



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
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September 11, 2003

VIA FAX & U.S. MAIL

Romel Pascual
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice
California EPA - Environmental Justice Program
1001 I Street, 25th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812
Fax: 916-445-6401

*Re: Public Comment in Support of the Draft
Recommendations of the Cal/EPA
Advisory Committee on Environmental
Justice to the Cal/EPA Interagency
Working Group on Environmental Justice.*

Dear Mr. Pascual:

On behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), we are writing to express our support of the *Draft Recommendations of the Cal/EPA Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice* to the Cal/EPA Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization with a mission to secure and protect the civil rights of people of color, including the right to equal environmental protection. The NAACP has a half-million adult and youth members throughout the United States. In California, the NAACP has approximately 140 local units and 15,000 members represented by the California State Conference of Branches.

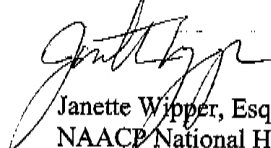
Consistent with the NAACP's policy on environmental justice, the NAACP supports the draft recommendations now before the Cal/EPA Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice. As the state representative of the California NAACP, the California State Conference specifically urges adoption of the goals, criteria, and recommendations of the Advisory Committee by Cal/EPA.



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Thank you for the opportunity to express our support of these critical recommendations on environmental justice. Adopting these recommendations would again demonstrate California's leadership in advancing environmental justice for communities of color nationally. We request that you include our comments in the record on behalf of the NAACP.

Sincerely,



Janette Wipper, Esq.
NAACP National Headquarters

Alice Huffman, President
NAACP California State Conference of Branches