

# Environmental Health Coalition

COALICION de SALUD AMBIENTAL

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## Media Advisory

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## President Obama appoints environmental justice leader to Advisory Committee

(Washington, DC) – President Barack Obama on Thursday appointed Environmental Health Coalition Executive Director Diane Takvorian to the Joint Public Advisory Committee of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation. Ms. Takvorian was one of 11 persons appointed to different vacant governmental posts.

[In a White House press release](#), President Obama said, “The expertise and commitment these men and women bring to their roles will make them tremendous assets to my administration, and I look forward to working with them in the months and years ahead.”

Ms. Takvorian said, “I am deeply honored by this appointment and appreciate the President’s expression of confidence and trust. I hope my participation with the Commission for Environmental Cooperation results in positive benefits for the border community and the natural environment.”

Ms. Takvorian is a Founder of Environmental Health Coalition (EHC), where over the past 30 years she has built grassroots campaigns to address toxic pollution, discriminatory land use, and unsustainable energy policies in the San Diego/Tijuana region. Ms. Takvorian is also a co-founder of the California Environmental Justice Alliance, a coalition working to address environmental justice issues throughout California.

Prior to founding the EHC, Ms. Takvorian managed programs at Community Congress of San Diego, Social Advocates for Youth, and the HELP Center of San Diego. Ms. Takvorian also served as a faculty member in the School of Social Work at San Diego State University.

Ms. Takvorian currently serves on the California Global Warming Environmental Justice Advisory Committee of the California Environmental Protection Agency. In 1998, President Clinton appointed Ms. Takvorian to the Border Environmental Cooperation Commission. In 2008, Ms. Takvorian received the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award and the Environment Section of the American Public Health Association Calver Award. Ms. Takvorian holds a B.S. and an M.A. in Social Work from San Diego State University.

The Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) composed of fifteen citizens (five from each country) advises the CEC Council on any matter within the scope of the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, and serves as a source of information for the CEC Secretariat.

JPAC's vision is to promote continental cooperation in ecosystem protection and sustainable economic development, and to ensure active public participation and transparency in the actions of the Commission.

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