

From: OSUkill@aol.com [mailto:OSUkill@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2006 2:39 PM
To: Solid Waste Facility Permit Rulemaking
Subject: Further modifications to proposed regulations

To Bobbie Garcia and/or other interested parties:

After reviewing the proposed permit implementation regulations, I believe further change is required to ensure AB 1497's enactment takes full force in the community. Specifically, the regulation interpreting "environmental justice" in increasing public notice of the informational hearing needs revision. Here are my suggestions for such change:

1) Written notice in local newspapers as well as postings on the business itself is not sufficient. Other media avenues, including local radio and public access television is necessary. Many California citizens are unable to read due to a lack of educational background. Therefore, local radio or television would provide sufficient notice to those illiterate persons who are interested in the informational meeting.

2) Notice to elected public officials in the city, county, and neighboring cities would increase "environmental justice." In the future, these elected officials would be aware of the content of these informational sessions and thus would have preventive power in their own cities and communities. Providing hands-on power to these officials will, at the end of the day, enhance "environmental justice" and decrease local businesses seeking permits without merit.

3) Placing a 300 ft. radial limitation on notice does not meet "environmental justice." Although I believe there should be a requirement on how far notice shall be given, putting an exact figure on such requirement does not meet "environmental justice." On the other hand, perhaps using socio-geographic ratios would provide a more efficient mode of giving notice. Ideally, after computation, more concentrated areas should require less distant notice. Less concentrated areas would require a broader and wider range of notices. This will ensure that businesses, in applying for the permit, do not misinterpret the 300 ft. requirement and fail to post notice beyond that number assuming they have met CIWMB requests.

4) Lastly, the multilingual notice requirement needs further clarification and specificity. I believe using socio-economic ratios and computations will enable businesses to know exactly in how many languages the notice must be given. The "multilingual" provision could lead to many businesses solely putting hispanics on notice while their business is located, for example, in mainly an Asian community. Therefore, the "multilingual" provision should be based on providing notice to those minorities in the community with the highest concentration of people or with any concentration of people.

I hope these suggestions are helpful. Thank you for allowing the public to have a voice in such a matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Leff