

Email From: LaDonna Williams [REDACTED], 3/30/2010 4:00 pm
To: Patrick Morris
Subject: Re: Delta MeHg TMDL Adaptive Management Approach working meeting

Patrick,

Those of us from the environmental justice communities who had been left out of the earlier processes concur with Andria comments below. The draft resolution contains language that misleads the reader and public into believing this process was a collaborative effort that included EJ communities when it was not. Various EJ communities have and continue to voice their concerns of being excluded in activities and processes with the development of the document, processes and numerous previously held meetings where we were excluded. Of special concern for us was there were no African American communities or voices included in these processes although there were those willing and ready to participate. As the process went forward it was clear that input and comments from both affected frontline community based groups, and other stakeholders who are advocating for actual inclusion of community/ stakeholder support, and agency accountability is being minimized by the language. As has been previously stated but we will state again, this process is and has so far continued to be an agency process that cannot be considered a collaborative process that was community inclusive.

The fact that your comments below about the Delta MeHg TMDL Adaptive Management Approach working meeting was forwarded to us (a frontline EJ community based org) by other stakeholders as opposed from you, who have our emails shows that this process is not inclusive but rather selective in who gets to participate and when.

Perhaps a meeting with frontline EJ community groups and other stakeholders with Central Valley Water Board and other Water Agencies would be most helpful in helping you all to understand what constitutes real inclusive and collaborations related to EJ community groups and other stakeholder involvement in these processes.

Sincerely,
LaDonna

LaDonna Williams
People for Children's Health
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