

Summer 2016 Frontlines of Environmental Justice



For Sale: Homes with a View – and a Surprise! Townhouses next to Radioactive & Toxic Waste at Hunters Point Shipyard Superfund Site!

Lennar Corporation's www.sfshipyard.com website promotes the sale of townhouses in a lovely waterfront setting, but fails to mention that the homes they want you to buy are next to the federal Superfund site where plans are to leave large amounts of toxic and radioactive contamination in place. Lennar also fails to mention that this site on San Francisco Bay is at ground zero for sea level rise from climate change, where rising waters may flood and inundate the contamination in the coming years. Their website fails to mention "Open space" would be on top of radioactive waste. Adding insult to injury, this development threatens to gentrify the historically African American working class neighborhood. Greenaction is mobilizing residents to challenge this mega-development and to demand a full cleanup of contamination along the entire waterfront.

Victory in West Oakland! We Never Gave Up!

In 1997 West Oakland residents helped form Greenaction as we helped fight for cleanup of toxic waste left by AMCO Chemical. In 2004, Greenaction and neighbors succeeded in getting the site placed on the Superfund National Priorities List – and we battled EPA to ensure the site would be cleaned up properly. We are proud to have worked with the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project to achieve victory as agreement has been reached with EPA on a safe and comprehensive cleanup plan that will remediate contamination and protect the health of residents.

Greenaction's Kettleman City Civil Rights Complaint vs. State Agencies Making History!

The Title VI US Civil Rights Act complaint filed by Greenaction and El Pueblo of Kettleman City against Cal EPA & the State Department of Toxic Substances Control is coming to a climax. We are working for a positive resolution either through mediation or a decision by USEPA's Office of Civil Rights. Our complaint challenges the state's process and decision approving expansion of Chemical Waste Management's toxic waste landfill, including use of racially discriminatory hearing procedures and police intimidation. We will continue using civil rights strategies to force the government to end racism in environmental decision-making until justice is achieved.



Upstream & Downstream Voices: Uniting Native Nations & Communities to Protect the Colorado River, its tributaries, people and sacred places:

Greenaction played a leading role bringing together Native Nations with indigenous, environmental and climate justice activists from Utah and Arizona for strategy meetings and events in May in southern Utah as part of the growing "Upstream – Downstream" alliance to protect the Colorado River, its tributaries, people and sacred places from pollution & climate change. This campaign is building a strong movement against threats including the nuclear power plant proposed in Green River, Utah; the first tar sands mine in the US in the Book Cliffs; oil & gas drilling, fracking and uranium mining in sensitive ecosystems; the uranium mill next to the White Mesa Ute Community, and the paving of the desert by industrial scale solar projects.

Kettleman City's Kids Deserve Clean Water!

Flint, Michigan's water has been contaminated for a few years, but Kettleman City's has been contaminated with benzene and arsenic for decades. While government agencies finally agreed to provide a cleaner water source, the timeline keeps getting pushed back. Greenaction and El Pueblo are working to pressure the local, state and federal agencies to fulfill their promise to finally bring clean water to the people of Kettleman City who continue to suffer from so much pollution.

Empowering Youth Leaders in Bayview Hunters Point, Gonzales and Kettleman City!



(photo: Gonzales Leadership Academy graduates)

Greenaction's Environmental & Climate Justice Leadership Academy programs are creating new community leaders in Bayview Hunters Point (BVHP) in San Francisco, Gonzales in the Salinas Valley and Kettleman City in the San Joaquin Valley. In BVHP, youth and adults are learning about the threat posed by climate change, sea level rise and radioactive and toxic contamination. This August, we will conduct an intensive BVHP Youth Leadership Academy focusing. In Gonzales, youth from farmworker families are gaining leadership and organizing skills as they learn about sustainable agriculture, health and environmental threats from pesticides and climate change – and are being mentored to attend college. In Kettleman City, youth are being empowered as the new generation of activists to continue the fight for health and justice.

PLEASE SUPPORT GREENACTION

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The Fight to Close the White Mesa Uranium Mill Gains Momentum!



(Photo: White Mesa Ute Tribal Members speak out)

Energy Fuels LLC's White Mesa Uranium Mill pollutes the air, water, land and sacred sites of the adjacent White Mesa Ute Community of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe with radioactive contamination. Located in southern Utah, this is the last uranium mill in the U.S. and has been allowed to keep operating by state and federal agencies despite pollution problems and destruction of hundreds of ancient sacred and culturally significant sites. The US Bureau of Land Management has failed to conduct required inspections of the cultural sites for decades. Greenaction and allies are stepping up our work with the Tribe to close the mill once and for all.

Check it out: www.bvhp-ivan.org Success Story: Bayview Hunters Point Environmental Justice Response Task Force:

Greenaction launched the Task Force one year ago to reduce pollution, and monthly Task Force meetings bring together residents, businesses, and local, regional, state and federal agencies. We created a website to help residents file pollution complaints and track responses, holding government agencies and polluters accountable to be responsive and transparent.

The Task Force has had many successes, including reducing odors and vermin problems at Recology's garbage transfer facility; increasing cleanup of illegally dumped solid waste, oil and construction debris; increasing government inspections, monitoring and enforcement at construction and toxic cleanup sites; and creating a forum for addressing community concerns about toxic and radioactive contamination and the threat posed by sea level rise at the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard.