**TALKING POINTS:**

* Good Evening and Welcome
* First, I would like to thank Rafiyqa Muhammad and theentire Environmental Justice Advisory Board for having me. Since becoming Secretary of DEP, I have looked forward to meeting each and every one of you, discussing the positive culture change that DEP is experiencing, and create opportunities to not only workwith you but also for you as Secretary of DEP
	+ Brief introduction
		- Bio
		- Previous Work
* Vision for DEP
	+ Environmental Justice
	+ DEP’s work has been guided, in part, by an Environmental
		- Justice Policy adopted in 2004.
		- DEP can now look at more expansive models and havemore regularly updated data than was available in 2004.
* Tell a clever story that will make a connection to the audience
* Please believe me when I say by no means do any of the expansive models mean to negate urban communities that have been marginalized for decades, even centuries. It does mean to include rural communities that are also affected by polluted air to breathe, contaminated water to drink, and toxic land to live on.
* Make a connection to Article 1 Section 27 and your background growing up in New Jersey, doing public servant work in Philly, and how a tragedy like the derailment affected your first 15 days at DEP, as the first Latino Secretary.
* Collaborative Efforts
* Working right here in Harrisburg, there is a unique opportunity that can be achieved.
* Talk about your enjoyment living here in Harrisburg over the past six months and the potential Harrisburg has as a thriving eco-system if we continue to clean it up
* DEP and our EJ team will be intentional about educating, collaborating, and fostering relationships with our stakeholders and community members to find grant opportunities that will help combat the illegal dumping issues that continue to occur right here in Harrisburg.

* Climate Pollution Reduction Grants
* CPRG is a $5 billion IRA program to support states’ efforts to develop and implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
* The program has two distinct but related phases:
	+ Planning grants: $250 million of formula funding for eligible entities to develop plans to reduce GHGs.
	+ Implementation grants: $4.6 billion of competitive funding to implement measures from the GHG reduction plans developed with the planning grant funding.
* DEP received a $3 million planning grant, and three Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), including Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, will receive $1 million planning grants each.
* DEP must develop priority and comprehensive climate action plans in collaboration with air pollution control districts and large and small municipalities and conduct meaningful engagement with low income and vulnerable communities.
* DEP’s priority plan will focus on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the industrial sector, which contributes to about one-third of Pennsylvania’s total GHG emissions.
* Internal Projects
* DEP Mural Project
* Urban Garden Project
* Current work and new culture atmosphere at DEP
* Introduce the New Environmental Justice Team
* Permitting Reform and Environmental Excellence
* 10 Point Permitting Plan
* Addressing the future and commitment to Pennsylvania, and Harrisburg as the state’s Capital is a priority and I look forward to this partnership with all of you.
* Thank you and preparation for Q&A