



The State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference

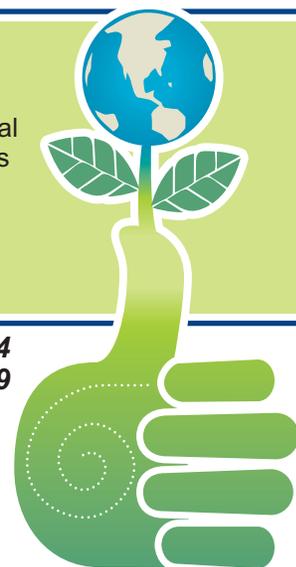
May 27–29, 2009

Howard University School of Law (2900 Van Ness Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008) on May 27, 2009
Crystal City Doubletree Hotel (300 Army-Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202) on May 28 and 29, 2009

Special EJ Earth Day Edition

Earth Day is a day designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the environment. On the first annual Earth Day, April 22, 1970, groups that had been fighting against environmental disasters such as pollution, toxic dumps, and pesticides realized they shared common values and by combining forces for one day they could shine the global spotlight on their causes.

Earth Day is a time to recognize the environmental plight of minority, low-income, and tribal communities as well as an opportunity to further the fight to ensure that no population bears a disproportionate share of adverse environmental effects.



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Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis to Keynote State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference

United States Department of Labor Secretary Hilda Solis has agreed to give a keynote address to “The State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference” on Thursday morning, May 28, 2009. Secretary Solis was confirmed as Secretary of Labor on February 24, 2009. She represented the 32nd Congressional District of California from 2001 until becoming the Secretary of Labor.

The Department of Labor states “in the Congress, Solis’ priorities included expanding access to affordable health care, protecting the environment, and improving the lives of working families. A recognized leader on clean energy jobs, she authored the Green Jobs Act which provided funding for “green” collar job training for veterans, displaced workers, at risk youth, and individuals in families under 200 percent of the Federal poverty line.”

Secretary Solis is a national leader on the environment and environmental justice issues. Solis became the first woman to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for her pioneering work on environmental justice issues. Her California environmental justice legislation, enacted in 1999, was the first of its kind in the nation to become law.

Secretary Solis will discuss environmental justice in the Department of Labor, green jobs, and other environmental issues.

This year’s speakers include:

- ♦ Secretary of Labor
Hilda Solis
- ♦ Congresswoman
Donna Christensen
- ♦ State Representative
Harold Mitchell
- ♦ Former EPA Assistant
Administrator for
Solid Waste
Tim Fields
- ♦ Department of Energy
Environmental Justice
Program Manager
Melinda Downing
- ♦ Department of Energy's
Savannah River Site
Manager
Jeff Allison
- ♦ Department of Energy's
Oak Ridge Operations
Manager
Gerald Boyd

To register for
the conference,
visit www.ejconference.net

Conference Registration Fee Still \$150

Registration for the EJ Conference is \$150 until May 7, 2009.
After May 7, registration increases to \$250.



The State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference

Schedule Your Meeting With a Government Official

To request an appointment with a Federal official, visit www.ejconference.net. Click the Agency Appointments link on the left navigation bar, complete the application, and return it to:

EJ Conference, Inc.
1629 K Street, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20036

Or, e-mail your request for an appointment to ejinamerica@hotmail.com.

Your request must be submitted on or before May 1, 2009.

Conference registration is required.

USDA Celebrates Earth Day by Awarding \$144.3 Million for Rural Infrastructure Projects

56 Communities Across America Benefit From Improved Water Availability and Quality

WASHINGTON, April 21, 2009—Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack marked the 39th anniversary of Earth Day today by announcing 56 communities in 34 states have been selected to receive \$144.3 million in loans and grants for infrastructure improvements to improve water availability and quality.

"Earth Day is the perfect time to highlight President Obama's efforts to reinvest in and rebuild America's rural communities," Vilsack said. "Strategic investments such as the ones announced today will help improve the economy and the quality life for rural residents."

"Businesses leaders are anxious to learn how agencies plan to engage environmental justice concerns under the Obama administration."

— Deidre Sanders
PG&E Environmental Justice Manager



Financial Assistance Available for Conference Attendees

A limited amount of financial assistance funds for travel, on a reimbursable basis, may be available for conference participants. Financial assistance will be awarded based on available funds and equitable distribution. Funds will be awarded in accordance with Conference guidelines as posted on the Conference site. Applications are due on or before Monday, April 27, 2009. For additional information and the Financial Assistance Application, visit www.ejconference.net and click Financial Assistance.

Government Rate Available at Doubletree Hotel Until May 2, 2009

Participants attending the State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference have until May 2, 2009 to take advantage of the conference rate of \$209.00 per night. According to the Conference Facilities Manager, Lauretta Miles, "We are able to get the government rate at the hotel until May 2, 2009. After that date, rooms may be available at the then prevailing rate. I encourage all conference participants to reserve their room as soon as possible. Hotels in this area are very expensive."

To get the conference rate, call the Doubletree Hotel at 1-800-222-TREE or 703-416-4100. Mention the State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference to get the government rate.

Conference Contact Information

For additional information, please contact John Rosenthal at ejinamerica@hotmail.com.



The State of Environmental Justice in America 2009 Conference

Key conference sessions include . . .

Health Disparities Plenary Session

The Unique Relationship Between the Quality of our Environment and Health Disparities

With Congresswoman Donna Christensen, U.S. Virgin Islands Delegate to Congress

Moderator:

David Rivers, Assistant Professor and Director of the Public Information and Community Outreach at the Medical University of South Carolina

Speakers:

Michael Bird, MSW MPH

Dr. Deborah Furr-Holden, Johns Hopkins University

Climate Change Panel Session

Getting a Seat at the Climate Change Table: Using Public Comment Periods to Your Benefit

Speakers:

Juanita Constible, National Wildlife Federation

Bryce E. Feighner, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Dr. Sacoby Wilson, University of South Carolina

Federal Agency Special Event

"Meet the Agencies," Opportunity for One-on-One Sessions With Federal Officials

Youth Involvement Plenary Session

Poverty, Environmental Justice, and Sustainable Agriculture—The Shapna Project

Speakers:

Johny Chaklader, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Bangladeshi Tea Corporation (Shapna) and Co-Founder of The Empowerment Initiative (TEI)

Nick Elton, Co-Founder and Chief Compliance Officer of Shapna and Co-Founder of TEI

Syed A. Hasib, Chairman and Co-Founder of Tetulia Tea Company, Ltd. (TTCL)

Monjur Hossain, Vice Chairman, TTCL

Mosharraf Hossain, Managing Director, TTCL

Tiffany Taylor, Co-Founder and Chief Compliance Officer of Shapna and Co-Founder of TEI

Elman Woodson, Chief Marketing Officer of Shapna and Co-Founder of TEI

Community Benefits and Economic Development Panels

Environmental Justice: Industry and Community Resolving Conflicts Collaboratively

Speakers:

Wynecta Fisher, Environmental Manager, City of New Orleans

Hilton Kelley, Port Arthur Community-In-Power and Development Association (CIDA)

Rich Walsh, Valero Energy Corporation

. . . and many more sessions will also be presented.