DEM
Environmental Equity

Stakeholder Workshop #2 ...1/18/07

✓ What does environmental equity mean to you?

✗ Stakeholder steps?

✓ Presentation by Steve Fishbach

reflections, too...

✓ Clarify mandate #3... "fair and consistent consideration..."?

✗ Review and polish "straw man" processes for mandates 2+5?

What does environmental equity mean to you?

building on the blog comments!

It's so entrenched that it's institutional racism

the question is, it's daunting

Equity's about distributing the burdens and the benefits

How do you separate environmental justice from equity?

they're linked

you have to have justice w/ equity

especially in communities who already have inequities

Isn't it economic injustice?

when you cut across studies, class has fallen out but race is a factor

Also about equal participation in the process ~~among~~ the sites

but you can have different mechanisms and processes

Have to remember in communities w/ cumulative risk, the layers run deeper

the way DEM handles it, by investing more $ in places

where there is historical inequity

When one neighborhood gets extra help

it's viewed as taking $ away from elsewhere

Best way to make ~~econo~~ improvements means to start at the bottom

so make the greatest improvements where the situation is worse

When a community is organized, things get done

so focus on building on strength

and building more strength

this organization helps ~~to~~ us (DEM) to get our job done

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Getting clearer on mandate #3... "issues to consider and standards to employ to ensure fair and consistent consideration of environmental equity issues when reviewing clean-up plans for contaminated sites

methods

Process has to be practical

The process has to be workable

has to be transparent and predictable

can't be so cumbersome that it scares others off

build on the discussion from 1st mtg.

workable for whom?

balance needs of community w/ development

Steve... what did you have in mind

What kind of neighborhood is this

focus on both space and people

develop a baseline

include potential areas impacted

cast it as wide as possible

#3 mandate method to determine there are no unequal burdens

Court order says take a hard look

I want to institutionalize that hard look

defining the impact on the population

What are the principles behind this?

Look at all hazards, not just environmental

Get all the data in 1 place

Use a master database

We want to make the engagement w/ the community successful

community and developer have a mutual agreement on objectives

all hazards and drawbacks need to be in 1 place

to determine if the community is overburdened

from the community perspective, what's the history of the site

Populations are not a coherent group

some subsets are more vulnerable (e.g., children)

Clean to the highest use possible

because use could change

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the data base has to be accessible to community

and in multiple languages

A master database

can bring expertise to bear when elec. database isn't ready

some of the experts are in the community

Using GIS mapping data

following EPA guidelines on what's an environ. justice area

Community-based participatory research

in, door-to-door, meetings

so they can determine what problems are worst

all available online

What would it look like in practice?

and practices have to be institutionalize

Do a community impact statement

A walking tour to show everyone the neighborhood

residents, developers, DEM

A workshop to develop knowledge of a place

everyone participating together

All about timing— community engaged early on in the process

when they're not, the resistance is much higher

On-going evaluation:
- what's working
- what's not
- modify accordingly

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