

EJ Conference, Inc. Presents

The State of Environmental Justice in America 2012 Conference

April 3-5, 2012



Environmental Justice Conference to Focus on Clean Energy, Climate Change, Green Jobs, and Equity

Volume 1, Issue 1

The 6th Annual State of Environmental Justice in America Conference will continue the emphasis from last year's EJ Conference. It is clear that energy still consumes an inordinate portion of income for low-income and minority populations. It is equally clear that energy production presents numerous opportunities for small towns and rural communities to combine their resources with others to build sustainable communities and economies when done properly. For those reasons, the Conference has decided to revisit energy, environment, economics and equity.

The 2011 Conference introduced the Minority Alternative Energy Consortium. Historically, Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) and Historically Black Colleges and Universities have been anchors of support for minority and low-income communities. These institutions have the ability to combine resources with communities to help them achieve environmental justice. In addition to the training and technical assistance that these institutions can provide, they can be formidable advocates and partners for communities working for environmental justice, sustainability, jobs, economic development, health equality and other contributors to a wholesome quality of life.

The EJ Conference will continue to offer the programs from previous sessions. These include Meet the Agencies and Small Town Development Forum. Meet the Agencies allows community activists and others to request a face to face meeting with a Federal official, and the Conference works to facilitate the meeting. The Small Town Development Forum allows small towns, MSIs, HBCUs, community groups and others to present their challenges to an expert panel, and the panel provides advice and direction for reaching a sustainable solution. These two programs have proven popular and beneficial to participants.



THE STATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN AMERICA 2012 CONFERENCE

APRIL 3-5, 2012

OFFICIAL CONFERENCE HOTEL

DoubleTree–Hilton at Crystal City

300 Army Navy Drive

Arlington, VA 22202

1-800-HILTONS (*toll-free*)

1-703-416-4100 (*local*)

CONFERENCE THEME

***“Building the Clean Energy
Economy with Equity - Revisited”***

REGISTRATION FEE*

\$150.00 until March 15, 2012

\$250.00 after March 15, 2012

**No registration fee for students*

Register at: Registration@ejconference.net

The quest for energy independence continues to create significant research and production opportunities and jobs. The Conference seeks means to increase MSI/HBCU participation in alternative and renewable energy research and production designed to foster economic development in small towns and rural communities, and to promote green jobs for low-income, minority, and Tribal populations.

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In addition, the Conference aims to consider equity for Black farmers and Tribal communities in the development of alternative and renewable energy facilities. The Conference is a venue to highlight these efforts and to promote means to ensure that low-income and minority groups, Tribal populations, and small towns and rural communities participate in this economic recovery to the greatest extent possible.



The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Committee

The State of EJ in America Conference's STEM Education Committee advocates for policies to improve MSI/HBCU participation in STEM education at all levels. The Committee seeks to identify ways MSIs/HBCUs can collaborate with Majority Institutions and others on EJ related STEM funded projects. We seek to help communities with their environmental justice issues by advocating an increasing role of MSI/HBCU participation in STEM Education. One connection is to give minorities and low-income individuals additional skills to improve and increase their ability to participate in environmental decision-making through greater understanding of various technical and complex issues resolved through STEM skills.

The State of EJ in America Conference's STEM Education Committee's Mission:

- Educate Federal policymakers and key opinion leaders on the critical role that MSI/HBCU participation in STEM education plays in addressing Environmental Justice issues.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with key Congressional and Administration policymakers and serve as a valued source of expertise to their staffs on the role that MSI/HBCU participation in STEM education plays in addressing Environmental Justice issues.
- Advocate for appropriations for innovative and effective Federal STEM education programs that address Environmental Justice issues and increase MSI/HBCU participation in doing so. *(continued, top of Page 3)*

Conference participants can learn about:

- **Community Capacity Building**
- **Recent Developments in Environmental Justice**
- **Meet the Agencies**
- **Small Town Rural Community Business Forum**
- **Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice**
- **Confronting Health Disparities**
- **Funding Opportunities**
- **STEM Opportunities Showcase**
- **Community/Industry Partnerships**
- **Black Male Initiative**

Foster innovative policies to:

- Encourage and inspire more of our best and brightest students, especially those from underrepresented or disadvantaged groups, to study in STEM fields;
- Improve the content knowledge and professional skills of the STEM teacher workforce;
- Recruit and retain highly-skilled STEM educators;
- Improve the resources available for learning STEM subjects; and
- Encourage better coordination of efforts among federal agencies that provide STEM education Programs



Conference to host STEM opportunities Showcase

The EJ Conference will host a STEM showcase in addition to the regular Conference exhibit hall. The STEM showcase will highlight STEM programs in the Federal and private sector that are available to students. Students from local and out of area academic institutions will have an opportunity to view intern and fellowship possibilities, and have discussions with those offering the opportunities. The STEM showcase will include activities directed towards K-12, undergraduate and graduate students, post doctorates, teachers and others.

For additional information and sponsorship opportunities regarding the STEM Showcase, please contact: Debbie Akwei (debbieja@aol.com or 202-889-5064) OR Clovia Hamilton (chamilton@lemongrassplanning.com or 678-778-1523).



CONFERENCE CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional information and sponsorship opportunities for the Environmental Justice Conference, please contact:

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OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS...

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Washington, DC 20006

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