



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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*Governor*

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CATHERINE R. McCABE  
*Commissioner*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

### Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2020

Via Microsoft Teams

#### Council Members

**Present:** Monique Griffith, Phyllis Reich, Leilani Holgado, Andy Kricun, Amy Tuininga, Kelly Francis, Meredith Taylor, Nancy Griffith, Jeffrey Perlman, Zach Lewis, Joann Held, Kim Gaddy, Melissa Miles, Jackie Park Albaum

**Absent:** Ted Carrington, Gantry Fox, Shaniqua Biles

**OEJ Staff:** Riché Outlaw, Nadia Akbar

**DOH Representative:** Barbara Goun

**DEP Guests:** Commissioner McCabe, Debbie Mans, Michael Gordon, Elizabeth Dragon, Ken Ratzman, Elizabeth George-Cheniara, Brad Bollen, Brandon Carreno, Christopher Colacello, Jennifer Feltis, William Lindner, Frank McLaughlin, Allison McLeod, Olivia Glenn, Myla Ramirez, Jessica Sponaugle, Devon McCurry, Carrie Sargeant, Peg Hanna, Christina Schell

**DOL Guests:** Aaron Kleinbaum, Gary Wolf, Dom Stockton-Rossini

#### Call to Order

Monique Griffith opened the meeting at 10:10am.

#### Approval of Meeting Minutes

Draft minutes from the April 15, 2020 meeting were approved.

#### Commissioner McCabe Remarks

Commissioner addressed issues of global pandemic and how DEP continues to function. Discussion of George Floyd and racial injustice outcry from communities across the nation. Discussion of how minorities suffer disproportionately and the need to continue to fight for Environmental Justice. How our job to listen to communities and amplify voices of color are critical. Update on Singleton Bill and discussion of environmental justice impact statements, types of facilities effected, definitions of burdened community and cumulative impacts. Support for Governor's Office and other advocates on how to shape the bill and move it forward.

**Executive Order 23** – Governor's office currently has the draft and is hoping to align with the language in the Singleton Bill.

**Department of Health** – Barbara Goun discusses emergency call centers and information the Department of Health has available on-line regarding COVID-19.

**Compliance & Enforcement** - Update from Elizabeth Dragon on COVID-19 effects on C&E within the Department. Finding different legal pathways as enforcement actions proceed based on community needs possibility in the form of supplemental environmental projects. Collaborating with CCI for suggestions on how to contribute back to community after violations found. Enforcement continues to be investigated and pursued. Environmental standards still in effect and have never been reduced. Implementation of regulations have not relaxed. Although crematory increase in operating hours, levels of emissions were still upheld. Inspections continue. Slide deck available afterwards.

- Aaron Kleinbaum, Assistant Attorney General, and Gary Wolf, Section Chief of Enforcement at the Division of Law provided history of Environmental Justice lawsuits as well as recent actions such as the Ronson Metal Site and Covanta. Request from EJAC that community advocates be apprised of enforcement process and progress towards conclusion. Discussion of publicly available information and what can be shared on social media.

### **Adjournment**

Ted Carrington moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Leilani Holgado seconded the motion.