



## Spring 2015 Environmental Justice Legislative Agenda

### **SUPPORT (CEJA PRIORITY): AB 1062 (Bonta), Environmental Justice Small Grant Program**

Requires the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) to expend up to \$5 million per year upon appropriation from the legislature and would also require each Boards, Departments and Offices within the Cal/EPA to allocate appropriated funds from special funds, settlements, and penalties to implement the EJ Small Grants Program. AB 1062 would also update the grant program guidelines to fund a broader range of projects.

### **SUPPORT (CEJA PRIORITY): AB 1071 (Atkins), Environmental Justice SEPs**

Requires each Board, Department and Office within CalEPA to establish a Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) policy to benefit environmental justice communities by directing polluter fines into disadvantaged communities.

### **SUPPORT (CEJA PRIORITY): SB 350 (De León), Golden State Standards**

Sets the following goals for 2030: 1) increase the Renewable Portfolio Standard from 33% to 50%; 2) reduce in petroleum use by 50% by 2030; and 3) increase energy efficiency in existing buildings by 50%.

### **SUPPORT: AB 156 (Perea), GGRF Funded Disadvantaged Community Technical Assistance**

Requires CalEPA to allocate available greenhouse gas reduction funds (GGRF) for technical assistance programs in disadvantaged communities that lack managerial and technical capacity to compete successfully for funding.

### **SUPPORT: AB 356 (Williams), Groundwater Protection and Underground Injection Control Program Reform (Fracking)**

Requires a well operator to implement a monitoring program for below ground oil production tanks and facilities, and disposal and injection wells.

### **SUPPORT: AB 1075 (Alejo), DTSC Reform**

Requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to revoke a permit if a major incident, such as an explosion, occurs three times in five years.

### **SUPPORT: AB 1335 (Atkins), Homes and Jobs Act**

Seeks to create a permanent source of funding for affordable housing by placing a \$75 fee on real estate transactions, excluding homes sales. Money would go into an already existing housing trust funding.

**SUPPORT: SB 20 (Pavley), Public Access to Well Logs**

Makes well logs accessible to the public, something that is possible in all other western states, but not currently in California. Opening up access to well logs will allow interested parties to create effective projects to help protect our state's precious groundwater resources. Rural and EJ communities are most impacted by contaminated groundwater, and this information is critical to improving groundwater quality.

**SUPPORT: SB 185 (De León), Public Divestiture of Thermal Coal Companies Act**

Prohibits the boards of the Public Employees' Retirement System and the State Teachers' Retirement System from making new investments or renewing existing investments of public employee retirement funds in a thermal coal company.

**SUPPORT: SB 215 (Leno), CPUC Reform**

Modifies the powers of the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) President, creates new standards and a process for considering whether a Commissioner should be recused for bias or prejudice, and sets new rules for communications between the CPUC and the companies they regulate.

**SUPPORT: SB 398 (Leyva), Green Assistance Program**

Establishes the Green Assistance Program within the California Environmental Protection Agency that would provide technical assistance to small businesses, nonprofits and disadvantaged communities in equitably applying for funding within the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

**SUPPORT: SB 673 (Lara), Hazardous waste**

Creates a Community Oversight Committee that will make recommendations to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to increase public participation and transparency at the agency and provide input on ways to improve the agency's enforcement and permitting of hazardous waste facilities, especially in California's most overburdened and vulnerable communities.

**For more information, please visit [www.caleja.org](http://www.caleja.org) or contact Strela Cervas  
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