

Community Lawyering for Environmental Justice Part 7: Connecting Communities with Federal Funding

November 1, 2023 12:00 pm — 1:30 pm (90 minutes)

Presentation Agenda

1. General Introductions & Logistics (5 minutes)
2. Panelist Introductions (20-30 minutes)
 - a. Bios
 - b. Discussion of their work in this space (5-7 minutes each)
3. Discussion Topics (30 minutes)
 - a. Agency Implementation of Federal Legislation
 - i. Upcoming \$2B appropriation (largest EJ program in history)
 - b. Clarifying language: what do terms like ‘disadvantaged community’, or ‘overburdened community’ really mean?
 - i. Agency tools
 - ii. Guidance documents
 - iii. Implications of Affirmative Action case (Students for Fair Admissions)
 - iv. Inclusion of Tribal Nations
 - c. Practical/technical advice on how to access federal money
 - i. Money going directly to states v. competitive grants
 - ii. What is the competitive grant process? How are evaluative criteria established? Who is eligible to apply?
 - iii. How do communities find what grants are available?
 - iv. Are there ways for communities to get involved at the state level?
 - d. Policy Implications
 - i. Are burdens or benefits concentrated in particular geographic areas?
 - ii. Consequences of this legislation on broader environmental, energy, and social goals
4. Audience Questions (remainder of time)