 2005 un año con tanto éxito, especialmente a los más de 50 líderes de EHC que son parte de los Equipos de Acción Comunitaria.

We also thank the following funders for their confidence in our work. También agradecemos a los siguientes proveedores de fondos por su confianza en nuestro trabajo.

Private Foundations:

Beldon Fund
The California Endowment
The California Wellness Foundation
Marguerite Casey Foundation
Nathan Cummings Foundation
The Ford Foundation
Frances Fund
French American Charitable Trust
Global Green Grants
Libra Foundation
Marisla Foundation
Mitchell Kapor Foundation
McKay Foundation
Needmor Fund
New World Foundation
Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation
Rockefeller Foundation
San Diego Foundation, Orca Fund
San Diego Foundation, Environment Program

Solidago Foundation
Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock
Waitt Family Foundation

Government:

National Institute for Environmental Health
City of National City, Lead Hazard Control Program
San Diego Housing Commission, Lead Hazard Control Program

Memorial Funds:

Colin Rodríguez Griswold Memorial Fund
Norma Sullivan Memorial Fund

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Francisca Jiménez, *Organizer*
Laura Benson, *Policy Advocate*

EHC is grateful to Board and Staff members who left in 2005, but whose commitment and hard work helped us accomplish our goals.

EHC agradece a miembros del personal y Directivos que salieron de EHC en 2005, pero cuyo compromiso y trabajo duro, ayudaron a conseguir nuestras metas: Board Members: Jaime Cota, Mark Mandel, Michael Martinez; Staff Members: Rosa Maria Angeles, Randa Baramki, Paula Forbis, Patricia Hipolito, Albert Huang

THANK YOU! ¡GRACIAS!

PROMOTORAS:

Argelia Estrada, Florida Lozoya, Imelda Perez, Leticia Gallardo, Maria Coronel, Maria Radilla, Maria Robles, Martha Cortez, Obdulia Nieblas, Patricia Hernandez

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California Attorney General, Bill Lockyer; City of National City, Building and Safety Department; County of SD Health Department; Deputy District Attorney Alameda County, Larry Blazer; Environment California; FDA; Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment; San Francisco Lead Program, Public Health Department

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San Diego/ Imperial Counties Labor Council (AFL-CIO); Alliance for Healthy Homes; American Federation of State; County and Municipal Employees; Asian Pacific Environmental Network; Association of Regional Center Agencies; California Alliance for Consumer Protection; California Medial Association; California School Nurses Organization; California State PTA; Center for Community Action & Environmental Justice; Center for Environmental Health; Communities for a Better Environment; Consumer Attorneys of California; Environmental Justice Working Group; Esperanza Community Housing Corporation; Farmworker Justice Fund; Golden Gate Regional Center; Imperial County Public Health Department; Latino and Latinas en Acción; Los Angeles Unified School District; MAAC Project; National City Collaborative; NY Citizen Action; Pacoima Beautiful; People Organizing to Demand Environmental & Economic Rights; Physicians for Social Responsibility; Planning & Conservation League Foundation; Project 504; Sherman Heights Community Center; Sierra Club California; Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition; Southern California Healthy Homes Collaborative; Strategic Actions for a Just Economy; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Western Center on Law & Poverty