

**Anahuak Youth Sports Association * Azul * California Coastal Protection Network
California LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens)
Center for Biological Diversity * Citizens for Responsible Oil and Gas
The City Project * City Surf Project * Clean Water Fund * Community Nature Connection
Defenders of Wildlife * EarthJustice * Earthwise Productions * GirlVentures
GreenLatinos * Harambee House, Inc. / Citizens for Environmental Justice (CFEJ)
IDARE LLC * National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA)
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) * Ocean Conservation Research
Poverty, Race & Research Action Council (PRRAC) * The Praxis Project
Robert Bracamontes, Acjachemen Nation, Juaneno Tribe * Sierra Club
Sonoma County Regional Parks * Ventura LULAC
West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project * The Wilderness Society**

March 6, 2019 (updating Feb. 21, 2019, public comments)

Chair Dayna Bocho
Honorable Commissioners
Executive Director John Ainsworth
California Coastal Commission
Via email to Commissioners and Staff:
environmentaljustice@coastal.ca.gov

Re: ENACT COMMISSION'S ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POLICY (Feb. 2019)

Dear Chair Bocho, Honorable Commissioners, and Director Ainsworth:

A diverse and growing alliance supports adoption of the California Coastal Commission's Environmental Justice Policy – Revised Public Review Draft (Feb. 2019) at its March 8, 2019, public meeting. The Policy is available at bit.ly/2GCmmpd.

The Policy reads as follows:

The California Coastal Commission's commitment to diversity, equality and environmental justice recognizes that equity is at the heart of the Coastal Act, a law designed to empower the public's full participation in the land-use decision-making process that protects California's coast and ocean commons for the benefit of all the people. In keeping with that visionary mandate, but recognizing that the agency has not always achieved this mission with respect to many marginalized communities throughout California's history, the Commission as an agency is committed to protecting coastal natural resources and providing public access and lower-cost recreation opportunities for everyone. The agency is committed to ensuring that those opportunities not be denied on the basis of background, culture, race, color, religion, national origin, income, ethnic group, age, disability status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

The Commission will use its legal authority to ensure equitable access to clean, healthy, and accessible coastal environments for communities that have been disproportionately overburdened by pollution or with natural resources that have been subjected to permanent damage for the benefit of wealthier communities. Coastal development should be inclusive for all who work, live, and recreate on California's coast and provide equitable benefits for communities that have historically been excluded, marginalized, or harmed by coastal development.

The Commission recognizes that all aspects of our mission are best advanced with the participation and leadership of people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, races, color, religions, national origin, ethnic groups, ages, income levels, disability status, sexual orientation, and gender identity. The Commission is committed to compliance and enforcement of Government Code Section 11135, as well as consideration of environmental justice principles as defined in Government Code Section 65040.12, 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 Public Resources Code Section 300136 and Government Code Section 11135, to recruit, build, and maintain a highly qualified, professional staff that reflects our state's diversity. Further, the Commission is committed to compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its regulations. [Footnotes omitted.]

Our alliance recommends that the Commission adopt and implement that Policy on March 8. Furthermore, we recommend the Commission implement that Policy through its forthcoming strategic plan and other key decisions on an ongoing basis.

Please distribute to all Commissioners.

Very truly yours,

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Emily Teitsworth, Executive Director, GirlVentures, www.girlventures.org
Mark Magaña, President and CEO, GreenLatinos www.greenlatinos.org
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Honorable CCC Commissioners and Staff

RE: Support Commission's Environmental Justice Policy (February 2019)

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