

## WEEKLY REPORT

**FROM** Alice Wright

**DATE** February 11 to April 22, 2015

**RE** Weekly Reports for Office of Environmental Advocate

## SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS OR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENTS

### STATEWIDE

#### **EPA monthly All States Conference call:**

EA Wright participated in the EPA monthly All States Conference call. The topic of discussion was the Draft EJ 2020 Action Agenda Framework and EJ Screen Rollout time line. Charles Lee, EPA Deputy Associate Administrator for Environmental Justice discussed the *EPA EJ 2020 Action Agenda Framework and EJ Screen Rollout*. The EPA is interested in providing the information to the states before the rollout to the public. Mr. Lee agreed to be available to make a presentation to the EJAB via telephone at the EJAB May 19, 2015 meeting. EA Wright provided Laura Henry, DEP Policy Office Ann Roda, DEP Program Integration Director, and the EJAB Chair, Dr. Frank with EPA contacts for Mr. Lee and EPA Region 3, Reggie Harris, in order to arranging the presentation in Harrisburg via conference call at the EJAB meeting. Acting Secretary John Quigley indicated that he would like the EJAB to have an opportunity to provide comments to the DEP on the Draft EPA EJ 2020 Plan for review prior to the June 15 comment period.

#### **EPA Webinar on Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act - Overview of State Plan Structure:**

EA Wright participated in EPA community webinar to for an overview on the Clean Air Act. The focus of the webinar was on section 111(d) and the state plan structure under section 111(d). The goal to provide communities with background information on the authorities that EPA is using to implement the Clean Power Plan.

#### **National Institute for Environmental Health Services and Center for Environmental Health Webinar Series:**

EA Wright participated in the National Institute for Environmental Health Services (NIEHS) and Center for Environmental Health (CEH) webinar, *What does energy development doing to our reproduction health: An Overview: Reproductive & Developmental Health*. Sheila Bushkin, M.D., M.P.H., Institute for Health & the Environment, U at Albany was the moderator. Frederica Perera, P.H., Ph.D., Professor, Columbia U, Director, Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health gave a presentation on the "*Broad Impacts of Fossil Fuel Emissions on Children's Health and Development*", what is currently understood about exposures during prenatal and early postnatal development and discussed some of the potential health risks from fossil fuels. Dr. Perera is internationally recognized for pioneering the field of molecular epidemiology, utilizing biomarkers to understand links between environmental exposures and disease. Dr. Buskin is a member of the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) since 1998. Her specific areas

of interest involve chronic disease, aging, environmental health, and continuing medical education (CME).

**American Public Health Association Webcast:**

EA Wright listened in on the national public health kickoff anniversary celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> year of national public health week proclaimed by President Clinton in 1995. According to American Public Health Association (APHA), despite what we may read or hear, the U.S. is not the healthiest nation. We live shorter lives and suffer more health issues than people in other high-income countries. APHA President Shiriki Kumanyika, Dr. Gail Christopher and panel of experts discussed opportunities that exist and challenges we need to overcome to create the healthiest nation. The event was held at the Kaiser Family Foundation in Washington, D.C. and broadcast live on the Web to an audience across the country. Presentation, “*Chemical Exposures & Life-Long Reproductive Health Impacts*”, reviewed what is currently understood about reproductive biology and environmental contamination exposure, the role of environmental chemicals in breast development and puberty, increased susceptibility to breast cancer and exposures during early life development of both male and female offspring and life-long impacts from chemical exposure. The panelist discussed some of the potential health implications of energy development based on exposures during early reproductive and developmental biology. Speaker, Suzanne Fenton, Ph.D., is Group Leader, NIH, Reproductive Endocrinology Group, Mammary Gland Development/Lactation Biology and a reproductive endocrinologist working at the National Toxicology Program Laboratory with the Division of the National Toxicology Program at NIEHS. Moderator: Shiriki Kumanyika, PhD, MPH, President American Public Health Association, Keynote Speaker: Gail Christopher, DN, V.P. for Policy & Senior Advisor, W.K. Kellogg Foundation and Panelists: Tom Farley, MD, MPH, CEO The Public Good Projects; Linda Goler Blount, MPH, President/CEO Black Women's Health Imperative; and Soma Stout, MD, MS, Executive External Lead, Health Improvement, Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

**American Public Health Association [APHA] For Science for Action for Health Webinar Series:**

EA Wright participated in *Building Understanding of Environmental Health, Navigating the Swamp: Using Evidence to Craft More Effective Communication, by Frame Works Institute and sponsored by CDC and ATSDR* (webinar, an archived recording is available). FrameWorks Institute, Jennifer Nichols, lead the webinar on evidence based communication and strategic frame analysis. Knowing which persistent patterns of thinking undermine public engagement and support can help environment/health professionals improve the effectiveness of their communication. Successful navigation of this “swamp” of public thinking requires strategic choices about what to say and what to avoid. Nichols provided a review of which media frames dominate public discourse and model strategies for advancing the most productive of these patterns and demonstrated some of the features of their new online communications toolkit, designed to help communicators at all levels build better public engagement and understanding. Jennifer Nichols - Associate, Learning Team, FrameWorks Institute leads workshops and webinars on Strategic Frame Analysis™ and FrameWorks’ evidence-based communications recommendations and she develops communications resources modeling, how to apply these recommendations to a wide range of social issues, and provides technical assistance to communicators interested in framing. Nichols holds a B.A., Boston University; M.A., Syracuse University, and Ph.D., Michigan State University.

**White House Call: AmeriCorps Vista Conference Call:**

EA Wright listened in on the White House conference call for faith and community groups on the

AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) program. The purpose of the conference calls is to generate new resources and build capacity to serve low-income communities. This federal program has helped small nonprofit organizations generate new resources and build their capacity to serve low-income communities and their organizations.

### **Science and Environmental Health Network**

EA Wright attended the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative [GHHI] webinar, *A Case for Healthier Building Materials: Lifecycle Concerns, Data Gaps, and Precautionary Decision-making Red List Materials 101, Avoiding Chemical Hazards in Building Materials*. Healthy Building Network for their first Healthy Building Roundtable for Affordable Housing Providers, sponsored by the Kresge Foundation and the New York Community Trust. The webinars are designed to address the specific challenges that affordable housing providers face when trying to identify and select the healthy building materials for their projects. The first was an introduction to the Roundtable, and an opportunity for the community to provide input to help set the agenda for future sessions. Topics included: Considering health-related consequences throughout the product life cycle, exposures to chemical ingredients, and hazard information and the at-risk workers. The web was facilitated by Bill Walsh, Executive Director, Healthy Building Network and Ted Schettler M.D., M.P.H., Science & Environmental Health Network.

### **“Healthy Communities, Who’s Leading the Leading Health Indicators?” webinar: Access to Health Services:**

EA Wright participated in the webinar to learn how one organization is improving access to health services in its community and about resources available to help address community issues. Access to and utilization of quality health care has an effect on a person’s health. Increasing access to both routine medical care and insurance are vital steps in improving the health of all Americans. Regular and reliable use of health services can prevent disease and disability, detect and treat illnesses or other health and environmental related conditions, and increase life expectancy. Speakers included Dr. Karen DeSalvo, M.D., M.P.H., M.Sc., Acting Assistant Secretary for Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); Don Wright, M.D., M.P.H., Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, HHS; Sarah Linde, M.D., R.A.D.M., U.S. Public Health Service, Chief Public Health Advisor, Health Resources and Services Administration; and moderator, Don Wright, M.D., M.P.H., Director, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. The speakers describe the impact access to health services has on the health of our nation, identified strategies to address access to health services; and describe effective strategies to address access to health services. Discussion addressed existing resources for stakeholders to use as they address access to health services in their communities. The webinar was sponsored by HHS.

### **2015 DEP Environmental Education Grant Rater**

EA Wright was approved to be an environmental education grant rater and reviewed and evaluated four grants from Crawford County, Delaware County, Allegheny County, and Mercer County for the Environmental Education Program.

### **SOUTHEAST REGION**

#### **Kimberly-Clark Corporation 30-day Test Permit Request, Chester City, Delaware County:**

Environmental Advocate (EA) Alice Wright attended a meeting in the Chester City Council Caucus Room with representatives from Kimberly-Clark Corporation (KCC), Evergreen Recycling

Solutions, Chester Mayor John Linder, Delaware County Solicitor Mary Tully, and Chester City Council Members: Portia L. West, William A. Jacobs and Elizabeth Williams to learn about a permit request to be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for a 30-day test burn of a wood (construction demolition) mixed with coal in KCC's boiler. Councilwoman West invited Dr. Horace Strand and EA Wright, to attend the meeting. Representatives from KCC talked about the proposed test project and Anthony Novello, Evergreen, give a handout and short presentation on evergreen recycling. Councilwoman West and Dr. Strand asked questions about environmental and health impacts, safety, contaminants and control emissions. Dr. Strand asked about the other sites being tested in PA and requested KCC notifies the DEP to hold a public meeting to discuss the tests with the community. Councilwoman Williams said that she was not comfortable not know the kinds of emissions the residents would be exposed to and asked for documentation from other site that are burning biomass. Dr. Strand talked about the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concerns that have been directed to EPA about biomass energy in overburdened Environmental Justice (EJ) communities. Dr. Strand and Councilwoman West questioned the use and efficiency of air emission control devices to capture arsenic, copper and chromium along with what other toxins and particulate matter are discovered from the test. Dr. Strand would like further discussions. KCC has 570 jobs at the Chester plant and wants to improve their efficiency at the Chester Plant. Mr. Novello said that DEP is permitting other wood burning facilities in PA. The Councilmembers and Mayor plan to review materials for further discussion. Dr. Strand also mentioned the City of Chester Zoning Ordinance that an industry does not increase the environmental burden on the community and perimeters and that the DEP would be supplying more information about other permitted PA biomass facilities.

#### **Temple University, 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Beverly Gail Barnes-Kelch Memorial Lecture:**

EA Wright attended the lecture presentation at Temple University by Dr. Robert Bullard, *Building Just and Sustainable Communities for All: Why Sustainability Matters*. Dr. Bullard has been described as the father of environmental justice. Bullard authored 18 books that address sustainable development, environmental racism, urban land use, industrial facility siting and zoning, climate justice, community reinvestment, smart growth and regional equity. Dr. Bullard's book, *Dumping in Dixie: Race, Class and Environmental Quality*, is a standard text in the environmental justice field. Bullard is the Dean of the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University formerly Professor at Clark Atlanta.

#### **Delaware River Urban Waters, Climate Resilience Mapping Tools for Urban Waters Partnerships Webinar:**

EA Wright listened in on The Climate Resilience Community of Practice that presented its first webinar: "*Mapping Tools for Urban Waters Partnerships*". The presenters discussed how maps can be used to describe the basic features of the natural and built elements of a landscape and can also predict impacts of land-use change, locations of sites affected by flooding from storm events or sea level rise, patterns of resource use, location of tree canopy, and many other natural features. These maps are especially useful in the context of climate change. The presenters, Holly Ewell, Climate Smart Cities Program Manager at The Trust for Public Land, and David Strong, Geographer with the U.S. Geological Survey, presented the various mapping tools and features. After the presentation, Rachel Muir, Science Advisor for the U.S. Geological Survey, facilitate an online discussion of mapping needs for the Delaware River Watershed and gathered input for next steps.

**Chester Residential Complaint Registered with DEP:**

EA Wright was contacted by a resident of the City of Chester to arrange for participation for her and another resident to speak at the Chester Environmental Partnership's (CEP) upcoming May meeting. The complainant experienced health problems because of mold in her apartment and other issues related to her and her family's health. The complainant has met and/or spoken with the Councilman Jacobs, Mayor Linder, Licensing & Inspection, the City Solicitor, Senator Dominic Pileggi and State Representative Thaddeus Kirkland's office, DEP Air Quality, DEP Complaints Department and Office of Environmental Advocate and has not received any relief from the environmental hazards in her apartment. The complainant was being referred by Kevin Mclemore, SER Air Quality Program and EA Wright.

**Chester Environmental Partnership Bi-monthly Meeting:**

EA Wright was contacted by Brian Heindl, KCC, Manager, Government Relations and he agreed to give a presentation on the Biomass pilot demonstration request for permit from DEP to the CEP at the May 12 meeting that will be held at Monroe Energy in Trainer. A Monroe representative contacted Wright to go over logistics of the meeting.

**Chester Environmental Partnership Meeting, Delaware County:**

EA Wright and SER Assistant Regional Director (ARD), Sachin Shankar, attended the CEP meeting in Chester. Discussion by Beverly DeCer RN, founder of Fluoride Free Philadelphia, a small not-for-profit organization working to end water fluoridation in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and across the country provided studies and documents by EPA and other institutions about the health effects of fluoride in drinking water and health effects among African American children are higher than the average. City Councilwoman West plans to have Ms. DeCer speak before Chester City Council about the fluoride issue. Ms. DeCer, invited by the Chairman of the Environmental Justice Advisory Board (EJAB), spoke at the last meeting in Harrisburg. Winnie Branton, Esq., Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania talked about the Land Bank Training & Technical Assistance Program that is available for local municipalities to participate in the program. Ms. Branton talked about Detroit and Philadelphia Vacant Land and how the City is creating better systems for making land more accessible for community gardening and farming and urban development. The city is poised to take on responsibility of supporting farms and gardens on city-owned land in conjunction with the Neighborhood Gardens Trust and the Land Bank. Councilwoman West and Dr. Strand expressed an interest in Chester City involvement. Rich Pepino, University of Pennsylvania (Penn), Center for Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (CEET), gave Dr. Ron Renzi's update along with amputation statistics for Chester for the Save Your Soles Campaign. Dr. Ron Renzi, Abington Hospital, was unable to attend the meeting. The Save Your Soles Campaign spent 2014 attending health events throughout Chester, working with community groups, senior centers, Chester Crozier and the school district. Dr. Renzi is a part of the radio campaign that began on March 16 on WDAS radio. Dr. Strand and CEP members distributed flyers and posters across the city and partnered in events with Chester Crozier, churches and the senior centers discussing and listening to amputee' testimonies about the high rates of amputations in black men in Chester. The statistics show a decrease in amputations; however, the rates in Chester are so very high there is a lot of work and education that needs to be done. Covanta Energy has agreed to sponsor \$7,500 towards the CEP Save Your Soles Campaign.

**Keep America Beautiful (KAB) Affiliations for Chester City:**

EA Wright is working with Chester City Councilwoman West to help with the City application to becoming a KAB Affiliate. EA Wright has met and arranged meeting for the City with Heidi

Piccone, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful (KPB). Covanta Energy has agreed to sponsor the City for the \$3,000 fee to become an affiliate. EA Wright spoke with Dr. Strand about adding KPB/KAB to the CEP agenda to establish a CEP committee to write the proposal for the 3 surveillance cameras for Chester. The proposal will be submitted to KPB once completed. Ms. Piccone attended the KAB National Conference in Washington DC and Lowes again donated \$1 Million to the affiliate network. Ms. Piccone wants to get Chester into the network to be eligible for this funding. Delaware County had listed in the Annual Report there are 24 illegal dump sites in the entire County and 12 of them were in Chester. KAB is willing to provide \$500 matching dollars to Chester towards the application fee. Once Chester forwards the application to Ms. Piccone, KPB will send a check for the \$500 directly to KAB. EA Wright will take copies of the applications for the Camera Loan Program that will be prepared by the CEP committee and forwarded to KPB for these surveillance cameras. Ms. Piccone also recommends involving your police department or code enforcement in this process.

**Earth Day Activities, City of Chester:**

EA Wright attended an Earth Day Celebration and participated in a planting two trees with a faith-based charter school in the City of Chester. EA Wright gave the lower school hands on demonstration and education on tree planting. The 10 lower school students and EA Wright planted two trees along with flowers.

**Ambler Crossings Apartment building project:**

EA Wright has been receiving numerous e-mails and calls about the Ambler Crossings Apartment building project in Ambler that is slated to be built on an inactive asbestos waste disposal site known as the Bast/Frumin parcels. The residents believe the contamination at this location to be similar to the contamination found at the BoRit Asbestos Superfund site and the Ambler Asbestos Piles Superfund site, and from the same manufacturing facility. The residents are asking me to intervene on this proposed development because of concerns regarding health and safety risks to the community for both the short and long terms. This is of great concern to the residents and others who are aware of this situation. EA Wright and SER ARD Shankar discussed environmental justice related issues associated with the community in close proximity to the superfund site, BoRit Asbestos Superfund Community Advisory Group (CAG) issues and how some CAG members feel about the Act 2 process and cleanup plan. Penn has another meeting scheduled to discuss health related issues and the Penn project updates.

**Ambler BoRit Asbestos Superfund Community Advisory, Montgomery County:**

EA Wright attended BoRit Asbestos Area CAG meeting at the Upper Dublin Township Building to learn more about the Ambler Crossing project, Bast parcel and BoRit Cleanup, Penn program update and a presentation by DEP Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields (ECB) Manager Steve Sinding and Walter Payne. EA left the CAG meeting with Ambler resident Otis Hightower to attend Whitpain Township's 2035 Comprehensive Plan Update town hall meeting.

**Whitpain Township Town Hall Meeting:**

EA Wright attended the first town hall meeting to learn about the Township's 2035 Comprehensive Plan Update. The meeting was held at the Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell. Keynote speaker: Tom Hylton, Pulitzer prize-winning journalist and author of *Save Our Land, Save Our Towns* and President of Save Our Land, Save Our Towns, Inc. gave a power point presentation on examples of healthy places to live. Peter Simone of Simone Collins and project consultant on the Ambler sites described through a presentation a comprehensive plan and

discussed existing conditions in the township and characteristics and challenges of Broad Axe Village. Township Supervisor, Fred Conner, introduced project committee members and asked residents for their comments, opinions, ideas and suggestions. Community residents expressed concerns about transportation connections and safety, trail plan and land use, Act 89 transportation improvements, zoning and restrictions, vacant parcels, flood plans, storm water management and new development, asbestos sites and the comprehensive plan. EA Wright attended the meeting with Otis Hightower, representative for West Ambler community, CAG and Whitpain Re-Development Committee member.

**Cabrini College, A Greener Future, Faith, Climate, Chester County:**

EA Wright attended the PA Religious Coalitions on Creation Care for a Greener Future. Discussions and breakout sessions were led by the leadership of the Orthodox Church of America, Central Baptist Church of Wayne, Eastern University and Cabrini College. Rabbi Arthur Waskow of the Shalom Center was the keynote speaker. Discussions included climate and environmental health, move our money to protect our planet, preparing churches for extreme water and climate and the earth-oriented theology of the Hebrew Scriptures. The program was sponsored by Cabrini, Chestnut Hill, PA Interfaith Power and Light, Penn Future, Citizens for PA Future, Central Baptist Church, Evangelical Environmental Network, and The National and PA Religious Coalition on Creation Care.

**Southwest Philadelphia Grays Avenue Community & Auto Salvaging and Exporting Company, Philadelphia County:**

EA Wright received an invitation from a resident to a community meeting at the Woodland Academy Child Development Center in Southwest Philadelphia to hear discussions about zoning and the types of businesses that have moved into the community and discuss safety, health and environmental concerns. The meeting was arranged so that the community can share their concerns with one of the candidates running in the district for Philadelphia City Council. EA Wright has received daily call from residents in regards to the auto salvaging yards in the neighborhood. EA Wright has received calls from a local neighbor about scheduling another meeting and tour of the auto salving junk yards in the local community. EA Wright was approached by a Southwest Grays Avenue community resident and leader planning to hold another meeting at Ebenezer Baptist Church to discuss the number of auto salvaging businesses in the community. The residents continue to complain about parking, illegal dumping and traffic issues.

**Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site Community Meeting, Philadelphia County:**

EA Wright and Colin Wade, SERO Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields (ECB) Environmental Protection Specialist attended the Lower Darby Creek Area (LDCA) meeting for a review and status report on 2015 activities for LDCA site. EPA gave a presentation on what a Community Advocacy Group (CAG) does, voting and non-voting members, formation and EPA requirements for forming a CAG in order to be eligible for support services through EPA's Technical Assistance Services for Communities program. The LDCA site community has already begun the initial stages in forming the CAG to address the Clearview Landfill cleanup. Coordinating agencies such as EPA, DEP, Air Management Service and others are not considered members but may provide technical assistance. EPA appointed Marion Cox the CAG's Neutral Facilitator. Cox discussed CAG membership and her role in the process.

**Morrisville Borough Environmental Advocacy Council, Bucks County:**

EA Wright received a request for EJ confirmation for Morrisville Borough. The Environmental

Advocacy Council (EAC) is applying again for a grant. EA Wright forwarded EAC with the US government census quick facts and statistics for Morrisville.

**Monroe Energy, LLC, Montgomery County:**

EA Wright received an EJ Authorizations Summary Notification for Authorization # 1061029, Major Facility Plan for Monroe Energy, LLC located in Norristown, PA. EA Wright contacted Lead Reviewer, Air Pollution Control Engineer in the Air Program for an update. The purpose of the project is to reduce the Delaware River water intake quantity and velocity, decrease the temperature of the water discharged into the Marcus Hook Creek and Stony Creek, and comply with Clean Water Act regulations that limit intake velocity. The project is to install three new closed-loop cooling towers to replace three existing once-through Cooling Towers. The new cooling towers are Alky Cooling Tower #2, FCC Cooling Tower and Crude Cooling Tower. The project triggers the New Source Review (NSR) threshold for VOC emissions (25 tons per year). The VOC project actual emissions (PAE) are 67.38 TPY. The project is subject to the requirements of Lowest Achievable Emission Rate (LAER) and Emission Reduction Credits (ERC). EA Wright discussed with ARD Shankar and understands the facility is not located in an EJ community. EA Wright has requested a copy of the draft from the Lead Reviewer when available.

**Vintage Tech, LLC, Philadelphia County:**

EA Wright reviewed Vintage Tech compliance history at the Bath Street Address, scheduled a meeting with Waste Management Supervisor in preparation of the permit for the new site on Torresdale Avenue (approximately 6 miles from the proposed site in an existing unoccupied building). EA Wright will discuss with Vintage Electronics Legislative Program Manager their future expansion plans along with what is necessary to maintain compliance in regards to a General Permit Application and Environmental Justice. EA Wright was contacted by Vintage Electronics Legislative Program Manager has been communicating with Vintage about future expansion plans.

**SER ARD Shankar EJ Update meeting, Montgomery County:**

EA Wright and ARD Shankar discussed EJ Authorizations Summary Notification for Authorizations, Vintage Tech, Chester Environmental Partnership, Energy and Technology opportunities in municipal/communities, Ambler, KCC and Delaware County Regional Water Quality Control Authority (DelCORA). EA Wright is a 2015 DEP Environmental Education Grant Rater. EA Wright is rating 4 grants from Crawford County, Delaware County, Allegheny County, and Mercer County and the evaluated grants are due back to Environmental Ed Program on March 6, 2015. EA Wright and ARD Shankar talked about OEA meeting with Heather Cowley, Energy and Technology Development Program to discuss the possibility of Ms. Cowley giving a joint presentation at the CEP possibly along with representatives from the Chester School district and City officials on the DEP's natural gas vehicle grant, alternative fuel incentive grant and PA Energy Development Authority (PEDA) to inform and educate about the program grants. EA Wright met with the Watershed Program, to see if there are any grant opportunities for the Chester municipality and or the local watershed on watershed improvements and storm water management.

**Delaware Valley Green Building Commission, Philadelphia County:**

EA Wright participated in the 2015 Tri-State Sustainability Symposium and "Continue the Conversation" at Temple University Performing Arts Center. EA Wright assisted the moderator in all the Water Track session presentations which included: "Oceans, Rivers and Waterways: Is Water a Precious Commodity or Awash and Aplenty?", "Green Infrastructure and Storm water Management: Where Are We and Why Are We Investing Hundreds of Millions?", and "Water

Conservation in the Built Environment: A Thirst for Knowledge”. The Panelists were lead to continue the conversation and interact about the session topic with the attendees and other panelist.

**Delaware Valley Green Building Commission, Philadelphia County Continued:**

EA Wright was offered the opportunity to be a Volunteer for the 2015 Tri-State Sustainability Symposium Training. EA Wright will volunteer for the presenters at the session discussions and “Continue the Conversation” discussions with the presenters in the Lobby and rotunda for follow up questions and answers. The Sustainability Symposium will be held at Temple University Performing Arts Center. EA Wright attended the orientation at the Delaware Valley Green Building Commission (DVGBC) office and will be working on the water sessions at the symposium.

**NORTHEAST REGION**

**Lackawanna Energy Center, LLC, Jessup; Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Dunmore & Hazelton Creek Properties:**

Wright receives frequent e-mail from Northeast Region (NER) residents about Hazelton Creek Properties (HCP), Keystone Sanitary Landfill (KSL) and Lackawanna Energy Center expecting PA DEP responses to questions from previous public meetings, requesting additional meeting and technical air studies were relevant. John S. Mellow, former DEP geologist, has forwarded photographs and lengthy reports about air quality issues and also applied to be considered for Oil and Gas committees to no avail. Mr. Mellow was contacted by a local Times Tribune reporter on an issue regarding a historical subsurface air study on Keystone Landfill weeks ago. Mr. Mellow says the story will run in the near future and that I should feel free to give him a call and he will update me. The story should run in the near future.

**Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Dunmore Borough:**

EA Wright forwards daily opposition letters to the KSL Phase 3 landfill expansion from members of the Dunmore community to the NER Community Relations Coordinator, Colleen Connelly and OEA Director, Kim Morewood. EA Wright received e-mails from residents about Marcellus issues that have implications on the HCP Site and KSL Phase 3 Extension.

**Keystone Sanitary Landfill, Dunmore Borough Continued:**

EA Wright attended the public meeting held at Dunmore High School in Dunmore, PA on February 25, 2015. DEP’s discussed the agency’s regulatory and reviewer role. KSL gave a presentation followed by questions and answer session by KSL and DEP with residents, KSL employees and others. Copies of the Waste Management Major Permit modification application, EJ policy and other supporting documents were available for the residents. The attendees asked for additional meeting along with the public hearing. EA Wright continues to forward daily KSL opposition letters to the landfill expansion to NER CRC Connelly. There were about 500 people that attended the meeting and those who make public comments were opposed to the landfill expansion based on health, property values, KSL reputation and the environment. Friends of Lackawanna, a non-profit, was created specifically to stop the Phase 3 expansion.

**Hazelton Creek Properties General Permit WMGR097**

EA Wright receives correspondence and phone calls related to HCP from Hazelton residents and organizations. EA Wright spoke with John Mellow, a Licensed Professional Geologist and retired DEP geologist. Mr. Mellow has frequently been expressing his concerns with HCP site and the Act

2 or general permit sites in PA to the region. Mr. Mellow has also expressed his disappointment in waiting for a response that did not answer his questions from DEP Program on the HCP site. Some of the issues of concern include high lead levels, trust issues and HCP company personnel collecting/monitoring, dust violations, high radiation, untreated Marcellus waste and other contaminants. Mr. Mellow and other residents are feeling that the NER is unable to address their issues and are considering sending their concerns directly to the Secretary. A Hazelton resident forwarded a Hazelton Newspaper article by the HCP stating facts the community and PA Waste Industries Association (PWIA) consider erroneous. EA Wright received calls from a resident in Hazelton about Marcellus and illegal dumping at the HCP who is considering contacting the Attorney General.

**Hazelton Creek Properties General Permit WMGR097 Continued:**

EA Wright continues to receive correspondence related to HCP from Hazelton resident and organizations. EA Wright spoke with Hazelton resident, Ann Marie Shelby and Carol Martenssen following up on materials that they submitted to EA. EA Wright indicated that those HCP materials they sent have been delivered to the Secretary for review.

**SOUTHCENTRAL REGION**

**EJ Authorizations Summary Notification:**

EA Wright received EJ notifications on Zack Akers Farms, Bedford County and the Bricker Farm. EA Wright contacted Lead Reviewer, Jeffrey Butters, Environmental Engineer Specialist in South Central Region (SCR) Clean Water Program who said according to eMaps, neither is EJ. EA Wright forwarded the e-mail to Joshua Hudak, eFACTS Applications Support Help Desk about sites in other Counties also identified on eFACTS as EJ that are not EJ. Mr. Hudak will review for further instruction.

**eFACTS Authorization, Water Quality Management Permit, Bedford County:**

EA Wright followed up on an eFACTS authorization to confirm that it qualified as potential EJ based on Authorization Type and Application. EA Wright contacted Lead Reviewer, Hannah Marker, Environmental Engineering Trainee, SCR Clean Water Program for an update on the concentrated animal site. This is application for a new farm in Taylor Township, Fulton County. Address for the proposed site is 457 West McKinleyville Road, Hustontown, PA. The site is about 20 miles northwest of Chambersburg, PA. There is currently an unused swine barn at the site. The proposed farm will build a new barn to finish 2,400 swine and will not be using the existing barn. The lead reviewer was surprised this area would be an EJ and wondering if she may have missed entering it for the Primary Facility. EA Wright forwarded the eFACTS help desk for further review.

**Office Environmental Advisory, Dauphin County:**

EA Wright attended a meeting with the Secretary of DEP along with the OEA Director Kim Morewood and Western Region EA Lisa Kasianowitz. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the OEA to DEP Acting Secretary John Quigley, discussion the OEA and how environmental justice is working in the regions. The Acting Secretary provided a preview of the priorities of Governor Tom Wolf's Administration.

**Environmental Justice Advisory Board, Dauphin County:**

The EJAB meeting that was held in Harrisburg and DEP Acting Secretary updated the Board about

the Administration's plans and priorities. EJAB discussion included a presentation from the Policy Office an update on state boards, new boards that have been established and opportunities available to EJAB with other board organizations. EJAB members discuss the Environmental Work Group Report and would like to review possible changes for the trigger permit list. The EJAB would like to develop an EJ community-suggested Community Environmental Projects (EJ CEP) Database for grant opportunities and EJ CEPs. EJAB members reviewed for comment a copy of, *Legal and Practical Issues Associated with the Growing US Environmental Justice Movement*. Beverly DeCer, RN and founder of Fluoride Free Philadelphia gave a presentation on removing fluoride from public water.

### **SOUTHWEST REGION**

#### **Matt Canastral Contracting, Inc., SMP 26970702:**

EA Wright received a call from Deputy Secretary, Active and Abandoned Mining Operations, John Stefano about doing some environmental justice outreach for a site in the Southwest Region (SWR) to remove by detonation some seismic charges. DEP will need to be on the site to mark the location of where the detonations will occur in a few weeks. As was suggested by Deputy Stefanko, EA Wright e-mailed Barbara Grabowski and Rick Lamkie for some background and address for the site in order to move forward on providing community outreach.