

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Continued
Listening Session
August 21, 2000

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The citizens of Alsen, Louisiana went to court in January, February and March of this year to stop the expansion of ExxonMobil Polyolefins because this facility is located in a nonattainment ozone area. Judge Bob Downing who was in charged of this case stated that sometimes when he take a walk outdoor, there is a smog, but yet this judge made a wrong decision and said that DEQ was in their guidelines for issuing the permit to ExxonMobil Polyolefins. What are the guidelines to add more pollution in a nonattainment ozone area. Oh, by the way, Judge Bob Downing is seeking a new position of Court of Appeal. Is industry helping him with his campaign?

From all viewpoints of the guidelines which the Office of Civil Rights and EPA have written, a community must have a person to die each day to prove that we have health problems and that there is environmental injustice done to us.

Your guidelines also place a lot of emphasis on scientific facts and technical data (you take a large population to a small population that has environmental problems) to get the results, thereby, having results of 0.09, therefore, you come to the conclusion/decision that there are no health problems in this community. Stop playing games with the people.

In the State Of Louisiana, some environmental justice cases have been pending since 1993 and in my community of Alsen, Louisiana we have filed complaints against ExxonMobil and Natural Resources Recovery, Inc. (1998). In other states cases have been pending for the last 7 to 10 years. Stop taking so long to make decisions of injustice done to minority communities! Enough is enough!

JUSTICE DELAYED IS JUSTICE DENIED!

Juanita R. Stewart, President
North Baton Rouge Environmental Association

P.S. I am enclosing the postal card of the announcement of the listening session.

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Public Participation Sessions

Topic: "U.S. EPA Draft Title VI Guidance for EPA Assistance Recipients Administering Title VI Environmental Permitting Programs and Draft Revised Guidance for Investigating Title VI Administrative Complaints Challenging Permits"
On June 27, 2000 EPA published the subject draft guidance for public comment. The EPA Office of Civil Rights (OCR) has hosted seven public listening sessions to receive public comments regarding the guidance. The current sessions announced in this notice are being hosted by EPA Region 6, Dallas, Texas.

Locations:

Session 1 - Monday, August 21, 2000, Baton Rouge Radisson Hotel, Cypress II Room, 4728 Constitution Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA (near College Ave. & I-10); Time 7-9-p.m.
Session 2 - Thursday, August 24, 2000, University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA), Assembly Room, 6900 N. Loop 1604W, San Antonio, TX; Time 7-9 p.m.

For more information regarding the OCR website at <http://www.epa.gov/civilrights> or for more information regarding the Public Participation sessions please phone 1800-887-6063