

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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**W6b**

September 12, 2018

**PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT**

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Persons

FROM: John Ainsworth, Executive Director  
Sarah Christie, Legislative Director  
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Sumi Selvaraj, NOAA Coastal Management Fellow  
Coastal Commission Environmental Justice Team

SUBJECT: **Coastal Commission Draft Environmental Justice Policy - Public Review Draft**

**(NOTE: This Public Review Draft has been updated with minor text edits from the draft released on August 9, 2018. This is a discussion item only and the Coastal Commission will not be taking action on the draft Environmental Justice Policy at the September 12, 2018 meeting.)**

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**The Coastal Commission staff has drafted an Environmental Justice (EJ) policy memo for the Commission's review, feedback and public comment. This draft EJ policy will be brought before the Commission at a future meeting for adoption.**

The People of the State of California find and declare:

- “(a) That the California Coastal Zone is a distinct and valuable natural resource of vital and enduring interest to **all the people** and exists as a delicately balanced ecosystem.
- (b) That the permanent protection of the state's natural and scenic resources is a paramount concern to present and future residents of the state and nation.
- (c) That to promote the public safety, health, and welfare, and to protect public and private property, wildlife, marine fisheries, and other ocean resources, and the natural environment, it is necessary to protect the ecological balance of the coastal zone and prevent its deterioration and destruction.”

--- Legislative findings, Proposition 20  
---Coastal Act, PRC Sec. 30001  
(Emphasis added.)

## Executive Summary

In 2016, the California Coastal Commission gained the authority through the passage of AB 2616 to specifically consider environmental justice when making permit decisions. This new responsibility is consistent with and expands upon the spirit, intent, mission and history of this agency. The bill also required “one of the members of the commission appointed by the Governor to reside in, and work directly with, communities in the state that are disproportionately burdened by, and vulnerable to, high levels of pollution and issues of environmental justice.” That Commissioner is currently Vice Chair Effie Turnbull-Sanders. The full bill text can be found in Appendix A.

For more than 40 years, this agency has worked to uphold the principles of the Coastal Act, a statute inherently grounded in the principles of public inclusion and equity. Despite numerous environmental victories, the statute’s vision of coastal protection and access for all people has not been fully realized. The concern remains that, historically, much of the Commission’s work has been largely shaped by coastal residential, commercial and industrial landowners, without sufficient consideration for those whose lives and livelihoods are connected to our coasts through their labor, recreation, and cultural practices but cannot afford the staggering cost of land adjacent to the California shoreline.<sup>1</sup> To fulfill the agency’s mission of protecting and preserving coastal resources, the Commission welcomes the inclusion of an environmental justice lens to expand our analysis of, and inform our response to, coastal issues -- for all Californians.

Since the bill’s passage, Commission staff has conducted meetings with 58 environmental justice stakeholders across the state and heard from dozens more at a roundtable meeting in July. The agency formed an environmental justice team with members across the agency, participated in racial equity and environmental justice trainings, collaborated with sister agencies, created a dedicated webpage and email address, a webinar, and implemented other strategies. As a related but independent process, the agency adopted a separate Tribal Consultation Policy.

Comments and feedback from these meetings were organized into core themes, including agency outreach and engagement, tribal concerns, coastal access, energy, climate change, staffing and hiring, policy development, permitting, housing, health and local governments. The most frequently cited request was for the Commission to do more community outreach and engagement, alert groups about important upcoming agenda items and explain how their communities might be affected and what they could do. Other key requests included the agency making their meetings more accessible and user-friendly, and working to establish better relationships with tribes.

Although all of the feedback received was valuable, some very thoughtful suggestions were not applicable to the draft policy. In an effort to go beyond the requirements of AB2616 and embrace the spirit of this law, staff has planned a comprehensive three phase approach to integrate the principals of environmental justice and social and racial equity throughout the Coastal Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> Morales, M. Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE). July 12, 2018 comment letter re: proposed environmental justice policy.

The Environmental Justice Policy is the leading effort of this larger framework. The policy will provide both the public and the Commission with a guide on how the agency will conduct the public's business, make public decisions, and ensure equitable procedural access. Staff is also drafting a Racial Equity Action Plan that will inform the agency's internal policies, such as those related to recruitment, hiring, retention and promotion. Lastly, staff is also in the process of updating our five year Strategic Plan, which will include a new chapter on Environmental Justice. The Strategic Plan will be the document that creates ongoing accountability by identifying the specific tasks necessary to successfully implement both the EJ Policy and the Equity Action Plan.

The following draft Environmental Justice Policy is meant to achieve more meaningful engagement, equitable process, effective communication, and stronger coastal protection benefits that are accessible to everyone:

### **Draft Coastal Commission Environmental Justice Policy Statement**

*The California Coastal Commission's commitment to diversity and environmental justice recognizes that the Coastal Act is an inherently equitable law, designed to protect California's coast and ocean commons for the benefit of all the people. In keeping with that aspirational vision, the Commission as an agency is committed to protecting coastal natural resources and providing public access and lower-cost recreation opportunities for everyone, and ensuring that those opportunities shall not be denied on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, or place of residence. The Commission recognizes that our conservation mission is best advanced with the participation and leadership of people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, races, color, religions, national origins, ethnic groups, ages, disability status, sexual orientation, and gender identity. The Commission is committed to consideration of environmental justice principles, as the term "environmental justice" is defined in Government Code Section 65040.12(e), consistent with Coastal Act policies, during the planning, decision-making, and implementation of Commission actions, programs, policies, and activities. It is also the California Coastal Commission's goal, consistent with Government Code Section 11135, to recruit, build, and maintain a highly qualified, professional staff that reflects our state's diversity."*

The draft policy also outlines a statement of guiding principles on topics such as respecting tribal concerns, meaningful engagement, coastal access, accountability and transparency, climate change, and habitat and public health.

Commission staff is working on and will release a public engagement plan outlining the timeline, outreach tools and other details related to gathering feedback on the draft policy. The plan calls for a 90 day outreach and comment period with the roundtables, one-on-one and group meetings with members of the environmental justice team.

## **I. Introduction**

### **Assembly Bill 2616**

In 2016, the Legislature passed, and Governor Brown signed [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 2616](#) (Chapter 578, Statutes of 2016) amending the Coastal Act to give the California Coastal Commission explicit authority to consider environmental justice (EJ) in its permitting and planning decisions.

This bill authorized the Commission, local governments, or the Commission on appeal, to consider environmental justice, or the equitable distribution of environmental benefits in communities throughout the state, when acting on a coastal development permit.

The bill relied on the definition of environmental justice in Government Code Section 65040.12(e), and also cross-referenced the state's non-discrimination law, Government Code Section 11135 (a) which states:

*No person in the State of California shall, on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, or sexual orientation, be unlawfully denied full and equal access to the benefits of, or be unlawfully subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered by the state or by any state agency, is funded directly by the state, or receives any financial assistance from the state....*

### **EJ Team, Training and Outreach**

Since the law took effect on January 1, 2017, Coastal Commission staff has conducted extensive public outreach efforts, participated in comprehensive racial equity and environmental justice trainings, and actively collaborated with sister agencies sharing similar goals and complimentary mandates. An agency-wide EJ Team has been assembled, including staff members from every department, program, and district. Team members created and conducted an educational webinar to inform the public about the new law; attended community meetings; hosted conference calls; initiated one-on-one conversations with EJ stakeholders; and created informational materials and communication products including a web page, handouts, an EJ listserv, and a dedicated public email account: [environmentaljustice@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:environmentaljustice@coastal.ca.gov). Another group of Commission staff, which includes members of the EJ Team, is participating with 18 other state agencies in a year-long equity and environmental justice training conducted by the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE), which is supported by the California Endowment and the Health in All Policies initiative. The 50 hours of training is designed to help public agencies identify institutional barriers to racial and social equity, and to create change through the implementation of a Racial Equity Action Plan.

### **Tribal Consultation Policy**

As a related but independent process, the Commission adopted a separate Tribal Consultation Policy in August. That policy will affirm the State of California's commitment to regular and meaningful consultation and partnership with tribal officials in policy decisions that have tribal implications. The Policy is also intended to strengthen the Commission's relationships with Native American tribes, while encouraging further outreach and collaboration.

### **Draft Policy**

This draft Environmental Justice Policy is the product of all these efforts. While it represents the synthesis of extensive public feedback, research, and ongoing training, it should also be considered a work in progress. The primary goal of the final policy is to provide guidance and clarity for Commissioners, staff, and the public on how the agency will effectively implement the agency's new environmental justice authority when making permit decisions. More broadly, the adoption and implementation of this policy is intended to integrate the principles of environmental justice and social equity into the foundation of the Commission's program and operations, and to ensure public confidence in the Commission's mission, process, and commitment to coastal equity.

## II. Background

### Environmental Justice

The United States has a history of racial discrimination that has persisted in multiple forms. During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the civil rights movement sought to secure legal rights that were held but not fully realized by African Americans and other marginalized populations. The concept of environmental justice emerged out of this movement to describe the application of civil rights and social justice to environmental contexts.<sup>2</sup> For example, the cumulative effect of siting a disproportionate number of toxic waste and other hazardous facilities in disadvantaged, urban communities of color has led to disproportionate impacts from pollution and lack of environmental services, such as clean drinking water, clean air, and access to parks and open space. Civil rights leaders, such as Cesar Chavez, and organized stakeholder groups played a key role in advocating for marginalized groups and shaping how government engages in these topics.

### California Environmental Justice Legislation

The term "environmental justice" is currently understood to include both substantive and procedural rights<sup>3</sup>, meaning that in addition to the equitable distribution of environmental benefits, underserved communities also deserve equitable access to the process where significant environmental and land use decisions are made.

Beginning in 1999, California passed a series of bills advancing the concepts of environmental justice in state law.<sup>4</sup> That year, [Senate Bill \(SB\) 115 \(Solis\)](#) defined the term "environmental justice" in Government Code Section 65040.12(e) as "the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies." It also designated the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) as the agency responsible for coordinating state efforts to integrate environmental justice principles into their specific missions.<sup>5</sup>

[Executive Order B-10-11](#) (Brown) established the position of Governor's Tribal Advisor within the Office of the Governor in 2011. The order requires that the Governor's Tribal Advisor

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<sup>2</sup> *Environmental Justice for All: A Fifty State Survey of Legislation, Policy and Cases*, fourth edition (2010).

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Opportunities for Environmental Justice, Agency by Agency* (2003) Auyong, et al., Public Law Research Institute, Hastings College of Law. Page 3.

<sup>5</sup> [Environmental Justice in State Government](#) (2003) Office of Governor Gray Davis, Office of Planning and Research.

oversee and implement effective government-to-government consultation between the Administration and Tribes on policies that affect California tribal communities. The order also determined that it is the policy of the Administration that every state agency and department shall encourage communication and consultation with California Indian Tribes.

In 2000, [SB 89 \(Escutia\)](#) called for a strategic path to advance environmental justice and required CalEPA to establish the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice to assist in developing a strategy for identifying and addressing gaps in existing programs, policies, or activities that may hinder the achievement of environmental justice in the state. It also directed the Secretary of CalEPA to convene an advisory group of external stakeholders to assist the agency and the working group in developing the agency's strategy.

In 2012, [SB 535 \(De León\)](#) required CalEPA to designate disadvantaged communities and required that a minimum of one quarter of all Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) investments benefit those disadvantaged communities. Four years later, [SB 1000 \(Leyva\)](#) (Chapter 587, Statutes of 2016) required cities and counties to adopt an EJ element or to integrate EJ goals, policies, and objectives into other elements of their general plan.

The passage of AB 2616 (Burke) in 2016 presents another step the California Legislature is taking to ensure that agencies prioritize racial and social equity. After taking public testimony and other public feedback, a final draft of the policy will be submitted to the Commission for adoption in a subsequent public hearing.

### III. Discussion

#### California Coastal Commission History

In the 1970s, California residents became increasingly concerned about the pollution of coastal waters, the industrialization and privatization of coastal lands, and the loss of open space, public views and access to the coast. The work of a spirited grassroots campaign led to the passage of Proposition 20 and later the California Coastal Act in 1976. This statute was the product of unprecedented public participation and is inherently grounded in the principles of public participation and equity.

The California Coastal Commission's mission statement declares:

***The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, rigorous use of science, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.***

Section 30006 of the Coastal Act also states that *"the public has a right to fully participate in decisions affecting coastal planning, conservation and development; that achievement of sound coastal conservation and development is dependent upon public understanding and support; and*

*that the continuing planning and implementation of programs for coastal conservation and development should include the widest opportunity for public participation.”*

### **Public Access**

The California Constitution guarantees the public’s right of access to navigable waters, and directed the Legislature to enact laws, such as the Coastal Act, to maximize this right. Over the years, the Coastal Act has been largely responsible for providing more than 1,000 public access ways and hundreds of miles of public trails and bike paths, as well as numerous state and local parks, thousands of acres of open space and protected habitats, lower-cost campgrounds, hostels, and affordable coastal recreation opportunities across the California coast.

### **Commission Programs**

For more than four decades the Commission has worked diligently to uphold the equitable principles of the Coastal Act through its various programs. The agency’s core planning and regulatory program is founded on the principles of maximizing access for all and protecting the public’s rights to the coast. The agency’s Enforcement Program protects the public’s right to coastal access through ongoing enforcement actions. The Commission’s Public Education program, funded through sales of license plates and tax check offs, provides grant funding and other resources to support coastal access and awareness, such as beach field trips for underserved, rural, and diverse inland communities. The Commission’s Sea Level Rise Policy Guidance, adopted in 2015, addresses the disproportionate impact of sea level rise on underserved communities, as does the agency’s Strategic Plan. Commission decisions about development along the shoreline affect not only those who live there, but inland residents who count on the beach and shoreline as a public commons for respite and affordable recreation. Through its regulatory and permitting programs, Commission has been responsible for countless decisions protecting habitat, public views, open space, water quality, and biodiversity that have contributed to public health and the overall environmental welfare of the entire coastal zone.

### **The Case for an Environmental Justice Policy**

Despite the longstanding legal authority and mandate for coastal protection and access for *all the people*, the *Coastal Act’s vision* has not been fully realized. In addition to protecting public access and lower-cost visitor serving and recreational opportunities, the Coastal Act originally included policies protecting affordable housing, which were later taken out of the law by the Legislature. California’s population has doubled since the Act was written, and changing demographics, socio-economic forces, judicial decisions, and policy choices are shaping development patterns and population shifts that widen the disparity gap. These create both intentional and unintentional barriers to public access not only to the beach, but to the broader benefits of coastal protection, and to the Commission’s public process. Not only is access to the coast for all Californians essential, so is protecting coastal natural resources for future generations of Californians to enjoy the beauty and opportunities the coast provides.

For example, census data shows that most Californians live within 62 miles of the coast, but populations closest to the coast are disproportionately white, affluent, and older than those who live farther inland, according to the Stanford Environmental Law Review Journal.<sup>6</sup> Many low-

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<sup>6</sup> [\*Coastal Access Equity and the Implementation of the California Coastal Act\*](#) (2016) Reineman, et al., Stanford Environmental Law Review Journal, v. 36. Pages 96-98.

income people of color work in these coastal communities but cannot afford to live there. This disparity means that the millions of people who have to travel farther to enjoy the benefits of the coast are more likely to face other barriers to coastal access such as lack of transportation, parking costs, and the lack of affordable accommodations. The disparity is so severe in some areas that many California children living within a few miles of the coast have never seen the ocean. The Commission has seen repeated evidence of this in the numerous Whale Tail® grant applications received annually from groups who are working to connect these children and underserved groups to the coast and ocean environment through science-based learning, recreation, exploration, and stewardship activities.<sup>7</sup>

To fulfill the agency's mission of access for everyone, and to ensure full participation by potentially affected communities in the coastal management and land use process, the Commission is committed to understanding and responding to coastal issues through an environmental justice lens. Coastal policy has for decades been shaped primarily by coastal residential, commercial and industrial landowners, without sufficient consideration for those whose lives and livelihoods are connected to our coasts through their labor, recreation, and cultural practices but cannot afford to live near the California shoreline. The recent enactment of AB 2616 will begin to ameliorate this problem.

As it implements this new policy, the Coastal Commission will have to sometimes make difficult decisions regarding how to make the coast more accessible for all people, particularly for communities that have been excluded from it by historic environmental injustice. Stakeholders have urged the Commission to view its role as an intermediary, an advocate, and an ally on behalf of these communities particularly when faced with opposition from powerful interests.<sup>8</sup>

Adopting this Environmental Justice Policy to affirm the agency's core principles and to guide future implementation of these new Coastal Act provisions is both responsive to public and legislative priorities, and also fully consistent with the spirit, intent, mission and history of the Coastal Act and the Coastal Commission.

## **IV. Outreach and Engagement**

### **Work Plan**

To better understand the unmet needs of the EJ community with respect to the Commission's coastal program and in consultation with the EJ commissioner, staff developed a four-phase environmental justice stakeholder outreach and engagement work plan for the EJ policy development. The primary goals of the plan were to:

- 1) Meet with EJ stakeholders<sup>9</sup> throughout the state to better understand environmental justice concerns, particularly as they relate to coastal resources and public access in different regions and local communities;

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<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> Morales, M. July 12, 2018.

<sup>9</sup> EJ Stakeholders refers to community leaders, non-profits, and any public member with an interest in environmental justice communities and concerns.

- 2) Assess the current level of stakeholder engagement and understanding of the Commission's coastal program, and its perceived relevance to those stakeholders;
- 3) Seek input on what to include in the Environmental Justice Policy, and;
- 4) Incorporate the accumulated input and information into a draft Environmental Justice Policy for public review.

### **Forming an Environmental Justice Team**

Outreach was conducted by an internal environmental justice staff team (EJ Team) made up of 15 staff members from each district office and most departments, including Public Education, Enforcement, Legal, Human Resources, Executive Administration, Legislative Affairs, and Statewide Planning. Another purpose and co-benefit of the statewide, stakeholder outreach was to begin establishing place-based relationships and partnerships with EJ community members who will be or already are affected by Coastal Commission decisions and programs. This network of relationships will allow staff to better understand how local communities may be disproportionately burdened by or benefit from Coastal Commission decisions and identify opportunities for stakeholders to become more proactively engaged for projects which may be of interest to their communities. A list of EJ groups staff has contacted as part of its work plan to develop this Environmental Justice Policy is attached as Appendix B.

### **Team Training**

Prior to conducting the outreach phase, the EJ Team underwent a day-long training in October 2017 in Sacramento hosted by Cal EPA and Cal Recycle's Environmental Justice division. The training focused on recognizing environmental justice issues, understanding the history and systemic causes of inequality, developing a common language to talk with stakeholders about environmental justice issues, and an introduction to CalEnviro Screen. This training was also provided to a wider group of district Commission staff in February 2018.

### **Commission Webinar**

To kick off the outreach and engagement phase with EJ stakeholders, the EJ Team developed and presented a webinar to introduce the Coastal Commission to new audiences unfamiliar with the Commission's programs and roles, and to explain why the Commission is developing an EJ policy. Initially, the webinar was developed to be an informational product for the EJ team to share with stakeholders to provide background information about why staff is interested in meeting with them and their community, but it was also designed to be easily adapted for a variety of audiences to explain the Commission's role in furthering environmental justice. The webinar was presented in October 2017, and a recording is available online and used as part of ongoing staff outreach.

Staff engaged with participants by asking poll questions during the webinar and sending a follow-up survey (Appendix C). Staff asked these questions to understand some key concerns and identify stakeholders to set up follow-up informational meetings. The responses are summarized in Appendix D.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

The second phase of the work plan involved meeting with EJ stakeholders individually or in groups to get more personalized input on what they would like to see included in the Commission's EJ policy and to better understand environmental justice concerns in their communities. The EJ team staff in each of the six district offices reached out to organized groups and non-profits as well as individual members of the public. Team members started with a preliminary list of EJ stakeholders identified through staff research, recommendations from existing EJ stakeholders and partners who have worked with Coastal Commission in the past, and participants from the October 2017 webinar. EJ Team staff in each district office became the main point of contact for all interested EJ stakeholders in or near that district. Staff conducted meetings, either in-person or over the phone, and used a semi-structured interview format based on six questions to guide the discussion (Appendix E). Some stakeholders also chose to send in email comments if they could not meet in-person or speak over the phone.

### **Joint Workshops**

In June 2018, Commission staff co-hosted a public workshop with the State Lands Commission and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) in Oakland, and is planning a second roundtable in September in Long Beach. Notes from all of these meetings, conversations, and email comments were qualitatively analyzed for key themes and actions suggested by participating stakeholders that the Commission can take to address the concerns of environmental justice communities. A full summary of the themes and number of meetings staff had with stakeholders can be found in Appendix F.

### **Integrating Environmental Justice**

Although all of the feedback received was valuable and informative, some relevant suggestions were not applicable to the draft policy. In an effort to go beyond the requirements of AB2616 and embrace the spirit of this law, staff has planned a comprehensive three phase approach to integrate the principals of environmental justice and social and racial equity throughout the Coastal Commission.

The Environmental Justice Policy is the leading effort of this larger framework. The policy will provide both the public and the Commission with a guide on how the agency will conduct the public's business, make public decisions, and ensure equitable procedural access for all. Staff is also working with the aforementioned GARE trainers to draft a Racial Equity Action Plan that will inform our internal policies, such as those related to recruitment, hiring, retention and promotion. Lastly, we are also in the process of updating our five year Strategic Plan, which will include a new chapter on Environmental Justice. The Strategic Plan will be the document that creates ongoing accountability by identifying the specific tasks necessary to successfully implement both the EJ Policy and the Equity Action Plan.

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## **V. Feedback Themes**

To date, staff has engaged with 58 environmental justice stakeholders through individual and group meetings all over the state. Staff additionally heard from approximately 52 individuals who attended the Oakland Environmental Justice Roundtable in June. Feedback from all districts was synthesized into a statewide document of comments, concerns and suggestions.

### **More Outreach and Engagement**

The most frequently heard request was for the Commission to do more in terms of community outreach and engagement. Stakeholders requested that staff reach out to underserved communities prior to Commission meetings in their native language with clear information alerting them to important agenda items, and explaining how their communities might be affected and what they could do. Outreach via phone calls, social media posts, emails, and flyers that could be shared easily and posted in public places were all deemed by stakeholders to be more effective than standard legal notices or links to a web-based agenda. A majority of the responses related to outreach made this request in some form. Related to this was a request to engage EJ groups early in the process so that they can participate in a variety of ways, including arranging for the Commission to tour affected areas.

### **More Accessible Meetings**

The second-most requested action was to make the Commission's monthly meetings more accessible and user-friendly. Some suggestions, such as providing child care, food, transportation, or cost reimbursement are not feasible for the Commission to provide due to meeting logistics and restrictions on how state funds may be spent. Other suggestions such as creating more resources to explain how meetings work and how to participate can be accomplished. The comments illustrate the difficulties that individuals from underserved communities must overcome to simply get in the room where the decisions are made, much less make their voices heard.

### **Tribal Concerns**

Tribal concerns generated some of the highest numbers of comments in the greatest detail. Tribal representatives requested the agency work to establish better relationships with tribes by engaging them early in the process and educating staff and Commissioners about tribal issues and needs. These concerns will be addressed comprehensively in the Commission's upcoming Tribal Consultation Policy, but this feedback underscores the importance of building and maintaining local relationships that will allow for a contextual understanding and application of the Commission's policy going forward.

### **Feedback Themes**

After integrating the district feedback into a statewide document of comments and suggestions were tallied and organized into groups according to the following general themes:

- Agency Outreach and Engagement
- Tribal Concerns
- Coastal Access
- Energy
- Climate Change
- Staffing and Hiring
- Policy Development
- Permitting
- Housing
- Health

- Local Governments

Staff further sorted the themes into four categories:

- 1) Policy recommendations suitable for inclusion in the EJ Policy below,
- 2) Programmatic recommendations more effectively implemented through specific plan goals and actions in the Strategic Plan Update and the Agency Racial Equity Action Plan.
- 3) Suggestions that could be feasibly implemented immediately, and,
- 4) General observations and personal opinions to provide context for all of the above.

## VI. Draft Coastal Commission Environmental Justice Policy

### Draft Policy

Based on all of the above, staff has developed the following Draft Environmental Justice Policy for Commission consideration and discussion. The Draft Environmental Justice Policy states:

*The California Coastal Commission's commitment to diversity and environmental justice recognizes that the Coastal Act is an inherently equitable law, designed to protect California's coast and ocean commons for the benefit of all the people. In keeping with that aspirational vision, the Commission as an agency is committed to protecting coastal natural resources and providing public access and lower-cost recreation opportunities for everyone, and ensuring that those opportunities shall not be denied on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, or place of residence. The Commission recognizes that our conservation mission is best advanced with the participation and leadership of people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, races, color, religions, national origins, ethnic groups, ages, disability status, sexual orientation, and gender identity. The Commission is committed to consideration of environmental justice principles, as the term "environmental justice" is defined in Government Code Section 65040.12(e), consistent with Coastal Act policies, during the planning, decision-making, and implementation of Commission actions, programs, policies, and activities. It is also the California Coastal Commission's goal, consistent with Government Code Section 11135, to recruit, build, and maintain a highly qualified, professional staff that reflects our state's diversity."*

This Policy Statement is designed to achieve more meaningful engagement, equitable process, effective communication, and stronger coastal protection benefits that are accessible to everyone, and incorporates and is further implemented by the following Statement of Principles:

**Respecting Tribal Concerns:** The Commission respectfully acknowledges the painful history of Native American genocide among our nation's first people and honors the efforts of California's coastal tribes to rebuild thriving, living cultures based on traditional knowledge, languages, and practices. We commit to regular and meaningful partnership to ensure that tribes are valued and

respected contributors to the management of California's coast. In addition to the Commission's formal tribal notification and consultation policy, the Commission will work collaboratively with tribes to better understand the significance of local and regional cultural concerns, including but not limited to access to and protection of areas of cultural significance, ethnobotanical resources, traditional fishing and gathering areas, and access to and protection of sacred sites.

**Meaningful Engagement:** The Commission acknowledges the critical need to communicate consistently, clearly, and appropriately with environmental justice and underserved communities. Because of their historic under-representation in coastal land use planning and permitting decisions, it is important to engage in additional, creative efforts to inform these communities about issues and projects with environmental justice implications for their communities and families. To reach the goal of full engagement, Commission staff should make every effort to reach out early and often to these communities, and in language that is understandable and accessible, as staffing and resources allow. They should also augment standard communication methods with non-traditional methods, such as the use of social media, flyers, and community meetings. To ensure that outreach efforts are effective, staff will ask community groups and organizations for assistance, and will adjust techniques according to the feedback received.

**Coastal Access:** The Commission reaffirms its long-standing commitment to protecting, providing, and maximizing public access for all the people. The coast belongs to everyone, and cannot be denied or diminished on the basis of race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, or place of residence. The Commission realizes that the conversion of lower-cost visitor-serving facilities to high-cost facilities is a barrier to access for those with limited income, and contributes to increased coastal inequality. The Commission will continue to strive for a no-net-loss of lower-cost facilities in the coastal zone, while implementing a longer-term strategy to increase the number and variety of new lower-cost opportunities. Understanding that even nominal costs can become insurmountable barriers to access for vulnerable populations and underserved communities, the Commission confirms that preserving and providing for lower-cost recreational facilities is also an environmental justice imperative. This includes recreational opportunities such as parks, trails, surf spots, beach barbecue and fire pits, safe swimming beaches, fishing piers, campgrounds, and associated free or low-cost parking areas.

**Access to Process:** Fully achieving the Coastal Act's mandate for coastal protection depends on full public participation that reflects California's diversity. The Commission is committed to identifying and eliminating barriers to its public process in order to provide a more welcoming, understandable and respectful atmosphere for those who may be otherwise intimidated by government proceedings. This includes making an effort to schedule items with significant environmental justice implications in close proximity to affected underserved communities, when legal deadlines allow, and providing language translation services as needed and time extensions for translators. The Commission will not engage the services of private security or law enforcement unless a credible threat to public safety has been clearly demonstrated.

**Accountability and transparency:** Creating a measure of accountability is critical to building and maintaining trust and respect with communities who have become skeptical of government's motives or relevance to their lives. When evaluating projects, the Commission will consider whether and how proposed development will positively or negatively affect underserved

communities, and will be fully transparent in that analysis in staff reports and presentations. The Commission will make use of CalEnviro Screen and/or similar tools to identify disadvantaged communities, and where otherwise consistent with the Coastal Act will carefully consider on the facts presented appropriate permit conditions to avoid or mitigate impacts to underserved communities. Analysis of mitigation measures will include consideration of the technical and/or expert knowledge and lived experiences of affected communities.

**Climate Change:** The Commission recognizes that climate change impacts on coast and ocean resources have a disproportionate impact on underserved communities who may rely on public access for indigenous gathering activities, subsistence fishing, and lower-cost recreational opportunities. A warming climate means that access to cooler coastal temperatures will increasingly become a public health imperative for inland residents. Low-income communities are more vulnerable to climate-driven water quality and supply issues that can result from seawater intrusion, contamination from extreme storm events, and drought. The Commission will take this reality into consideration when analyzing the effectiveness and the impacts of sea level rise adaptation and mitigation measures.

**Habitat and Public Health:** Understanding that public health and the health of natural ecosystems are inextricably intertwined, and that there is no environmental justice without a healthy environment, the Commission will continue to prioritize the protection of coastal resources including sensitive habitats, watersheds, water quality, marine biodiversity, and biological productivity. The Commission's Environmental Justice Policy will be implemented in a manner that is fully consistent with the standards in, and furthers the goals of, Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, and certified local coastal programs, including but not limited to ensuring that low-income communities are not disproportionately affected by water contamination or overuse, or diminished environmental services such as those provided by healthy ecosystems, fully-functioning wetlands, and swimmable, fishable, drinkable waters.

## VII. Next Steps

1. Commission staff will release a public engagement plan outlining the timeline, outreach tools and other details related to gathering feedback to further develop and refine the draft policy. The plan calls for a 90 day outreach and comment period with the goal of adopting the policy before 2019.
2. Commission staff will evaluate public and Commissioner feedback on this draft policy statement, conduct additional outreach to stakeholder groups and affected communities, and revise the above statement accordingly for final consideration and adoption at a subsequent public hearing.
3. The Commission's EJ Team will continue to gather ideas and identify opportunities for the agency to implement environmental justice issues on an ongoing basis across the agency and throughout the districts.

4. These efforts will also inform the update of the Commission's Five-Year Strategic Plan Update, which will be scheduled for public hearings in 2019. The Strategic Plan will include specific program objectives and implementing actions with respect to environmental justice.
5. The Commission's GARE Team, in collaboration with the EJ Team and senior staff, will complete an Agency Racial Equity Action Plan in 2019 to inform and inspire greater inclusivity and diversity in all of the Commission's internal processes and functions.
6. Staff will continue to work collaboratively with sister agencies, the public, and commissioners to ensure that coastal management decisions at all levels appropriately consider environmental justice concepts and values.

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## APPENDIX A

### Assembly Bill No. 2616 CHAPTER 578

An act to amend Sections 30301 and 30604 of, and to add Sections 30013 and 30107.3 to, the Public Resources Code, relating to coastal resources.

[Approved by Governor September 24, 2016. Filed with Secretary of State September 24, 2016]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2616, Burke. California Coastal Commission: environmental justice. Existing law, the California Coastal Act of 1976, establishes the California Coastal Commission and prescribes the membership and functions and duties of the commission. Existing law provides that the commission consists of 15 members.

This bill would require one of the members of the commission appointed by the Governor to reside in, and work directly with, communities in the state that are disproportionately burdened by, and vulnerable to, high levels of pollution and issues of environmental justice, as defined. The bill would require that the Governor appoint a member who meets these qualifications to a vacant position from the appointments available no later than the fourth appointment available after January 1, 2017.

Existing law requires any person, as defined, wishing to perform or undertake any development, as defined, in the coastal zone to obtain a permit, except as provided. Existing law prescribes a process for the certification of local coastal programs in the state and requires, after certification of the local coastal program, a coastal development permit to be issued if the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program.

This bill would authorize the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, to consider environmental justice, as defined, or the equitable distribution of environmental benefits in communities throughout the state, when acting on a coastal development permit.

Digest Key Vote: MAJORITY Appropriation: NO Fiscal Committee: YES Local Program: NO

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Bill Text The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 30013 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

30013. The Legislature further finds and declares that in order to advance the principles of environmental justice and equality, subdivision (a) of Section 11135 of the Government Code and subdivision (e) of Section 65040.12 of the Government Code apply to the commission and all public agencies implementing the provisions of this division. As required by Section 11135 of the Government Code, no person in the State of California, on the basis of race, national origin,

ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, color, genetic information, or disability, shall be unlawfully denied full and equal access to the benefits of, or be unlawfully subjected to discrimination, under any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered pursuant to this division, is funded directly by the state for purposes of this division, or receives any financial assistance from the state pursuant to this division.

SEC. 2. Section 30107.3 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

30107.3. "Environmental justice" means the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

SEC. 3. Section 30301 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

30301. The commission shall consist of the following 15 members:

- (a) The Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency.
- (b) The Secretary of Transportation.
- (c) The Chairperson of the State Lands Commission.
- (d) Six representatives of the public from the state at large. The Governor, the Senate Committee on Rules, and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint two of these members.
- (e) Six representatives selected from six coastal regions. The Governor shall select one member from the north coast region and one member from the south central coast region. The Speaker of the Assembly shall select one member from the central coast region and one member from the San Diego coast region. The Senate Committee on Rules shall select one member from the north central coast region and one member from the south coast region.

For purposes of this division, these regions are defined as follows:

- (1) The north coast region consists of the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino.
- (2) The north central coast region consists of the Counties of Sonoma and Marin and the City and County of San Francisco.
- (3) The central coast region consists of the Counties of San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey.
- (4) The south central coast region consists of the Counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.
- (5) The south coast region consists of the Counties of Los Angeles and Orange.
- (6) The San Diego coast region consists of the County of San Diego.

(f) Of the representatives appointed by the Governor pursuant to subdivision (d) or (e), one of the representatives shall reside in, and work directly with, communities in the state that are disproportionately burdened by, and vulnerable to, high levels of pollution and issues of environmental justice, including, but not limited to, communities with diverse racial and ethnic populations and communities with low-income populations. The Governor shall appoint a representative qualified pursuant to this subdivision to a vacant position from the appointments available pursuant to either subdivision (d) or (e) no later than the fourth appointment available after January 1, 2017.

SEC. 4. Section 30604 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

30604. (a) Prior to certification of the local coastal program, a coastal development permit shall be issued if the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, finds that the proposed development is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200) and that the permitted development will not prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare a local coastal program that is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200). A denial of a coastal development permit on grounds it would prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare a local coastal program that is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200) shall be accompanied by a specific finding that sets forth the basis for that conclusion.

(b) After certification of the local coastal program, a coastal development permit shall be issued if the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program.

(c) Every coastal development permit issued for any development between the nearest public road and the sea or the shoreline of any body of water located within the coastal zone shall include a specific finding that the development is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200).

(d) No development or any portion thereof that is outside the coastal zone shall be subject to the coastal development permit requirements of this division, nor shall anything in this division authorize the denial of a coastal development permit by the commission on the grounds the proposed development within the coastal zone will have an adverse environmental effect outside the coastal zone.

(e) No coastal development permit may be denied under this division on the grounds that a public agency is planning or contemplating to acquire the property, or property adjacent to the property, on which the proposed development is to be located, unless the public agency has been specifically authorized to acquire the property and there are funds available, or funds that could reasonably be expected to be made available within one year, for the acquisition. If a permit has been denied for that reason and the property has not been acquired by a public agency within a reasonable period of time, a permit may not be denied for the development on grounds that the property, or adjacent property, is to be acquired by a public agency when the application for such a development is resubmitted.

(f) The commission shall encourage housing opportunities for persons of low and moderate income. In reviewing residential development applications for low- and moderate-income housing, as defined in paragraph (3) of subdivision (h) of Section 65589.5 of the Government Code, the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, may not require measures that reduce residential densities below the density sought by an applicant if the density sought is within the permitted density or range of density established by local zoning plus the additional density permitted under Section 65915 of the Government Code, unless the issuing agency or the commission on appeal makes a finding, based on substantial evidence in the record, that the density sought by the applicant cannot feasibly be accommodated on the site in a manner that is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200) or the certified local coastal program.

(g) The Legislature finds and declares that it is important for the commission to encourage the protection of existing and the provision of new affordable housing opportunities for persons of low and moderate income in the coastal zone.

(h) When acting on a coastal development permit, the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, may consider environmental justice, or the equitable distribution of environmental benefits throughout the state.

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## APPENDIX B

### List of Stakeholders Contacted

This list contains groups or Tribes that members of the EJ Team contacted at least once by email, postal mail, or phone to speak with about the environmental justice policy. This list does not include individual members of the public who spoke with staff about the policy. Of those contacted, 58 EJ groups and stakeholders engaged with staff on the draft policy.

#### Organization

##### Access

African American Nature and Parks Experience  
 Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
 Amigos de los Rios  
 California Air Resources Board  
 Asian Pacific Environmental Network  
 Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council  
 National Audubon Society  
 Azul  
 Resilient Communities Initiative  
 Bayside Community Center  
 Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria  
 Big Lagoon Rancheria  
 Big Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
 Black Surfers Collective  
 Blue Lake Rancheria  
 Brown Girls Surf  
 Buena Vista Rancheria  
 Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
 Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  
 Cahuilla Band of Indians  
 Calaveras Band of Mi-Wuk Indians - Grimes  
 Calaveras Band of Mi-Wuk Indians - Wilson  
 California Environmental Justice Alliance (CEJA)  
 California Indian Environmental Alliance  
 California League of Conservation Voters  
 California Rural Legal Association  
 Campo Band of Mission Indians  
 Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice  
 Center for Race Poverty and the Environment  
 Center for World Indigenous Studies  
 Central California Legal Services  
 Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)  
 Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria  
 Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk  
 Citizens for Affordable Living

City Council, City of Oxnard  
City Surf Project  
Climate Parents  
Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
Coalition for Clean Air  
Coastal Advocates  
Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation  
Colusa Indian Community Council  
Communities for Better Environment (CBE)  
Community Bridges  
Community Environmental Council Santa Barbara  
Community Nature Connection  
Cortina Band of Indians  
Costanoan Ohlone Rumsen-Mutsun Tribe  
Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe  
Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians  
Day One  
Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice  
ECO San Diego  
Elem Indian Colony of Pomo  
Elk Creek Rancheria  
Elk Valley Rancheria  
Enterprise Rancheria - Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe  
Environment California  
Environmental Health Coalition  
Environmental Justice Coalition for Water  
Environmental Law Clinic  
Environmental Protection Info Center (EPIC)  
Environmental Studies Professor HSU  
Environmental Traveling Companions  
Equity Alliance of the North Coast (Humboldt Area Foundation)  
Ewiiapaayp Tribal Office  
Fernandeno Tetaviam Band of Mission Indians  
Food & Water Watch  
Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network  
Friends of Friendship Park  
Gabieleno Band of Mission Indians  
Gabieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians  
Gabieleno Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council  
Gabieleno/Tongva Nation  
Gabieleno-Tongva Tribe  
Green for All  
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice  
Greenlining Institute  
Grindstone Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki

Groundworks Richmond  
Groundworks San Diego Challas Creek  
Groundworks USA  
Guidiville Band of Pomo Indians  
Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake  
Haitian Bridge Alliance  
Harbor & Beach Community Alliance  
Homeless Garden Project  
Hoopa Valley Tribe  
Hopland Band of Pomo Indians  
Humboldt Baykeeper  
Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel  
Independent Consultant working with State Lands  
Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan  
Inter-Neighborhood Council Organization (INCO) City of Oxnard  
Ione Band of Miwok Indians  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation -- Belardes  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation -- Romero  
Karuk Tribe  
Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria  
Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians  
Koi Nation of Northern California  
La Posta Band of Mission Indians  
Latino Outdoors  
Laytonville Rancheria/Cahto Indian Tribe  
League of Conservation Voters of the East Bay  
Llytton Rancheria of California  
Los Angeles Environmental Justice Network (coordinates monthly meetings)  
Los Angeles Waterkeeper  
Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians  
Manchester-Point Arena Rancheria  
Manzanita Band of Kumeyaay Nation  
Mendocino Coast Affordable Housing Group of Healthy Mendocino  
Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians  
MeWater Foundation  
Mi Casa at Hartnell College  
Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
Mishewal-Wappo Tribe of Alexander Valley  
Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project  
Morongo Band of Mission Indians  
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority  
Movement Generation  
Mujeres de la Tierra  
Muwekma Ohlone Indian Tribe of the SF Bay Area  
NAACP Santa Cruz Branch

Natural Resources Defense Council  
NHUDG  
Nor-Rel-Muk Nation  
Northern Chumash Tribal Council  
Noyo River Indian Community  
Occidental College  
Ocean Connectors  
Ocean Conservancy  
Ocean Discovery Institute  
Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation  
Outdoor Afro  
Outdoor Outreach  
Pala Band of Mission Indians  
Paskenta Band of Nomiaki Indians  
Pechanga Band of Mission Indians  
Pinoleville Pomo Nation  
Potter Valley Tribe  
Quartz Valley Indian Community  
Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians  
Redding Rancheria  
Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA)  
Redwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo  
Resighini Rancheria/Coast Indian Community  
Resources Legacy Fund  
Rincon Band of Mission Indians  
Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians  
Round Valley Reservation/ Covelo Indian Community  
Region 9 Water Quality Board  
Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous People  
Salinan Tribe of Monterey, San Luis Obispo Counties  
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians  
San Francisco League of Conservation Voters  
San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians  
San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians  
Santa Barbara Community Action Network (SBCAN)  
Santa Cruz Barrios Unidos  
Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians  
Sata Rosa Band of Mission Indians  
SCOPE - Strategic Concepts in Organizing & Policy Educaiton  
Scotts Valley Band of Pomo  
Scripps Institute of Oceanography  
San Deigo Bay Council  
San Diego State Univeristy Green Love EJ Committe  
Seventh Generation Fund for Indigenous Peoples  
Shasta Nation  
Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
Shore Up Marin  
Sierra Club  
Smith River Rancheria of California  
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians  
Social and Public Art Resource Center  
Social Justice Consultancy  
Strawberry Valley Rancheria  
Surfrider Foundation Ventura County Chapter  
Surfrider Foundation, Humboldt Chapter  
Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation  
Table Mountain Rancheria  
The City Project  
The Nature Conservancy  
The Ohlone Indian Tribe  
The Wahine Project  
The Wildlands Conservancy  
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians  
True North Organizing Network  
Tsnugwe Council  
Tsurai Ancestral Society  
Tule River Indian Tribe  
UC Santa Cruz Center for Justice, Tolerance, & Community  
UC, Santa Barbara, Bren School Lecturer, ES Depart. Strategic Environmental Communications  
and Media Focus  
UCLA, Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County  
Urban Corps San Diego County  
Urban Semillas  
Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians  
West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project  
Wildcoast  
Winnemem Wintu Tribe  
Wintu Tribe of Northern California  
Wiyot Tribe  
Xolon-Salinan Tribe  
Yak Tityu Tityu Northern Chumash Tribe  
YES - Nature to Neighborhoods  
YMCA Surf Camp  
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation  
Yurok Tribe

## APPENDIX C

**October 2017 post-Webinar survey questions** – This written survey was sent to all individuals who registered for the webinar, even if they did not watch the webinar.

- What area do you represent (region, city, county, etc.)?
- Select the top three environmental concerns in your community.
  - Air quality
  - Hazardous waste and/or facility siting
  - Water quality and quantity
  - Clean energy access
  - Public access to open space (including access and affordability of parks, beaches, other greenspace)
  - Agriculture
  - Habitat quality
  - Other
- Which methods do you/your community prefer for participating in government decisions (select all that apply):
  - Public comment at hearings
  - Workshops
  - Conference calls/phone
  - Local community meetings
  - Webinars
  - E-mails
  - US Mail
  - Other
- How can we make public participation easier for you?
- When is the best time for us to contact you?
  - Morning (before 12pm)
  - Afternoon (between 12 to 5pm)
  - Evening (after 5pm)
- What is the best way to contact you? Please write your preferred email, phone number, and/or other contact information (social media, mailing address, etc.) below:
- Are there other organizations/groups we should add to our contact list? If so, please list them here. Thank you.
- What did you find useful about this webinar?
- What was least useful or missing from this webinar?
- Additional comments or suggestions?

## APPENDIX D

### October 2017 Webinar response summary

Coastal Commission staff presented an environmental justice introduction webinar on October 24, 2017. Approximately 92 individuals and groups registered to watch the webinar, and of those, a total of 48 groups or individuals called in and participated during the actual webinar presentation. Since then, an online recording has been posted to the Commission's website and YouTube page, which has been viewed over 350 times. During the webinar, participants were asked three questions so staff could understand who participated in the webinar. Below are poll question responses:

#### Webinar poll question responses

1. What type of organization/group do you represent?

- 50% Community organization/non-profit
- 37% Public agency
- 10% Individual resident
- 3% Private sector

2. How familiar are you with the Coastal Commission?

- 63% Very familiar
- 34% Somewhat familiar
- 3% Have no idea what the Commission does

3. How important are coastal issues to your community?

- 75% high priority
- 25% medium priority (around key issues like power plants)

Following the initial webinar presentation on October 24, 2017, staff sent a follow-up survey to anyone who registered to watch the webinar (Appendix C), whether or not they participated the day of the webinar. A total of 24 survey responses were received.

## APPENDIX E

**Questions for staff meetings with EJ stakeholders** – Staff used these questions to help guide conversations between them and the EJ stakeholders they met with, following a semi-structured interview format. Based on the conversation, staff might have asked additional or fewer questions than the ones below.

Sample questions:

- How familiar are you with the Coastal Commission?
- Tell me a bit about your background or interest in environmental justice work?
- What do you think the Coastal Commission can do to further environmental justice?
- What would you like to see included in the environmental justice policy? Do you have any specific language?
- Do you have any other suggestions of things the Commission could do, or do differently, to make the process more accessible and relevant to underserved communities?
- Are there any other groups we should consult in the development of our draft environmental justice policy?

## APPENDIX F

### Summary of staff outreach and meetings

To date, staff has engaged with 58 environmental justice stakeholders through individual and group meetings located all over the state. Staff met with stakeholders in-person or over the phone. Staff additionally heard from 52 individuals who attended the Oakland Environmental Justice Roundtable on June 19th, 2018, which Coastal Commission staff co-hosted with California State Lands Commission and SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission staff.

Table F1. Staff EJ Stakeholder Outreach

Region/Unit	Total contacted	Total responded
North	60	9
North Central	35	10
Central	24	4
South Central	14	8
South	48	10
San Diego	26	7
Statewide	12	6
Public Ed	8	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>58</b>

Table F2. June 2018 Oakland Roundtable Attendance

Events	Total Registered	Confirmed attended - excluding SF BCDC, CCC, and DOJ staff
Oakland Roundtable	96	52