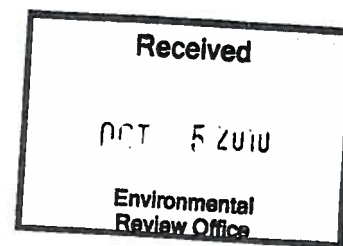


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Fighting for Life



East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice – 2317 Atlantic Blvd. Commerce, CA. 90040

September 28, 2010

Tom Kelly, Environmental Review Office (CED-2)  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

**Re: Los Angeles and Long Beach Maritime Port HIA Scope – Working Draft**

Dear Mr. Tom Kelly,

This letter is in response to the Los Angeles and Long Beach Maritime Port HIA Draft Scope on behalf of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice. We commend this very progressive step being taken by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and appreciate the opportunity to provide public comment on this document as we are an environmental health and justice community-based organization working towards a safe and healthy environment for our community that is heavily impacted by goods movement to and from the ports.

The following are recommendations in response to the Draft HIA Scope:

- Consider all potential pathways that link the proposal decision to **health**.
- Seek **local knowledge** from the communities that have been affected and have the potential to be affected by the Ports and port-related projects.
- Include research questions on how the proposed project and resulting changes in port-related activities impact the identified health outcomes to **non-port communities** that do not necessarily live in close proximity to the ports but are nonetheless heavily impacted by the project.
- **Educational attainment/learning abilities** should be assessed under each health determinant.
- Include research questions on how the proposed project and resulting changes in port-related activities influence the widening of roads and its impact to the identified health outcomes.
- Asses the benefits of using true zero-emission technologies in the alternatives.

We would like to emphasize the following points:

- Changes in **congestion and mobility** in local communities could impact pedestrian safety, walkability, bikeability, and accessibility to schools, retail, and public services.
- Long term exposure to moderate levels of ambient **noise** can adversely affect sleep, school and work performance, hearing impairment, blood pressure and cardiovascular disease.
- Communities around the Ports and goods movement corridors in Los Angeles County is largely comprised of **low-income communities of color**. People with lower incomes are at higher risk for poor health, premature mortality, injuries/violence, cancers, and chronic conditions to name a few.

East Yard

Communities

For Environmental Justice

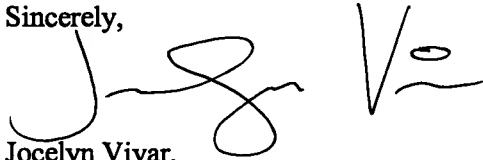
*Fighting for Life*

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East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice – 2317 Atlantic Blvd. Commerce, CA. 90040

We appreciate your consideration of our comments. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jocelyn Vivar,  
Policy Analyst

East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice

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