



2013 National Environmental Justice Conference & Training Program

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE 2013 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE AND TRAINING PROGRAM

(Washington, DC) -April 10, 2013— Hundreds met to discuss the challenges and possible solutions surrounding environmental justice (EJ) during this year's National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program (NEJC). Conference organizers considered the conference a success.

Hosted in Washington, DC, the 2013 NEJC took place April 3 through 5 at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center. Leaders gathered to discuss EJ; building healthy, sustainable communities; and other related topics. This 3- day series of discussions brought together members of the government, academics, communities, tribes, students, and businesses to share ideas and concerns regarding EJ.

Daniel B. Poneman, Deputy Secretary of Energy, served as the keynote speaker on day two of the conference. He was joined by the Honorable Congresswoman Donna Christensen, MD, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Mathy Stanislaus, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

EPA and 16 other Interagency Working Group members held a reception to celebrate 20 years of EJ. Many attendees gathered to remember and pay tribute to the former heroes and “sheroes,” and to celebrate those who are collaborating at the forefront of EJ for all.

The continued partnership with Howard University School of Law provided opportunities for students, faculty, community, business, government leaders, and others involved in EJ to share best practices and lessons learned for capacity building and sustainability.

More than 300 attendees participated in this year's conference. Communication, information sharing, and networking were plentiful throughout the entire conference. This national conference allowed all a voice and seat at the table. EJ, civil rights, and environmental protection are the holistic approach to achieving EJ.

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