

## **Los Angeles Public Workshop on the Draft California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen), Version 2.0**

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Junipero Serra Building, Carmel Room

320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013

The third regional workshop in Los Angeles focused on the updates to CalEnviroScreen since version 1.1. It attracted a group of about 15 participants that included local community organizations, water district staff and state government representatives.

Staff sought comments and suggestions related to the overall approach, indicators, online mapping tool and methodology, and specifically on updates to CalEnviroScreen incorporated in version 2.0. Comments from workshop participants are listed below. Similar or related comments were consolidated and placed in the most appropriate category.

### Methods/General:

- How do census tracts line up with city boundaries?
- What can residents of high scoring communities do with the information?
- How can community members measure change in indicators over time?
- Create learning communities or other toolkits to help people use the tool.
- The success of CES can be measured by how well people understand and use it.
- Likes the swipe tool in the online mapping tool.
- Can CES be used to identify areas with inadequate environmental monitoring?

### Use of Tool:

- CES should not be used for forecasting.
- Explain the extent of the authority to use CES to make policy.
- Can CES be used to track trends?

### Indicators – Exposures and Environmental Effects:

- Is meteorology taken into account in diesel PM monitoring?
- Traffic data is out of date.
- Air pollution on tribal lands is not accurately monitored.
- Are aerosols included in the diesel PM indicator?
- Indoor air quality is as important as outdoor air quality.
- Does any indicator include pipelines, junkyards, scrap metal recyclers or oil spills?
- Approves of the changes to the hazardous waste indicator.

### Indicators - Drinking Water Quality

- Get input from water agencies on drinking water sources.
- Explain how multiple water sources were dealt with.
- Were untreated or raw groundwater sources included?
- Share information on delivered water quality with water districts.
- Time weighted averages are appropriate in calculating drinking water quality.
- Provide more technical information on drinking water quality indicator methodology.
- Include a disclaimer that scores are relative, not statistical health risks.
- Would like to see data for individual drinking water contaminants.
- Communities with poor water quality due to only one contaminant should be able to argue for special consideration.
- Explain scoring of areas with no water system assignment. Are they populated?
- Method of selection of drinking water contaminants – acute hazards are more important than chronic hazards.
- Coliform standard has changed so score depends on when the sample was taken.
- Explain weighting of total coliform in drinking water quality indicator.
- How are gamma wells incorporated into the drinking water indicator?

### Indicators – Socioeconomic Factors and Sensitive Populations:

- Communities in tribal areas are probably not accurately represented by the indicators
- Rural residents can't get to emergency rooms so are not included in asthma indicator.
- Schools and pharmacies could be good resources for tracking asthma.
- Why don't we include more health effects?
- Use the state Birth Defects Monitoring database.

### Online Mapping Tool:

- Provide better labels for the layers in the Google Earth file.
- Indicate that you can search for communities by zip code.
- Display population clusters within census tracts.
- Provide a facilities layer.
- Provide information on compliance and enforcement for industries within tracts.
- Provide links to EJ task forces or other organizations.