

# Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California

## Environmental Protection Department



CalEnviroScreen

Attn: John Faust, Chief, Community Assessment & Research Section  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1600  
Oakland, CA 94612

January 25, 2013

Re: Draft California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen)

To John Faust:

Thank you for allowing the Washoe Tribe the opportunity to comment on the Draft California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen). The Washoe Environmental Protection Department (WEPD) has some concerns with the draft assessment. The CalEnviroScreen Public Review Draft (Jan 3, 2013) does not represent the Native American/ Tribal population within the state. The document recognizes that "many Californians live among multiple sources of pollution and that some people and communities are more vulnerable to the effects of pollution than others" but fails to represent one of the most affected communities. Tribal communities throughout California are disproportionately susceptible and affected by environmental health issues yet are not represented in the draft document. The Race/Ethnicity section of the draft does not include tribal populations. Statistics for tribal populations must be included in this tool for it to be an accurate representation of the state's demographic and socioeconomic conditions.

WEPD wants to ensure that while this tool might be used as a reference in the future, that funding opportunities should not be based solely off of data from this tool, due to inaccuracies in representation.

Please keep us informed on the status of this project. Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please contact me at (775) 265-8682 or [marie.barry@washoetribe.us](mailto:marie.barry@washoetribe.us).

Sincerely,

*Marie Barry*

Marie Barry, Environmental Director

Cc: WEPD file