

**Environmental Justice Action Plans
(FY2006)**

Goal 1: Clean Air and Global Climate Change

Objective 1: Reduction in number of asthma attacks (e.g., reduce asthma triggers such as particulate matter)

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>1. EJ Focus on ethylene industry. Inspections and Enforcement in EJ areas and non-attainment areas for Ozone (Houston, TX area)</p>	<p>Conduct four inspections.</p>	<p>Reduce Nox and VOC emissions. Baseline unknown. Surveillance/Enforcement activities will establish baseline, and measure emission reductions.</p>	<p>Esteban Herrera, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Chief, Air Toxics Section (6EN-AA) (214) 665-7348 herrera.esteban@epa.gov</p>
<p>2. EJ Focus on oil and gas industry (subject to MACT HH/HHH) Inspections and Enforcement in EJ areas located in New Mexico and Tribal Land</p>	<p>Conduct four inspections.</p>	<p>Reduce Nox and VOC emissions. Baseline unknown, as there have been minimal surveillance activities in this industry. Surveillance/ Enforcement activities will establish baseline, and measure emission reductions.</p>	<p>Esteban Herrera, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Chief, Air Toxics Section (6EN-AA) (214) 665-7348 herrera.esteban@epa.gov</p>

Goal 1:

Clean Air and Global Climate Change

Objective 2: Reduce exposure to air toxics (e.g., reduce releases of mercury)

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Beaumont/Port Arthur, Texas EJ Focus-Continue flaring and emission reductions in EJ areas	Implement two enforcement actions.	Reduce flaring by 9/30/06	Guy Donaldson, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Chief, Air Enforcement Section (6EN-AA) (214) 665-7242 donaldson.guy@epa.gov
2. Conduct Asbestos-in-Schools Inspections and Enforcement in EJ areas located in New Mexico and Arkansas	An EJ focus will be added to 10 percent of targeted inspections that will be conducted.	Improve compliance with AHERA by 10 percent by 9/30/06 (comparing the non-compliance historical rate).	Esteban Herrera, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Chief, Air Toxics Section (6EN-AA) (214) 665-7348 herrera.esteban@epa.gov

Goal 2: Clean and Safe Water*Objective 1:* Safe fish/shellfish

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact

Goal 2: Clean and Safe Water

Objective 2: Clean and safe drinking water

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Tribal Drinking Water System Performance Based Training - The Water Quality Protection Division (WQPD) will continue followup to a performance-based training pilot with New Mexico pueblos.	Teach tribal drinking water system operators in the Pueblos of Isleta, Jemez, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Tesuque to optimize the performance of their public water systems, teaching operators problem-solving skills.	Improved public health protection for the tribal communities they serve as evidenced by fewer health-based monitoring violations.	Blake Atkins, Water Quality Protection Division, Chief, Drinking Water Section (6WQ-SD) (214) 665-2297 atkins.blake@epa.gov
2. Tribal Public Water System Operator Training and Certification	The New Mexico Environmental Finance Center (EFC), under WQPD grant funding and guidance, will provide operator training and administer operator certification exams for eight applicants.	At least four tribal operators will receive certification for Level 1 and Level 2 Water Distribution, thereby improving service and water quality safety to tribal residents.	Dawn Ison, Water Quality Protection Division, Drinking Water Section (6WQ-SD) (214) 665-2162 ison.dawn@epa.gov
3. Respond to violations of drinking water regulations found in tribal drinking water systems.	Following violations of drinking water regulations, Notice of Violation will be provided to each tribe. These notices will offer recommendations for returning to compliance. Technical assistance will be provided through the New Mexico Environmental Finance Center (EFC) and through telephone consultation with WQPD staff.	The number of health-based violations will be reduced, and the number of households receiving safe water to drink will increase.	Arnold Bierschenk, Water Quality Division Protection, Drinking Water Section (6WQ-SD) (214) 665-7435 bierschenk.arnold@epa.gov

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
4. Safe Drinking Water Act Training - The EFC, under WQPD grant funding and guidance, will conduct training sessions on Safe Drinking Water Act implementation.	Approximately six formal trainings will be conducted. Topics will include existing and new regulations, sampling procedures, and review of monitoring waivers. Both classroom and hands-on training will be provided.	Participants will earn credit for operator certification continuing education and learn better disinfection techniques and O & M procedures. The training will help reduce risk at these facilities.	Arnold Bierschenk, Water Quality Protection Division, Drinking Water Section (6WQ-SD) (214) 665-7435 bierschenk.arnold@epa.gov
5. Provide grants to federally recognized tribes for their drinking-water infrastructure needs	Between four and six tribal communities will directly benefit from these grants that will address their immediate water infrastructure needs.	Improve water quality in Indian Country by: 1.) addressing an immediate threat to public health, and 2.) increasing these tribal communities' compliance with national primary drinking water standards.	Rajen Patel, Water Quality Protection Division, Region 6 Tribal Setaside Coordinator (WQ-AP) (214) 665-2788 Patel.Rajen@epa.gov
6. Provide congressional special appropriation grants to local communities.	Twenty-one special appropriation grants for addressing drinking and wastewater needs.	Improve drinking water quality, and water storage, distribution, and collection. Improve wastewater collection lines, treatment.	Maurice Rawls, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division, Chief, SRF & Projects Section (6WQ-AP) (214) 665-8049 Rawls.Maurice@epa.gov

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
7. Implement “EPA Guidance for Incorporating EJ concerns in EPA’s NEPA compliance analysis” by conducting EJ analyses.	Detailed EJ analyses will be conducted on all congressional special appropriation projects, tribal infrastructure projects, and on all SRF loan projects. All special appropriation grants, tribal grants, and SRF loans are subject to NEPA review requirements. Extensive EJ analysis is preformed as a part of this NEPA review.	EJ analysis will ensure that the project receiving federal assistance does not adversely impact the disadvantaged communities.	Maurice Rawls Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division, Chief, SRF & Projects Section (6WQ-AP) (214) 665-8049 Rawls.Maurice@epa.gov

Goal 4: Healthy Communities and Ecosystems
Objective 1: Reduction in elevated blood lead levels

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. EJ Focus on Lead-Based Paint Inspections and Enforcement in areas of elevated blood lead levels in children	Approximately 10 percent of targeted inspections will be conducted in areas with potential EJ concerns.	Improve Compliance with LBP regulations by 10% by 9/30/06 (in comparison with the non-compliance historical rate).	Esteban Herrera, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Chief, Air Toxics Section (6EN-AA) (214) 665-7348 herrera.esteban@epa.gov

Goal 4: Healthy Communities and Ecosystems

Objective 2: Collaborative problem-solving to address environmental justice issues

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>1. Kelly Area Collaboration-Interagency Pilot Project, San Antonio, Texas</p>	<p>Help host seven meetings to plan collaborative community roundtables to address former Kelly Air Force Base contamination issues.</p> <p>Help sponsor three roundtables on environmental health, environmental cleanup and economic revitalization to promote collaborative problem solving among community members and various agencies. At least 100 attendees will participate in the meetings.</p>	<p>A collaborative network will form that will increase the chances for sustained health, environmental, and economic improvement.</p> <p>The collaborative problem-solving process will be recognized as a beneficial means to solve problems by roundtable participants and residents.</p>	<p>Nelda Perez, Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (6RA-DJ) (214) 665-2209 Perez.nelda@epa.gov</p>
<p>2. Hurricane Katrina Environmental Justice Interagency Task Force</p>	<p>For at least four months, host weekly conference calls among task force members composed of various federal, state, parish and local agencies, academia, community organizations and environmental groups. Explore problems and seek solutions regarding the environmental justice impacts of Hurricane Katrina. Participants will identify three of the most important problems and will devise solutions for those problems. Host one on-site visit of the task force to the New Orleans area.</p> <p>OEJTA staff will make two site-assessment/outreach visits.</p> <p>Maintain a consistent OEJTA presence in</p>	<p>The task force will begin implementation of the problem-solving process, with the cooperation of other stakeholders</p> <p>Participants will gain an understanding of the problems, and their efforts will enhance the recovery effort.</p> <p>OEJTA staff will demonstrate EPA's concern about community problems, and will provide insight</p>	<p>Charlotte Runnels, Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (6RA-DJ) (214) 665-6442 Runnels.charlotte@epa.gov</p>

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
	New Orleans for at least three months to ensure that EJ considerations are closely monitored and incorporated.	into how to incorporate EJ considerations in the cleanup/rebuilding efforts.	
3. Hurricane Rita EJ Task Force	Discuss communication issues and address environmental justice impacts on communities. Host a series of conference calls of federal, state and local agencies, EJ stakeholders and academia to identify problems disproportionately impacting EJ communities and devise solutions through a collaborative process. Make one on-site visit to assess conditions and make contacts.	Communication networks will be improved or created. Environmental information sharing will be enhanced. New resource sources will be discovered and shared, and the community will be better prepared for future catastrophes.	Linda Falk, Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (6RA-DJ) (214) 665-8535 falk.Linda@epa.gov
4. New Mexico Colonia Summit	Assist New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) in planning, funding and implementation of four colonia community meetings to explore and address colonia issues. The collaborative effort will include federal, state, county and local government agencies, industry, colonia residents, academia, health organizations and environmental groups. More than 300 attendees are expected to participate. At least three key issues will be identified and a plan for addressing the issues will be devised through a collaborative approach.	Colonia problems will receive greater attention. Human health and environmental conditions in colonias will improve. Colonia residents will be empowered by participating in this collaborative process. Legislative changes may occur that will bring about long-term sustainable progress in health and the environmental	Nelda Perez, Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (6RA-DJ) (214) 665-2209 perez.nelda@epa.gov
5. Koppers Creosote Coalition-- Promote a collaborative effort among various	Hold two information sharing meetings for the community to share ADEQ's and	The community's understanding of	Shirley Quinones, Region 6 Office of Environmental

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>stakeholders to resolve issues in neighborhoods near the Koppers Creosote facility in North Little Rock, Arkansas. Participants include EPA, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), Koppers Creosote, community members in the facility's vicinity, environmental justice groups, and TOSC of Louisiana State University.</p>	<p>EPA's findings and to receive community input. TOSC will hold a training to educate the community about the chemicals used in the Koppers facility. Hold three mediated meetings to promote understanding and consensus between the community, ADEQ, and Koppers Creosote.</p>	<p>environmental problems will increase. Koppers and ADEQ will improve their understanding of community perspectives. The coalition will continue to seek solutions, and the environment will improve as solutions are found.</p>	<p>Justice and Tribal Affairs (6RA-DJ) (214) 665-2713 quinones.shirley@epa.gov</p>
<p>6. Colonia Summit—Corpus Christi area</p>	<p>Plan and host a colonia summit in partnership with TCEQ, Nueces County, local agencies, colonia residents and Citizens for Environmental Justice to explore solutions to local colonia problems.</p>	<p>A coalition to address colonia issues will be formed. The local environment and human health (especially of colonia children) will be improved as issues are addressed..</p>	<p>Nelda Perez, Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (6RA-DJ) (214) 665-2209 perez.nelda@epa.gov</p>
<p>7. The NPDES Permits branch will conduct various administrative, technical, and scientific reviews and evaluations, and expert assistance will be provided to various EJ areas in the Region.</p>	<p>The authorized states in the NPDES program will consider EJ when setting priorities for permit issuance, and oversight of state activities in EJ areas. The Oversight & TMDL Section will review all major permits drafted by authorized states as well as all TMDLs in EJ areas.</p>	<p>Ensure that all minority and economically depressed citizens are fully protected via standard permit requirements</p>	<p>Claudia Hosch, Region 6 Water Quality Protection Division, Chief, NPDES Permits Branch (6EN-P) (214) 665- 7170 hosch.claudia@epa.gov</p>
<p>8. Work with EPA's Office of Public Affairs and Office of Water to address the needs of EPA information in native language for the Vietnamese-American</p>	<p>Provide many EPA publications in Vietnamese and inform the public of an EPA web site in Vietnamese.</p>	<p>Improve access to EPA information for persons with limited English proficiency.</p>	<p>Lisa Pham, Water Quality Protection Division, Environmental Engineer (6WQ-SG)</p>

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
community.			(214) 665-8326 pham.lisa@epa.gov
9. Work with EPA's Incident Command Center in New Orleans to address the needs of Vietnamese-American hurricane evacuees.	Distribute more than 2,000 flyers and handouts to Vietnamese-American evacuees and community members. Conduct at least three interviews at ethnic radio stations.	Improve access to EPA information for persons with limited English proficiency	Lisa Pham, Water Quality Protection Division, Environmental Engineer (6WQ-SG) (214) 665-8326 pham.lisa@epa.gov

Goal 4: Healthy Communities and Ecosystems

Objective 3: Revitalization of brownfields and contaminated sites

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. Brownfields Job Training	Establish environmental job training programs in at least three locations across Region 6 to train more than 150 students to perform work involved with environmental assessment and clean-up activities.	Fosters local workforce development through environmental training by ensuring the recruitment of students from socio-economically disadvantaged communities and communities with identified brownfields.	Camisha Scott, Region 6 Superfund Division, Job Training Coordinator (6SF-PB) (214) 665-6755 scott.camisha@epa.gov

Goal 5: Compliance and Environmental Stewardship

Objective 1: Ensure Compliance

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. PWS Enforcement Team activities	Enter into an agreement with Mescalero Apache Tribe to issue three Orders on Consent to Mescalero to assist the tribe to bring their water systems into compliance jointly	The quality of the drinking water for all members of the Mescalero Tribe will be improved and compliance will be achieved. The Orders will be terminated.	Mehdi Taheri, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Team Leader, PWS Enforcement Team (6EN-WP) (214) 665-2298 taheri.mehdi@epa.gov
2. Areas with disadvantage regarding safe and clean drinking water. Household: \$13,000 - \$15,000 Per capita: \$6,000 - \$25,000	Issue three Orders on Consent jointly by EPA and NMED in the financially distressed communities of Lumberton, Lordsburg, and Columbus regarding their water systems in order to improve their drinking water and bring their water systems into compliance.	By installing the new pilot treatment units and staffing with certified operators these financially distressed communities will be able to have safe and clean drinking water.	Mehdi Taheri, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Team Leader, PWS Enforcement Team (6EN-WP) (214) 665-2298 taheri.mehdi@epa.gov
3. Areas with disadvantage regarding safe and clean drinking water. Household: \$10,000 - \$19,000 Per capita: \$13,000 - \$14,000	Issue four Administrative Orders in the financially distressed communities of Miami, El Barranco, Fort Sumner and Rainsville regarding their water systems in order to improve their drinking water and bring their water systems into compliance.	By installing the new pilot treatment units and staffing with certified operators these financially distressed communities will be able to have safe and clean drinking water.	Mehdi Taheri, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division, Team Leader, PWS Enforcement Team (6EN-WP) (214) 665-2298 taheri.mehdi@epa.gov

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>4. Conduct RCRA inspections identified/generated by in-house staff. Conduct appropriate inspection according to data provided for sites. Identify EJ sites as a result of inspections and address communities concerns identified.</p>	<p>Projected to conduct compliance evaluation inspections and compliance monitoring evaluation inspections at approximately 75 sites. Thirty-five of the 75 inspections are projected to be EJ communities with concerns located near sites. Focus/pursue appropriate actions to bring sites into compliance with any RCRA violations, if necessary. Conduct public hearing awareness activities.</p>	<p>Initiate a track to compliance, warning letters, consent orders, Department of Justice referral and/or Supplemental Environmental Projects or alternate injunctive relief in order to ensure compliance for the benefit of the environment and welfare of communities.</p>	<p>Mark Hansen, Mary Tucker, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division (6EN-H) (214) 665-7548 hansen.mark@epa.gov tucker.mary@epa.gov</p>

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
5. Review RCRA inspections.	Review at least five of the projected thirty-five RCRA inspections to determine corrective actions requirements in EJ areas if needed. Identify impacted media and human populations at sites with soils, surface water, ground water and air contamination.	Determine potential environmental effects to impacted media and populations. Require industry to design and implement appropriate corrective actions to halt and/or reverse contaminants that impacts affected media and human populations. Provide information and data to the appropriate agencies responsible for making health effects determinations. Conduct community outreach activities that will inform the EJ communities of any enforcement actions or remedy at the sites taken.	Mark Hansen, Mary Tucker, Region 6 Compliance Assurance and Enforcement Division (6EN-H) (214) 665-7548 hansen.mark@epa.gov tucker.mary@epa.gov

Cross Cutting Strategies:*Objective: Internal Capacity Building (e.g., internal program management)*

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
1. EJ Training: Tailor existing environmental justice training to address Region 6 staff training needs	Modify training materials to include - cultural components - enforcement related materials	Increased awareness of the policies and procedures used to address environmental justice as measured by pre and post course questionnaire	Shirley Augurson, Region 6 EJ Training Coordinator (214) 665-7401 augurson.shirley@epa.gov
2. EJ Training: Provide EJ Training sessions to EPA Region 6, state and other entities	Conduct 4 training sessions per year	Increased awareness of the policies and procedures used to address environmental justice as measured by pre and post course questionnaire	Shirley Augurson, Region 6 EJ Training Coordinator (214) 665-7401 augurson.shirley@epa.gov
3. EJ Training: Publicize availability of EJ Fundamentals e-training	Publish notice of EJ Fundamentals e-Training in newsletters, employee advisories, flyers	Increased awareness of the policies and procedures used to address environmental justice as measured by pre and post course questionnaire	Shirley Augurson, Region 6 EJ Training Coordinator (214) 665-7401 augurson.shirley@epa.gov
4. Lead Region Responsibilities:	Coordinate and communicate w/OEJ, headquarters programs and other EPA Regions EJ contacts on key EJ issues, concerns via meetings, conference calls, etc.	Improve program consistency, cohesiveness and effectiveness	Shirley Augurson, Lead Region Coordinator (214) 665-7401 augurson.shirley@epa.gov

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>5. EJ Small Grants program activities</p> <p>6. Assistance to HQS on EJ Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) Grants</p> <p>7. Grant-writing training sessions for EJ Small Grants</p>	<p>Issue solicitation of RFA for EJ Small Grant applications, evaluate proposals, and award at least one grant.</p> <p>Assist HQS (OEJ) in the evaluation process for EJ CPS grant program for Region 6 applicants. Assist HQS Project Officers in interaction with grantees. – For CPS grants, stakeholders and grantees collaborate on ways to make their communities a better place to live</p> <p>Hold two grant writing trainings – Educate communities on ways to make their grant application more competitive.</p>	<p>EJ Small Grant – Grants will enable EJ community organizations to work collaboratively and to be better educated about environmental and health problems in their neighborhoods.</p> <p>HQS CPS Grant - The environment in the affected communities will become cleaner and safer, and strong partnerships will be formed.</p> <p>Grant Writing Training – More CBO’s will meet requirements necessary to write competitive proposals that will enable these organizations to be awarded grants that will improve the environment.</p>	<p>Shirley Quinones, Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (6RA-DJ) (202) 665-2713 quinones.shirley@epa.gov</p>

Goal Z: Cross-Goal Strategies

Activities	Output	Outcome	Point of Contact
<p>1. Office of External Affairs supports all EPA Region 6 programs for internal and external communication issues</p>	<p>The Office will support all Region 6 activities with press releases, press advisories, communication with media and elected officials, fielding calls from general public, and written correspondence</p>	<p>Communication will be improved, and timely, accurate and usable information will be provided to agency employees and the public so that it can be understood.</p>	<p>Carmen Henning, Office of Environmental Justice (6XA) (214) 665-8185 henning.Carmen@epa.gov</p>