



Innovative Solutions. Global Reach.

Environmental Justice & Community Engagement

Comprehensive EJ Support in Ever-Changing Landscapes

If you own property with existing or potential environmental impacts in an Overburdened Community (OBC) designated for Environmental Justice (EJ) attention, you may be facing new regulations that affect your timeline and budget for the permitting, remediation, reporting, and certification of an impacted site.

Environmental Justice



The USEPA defines Environmental Justice as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

New Jersey recently passed the most comprehensive Environmental Justice (EJ) law in history. For the first time, select industrial sites located in overburdened communities would be required to reduce certain environmental impacts through their own methods or via new permit conditions. For new facilities, this could potentially lead to denial of operating permits.

Since the NJ law passed, at least 24 states have proposed or recently enacted their own EJ rules. In all cases, engaging with the community in a meaningful way is a central focus of the permitting process.

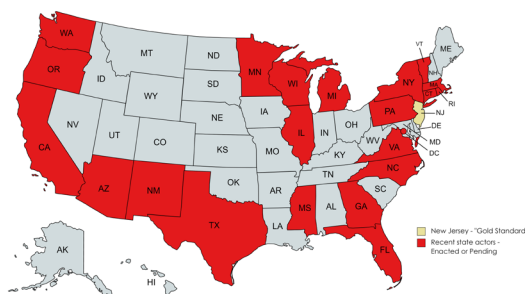
ESI experts are familiar with state and federal regulatory frameworks and have been advising on EJ issues for years.

Assessing Potential Cumulative Impacts

It is critical to know whether or not your facility is in or near an OBC, and what potential environmental and health impacts may already be present in that area. This forms a basis for cumulative impacts analysis.

ESI performs initial screenings using CALENVIROSCREEN, EJMAP, EJ SCREEN, and other applicable tools.

States with pending or active Environmental Justice programs



EJ/CE Services

Regulatory Compliance Consultation

Interaction with Regulatory Agencies

Environmental Justice Impact Statements

Environmental Impacts Analysis

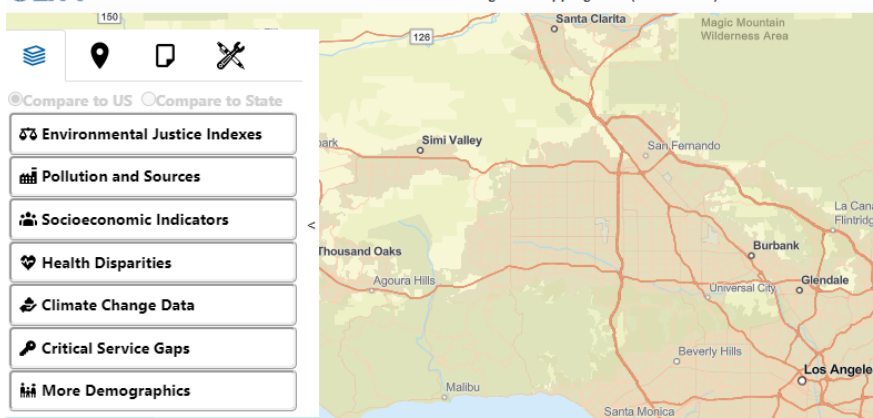
Corporate EJ Policy Development

Fluency in EJ Screen, CalEnviroScreen, and 16 State EJ Tools

Locating & Identifying Interested Parties

Planning, Scheduling & Facilitating Community Meetings

EPA EJScreen EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool (Version 2.0)



Community Engagement (CE)



Community Engagement is a strategic process with the specific purpose of working with identified groups of people, whether they are connected by geographic location, special interest, or affiliation to address issues affecting their well-being.

It is a process of fostering and sustaining trust and an opportunity for diverse perspectives. The goals of engaging the community are to achieve long term and sustainable outcomes, relationships, and facilitating informed decision making.

A proactive and comprehensive community engagement strategy

will ultimately save time on your projects and prevent potential ill will from within the local community.

Engaging the community in the planning for and redevelopment of impacted sites is a critical element in a successful redevelopment project. Educating the community on the high-level details of your project and garnering their input as to community needs and how those needs may be met through the redevelopment of the site(s), and soliciting their input regarding the ultimate redevelopment of the site(s) should all be part of the community engagement process.

The 5 Facets of CE

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to engaging the community.

As every community is different and every community's needs are different, it is critical that you construct a thoughtful and thorough plan before you engage.

We provide actionable data and advice to clients across many sectors and craft engagement plans that will establish beneficial partnerships within the community.

Who is the community?

Remember that communities are diverse in terms of age, gender, ethnicity, socio-economics, mobility, and education attainment. Careful consideration in identifying 'the community' is needed.

Why are you engaging the community?

What is the purpose? What do you hope to achieve? Answers to these questions will help you determine the methods you select for engaging your community.

How will you engage the community?

There are many different tools and techniques available. Explore the variety and research how other communities have successfully used these methods, then select the methods appropriate for your community.

When will you engage the community?

It is recommended that you engage your community throughout the entire redevelopment process (from planning through redevelopment).

What will you do with the results of the engagement?

How will you incorporate community feedback into the planning for and redevelopment of your site(s)? Feedback to the community and follow-through are critical!

Contact us to learn how we can leverage our skills and experience to provide a custom solution to meet your unique needs.



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