

Environmental Law Institute
Twentieth Annual Western Boot Camp on Environmental Law
Session: Environmental Justice
May 2, 2024
10:25am – 12:10pm

GROUP EXERCISE INSTRUCTIONS

You and your colleagues live in one of the four communities listed below. You are concerned about the impacts of oil and gas operations and other polluting facilities in/near the community. You recently heard about three environmental screening tools: California's [CalEnviroScreen 4.0](#), U.S. EPA's [EJScreen 2.2](#), and the White House Council on Environmental Quality's new [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool 1.0](#).

1. Please use each of the three screening tools to evaluate the proximity, and potential risks and impacts, of oil and gas facilities and other pollution sources in/near your community. Consider the following questions:
 - a. Does each tool assign an overall pollution and/or socioeconomic burden score/percentile to your community? If so, what is it under each tool?
 - b. How does each tool calculate and define a disadvantaged community differently?
 - c. Are you able to tell the location/proximity of oil and gas facilities to your community? Of other types of pollution sources?
 - d. If not, how might you use the data and trends that are available to you to show that your community may be disproportionately burdened by impacts from oil and gas facilities and other pollution sources?
 - e. What are the other pollution and/or socioeconomic data and trends in your community that are concerning to you?

2. Please share your answers to the questions above and any additional observations/questions with the group.

Communities:

Richmond, CA (Contra Costa County)
King City, CA (Monterey County)
Lost Hills, CA (Kern County)
Huntington Park, CA (Los Angeles County)

Links to screening tools:

CalEnviroScreen 4.0, <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40>
EJScreen 2.2, <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>
Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool 1.0,
<https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#8.12/35.64/-118.553>