



# EPA: Making a Visible Difference in Communities

*Environmental Symposium, City of Jacksonville, FL  
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**V. Anne Heard, Acting Deputy Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency- Region 4  
Atlanta, Georgia**



# EPA Region 4 Organizational Chart

## Office of the Regional Administrator

Heather McTeer Toney  
Regional Administrator

V. Anne Heard  
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator

RCRA Division

G. Alan Farmer,  
Director

Air, Pesticides &  
Toxics  
Management  
Division

Beverly Banister,  
Director

Office of  
Environmental  
Accountability

Mary Wilkes,  
Regional Counsel

Water Protection  
Division

James D. Giattina,  
Director

Superfund  
Division

Randall Chaffins,  
Acting Director

Science &  
Ecosystem Support  
Division

Michael V. Peyton,  
Director

Gulf of Mexico  
Program

Ben Scaggs,  
Director

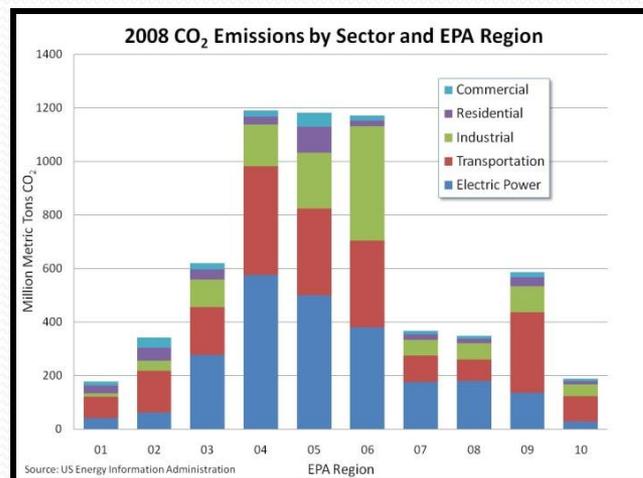
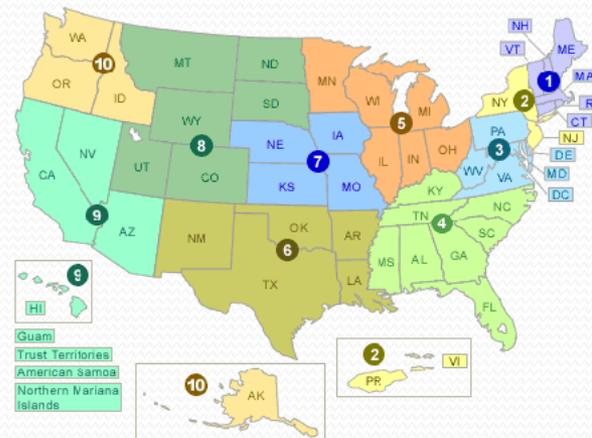
Office of Policy and  
Management

Kenneth Lapierre,  
Associate Regional  
Administrator



## Some Key Facts About EPA Region 4....

- Home to 20% of the U.S. population
- We generated about 24% of electricity in U.S. in 2009
- Responsible for ~ 24% of U.S. power production CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2009
- Region 4 industries emitted 34% of all U.S. air emissions reported to TRI (41% of those emissions are from EGUs)
  - Region 4 has 4,210 of the 20,904 U.S. facilities reporting to TRI (20%)
- We use more fuel and drive more miles than any other Region





# EPA: Meeting the Challenges Ahead

1. Making a Visible Difference in Communities Across the Country
2. Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality
3. Taking Action on Toxics and Chemical Safety
4. Protecting Water: A Precious, Limited Resource
5. Launching a New Era of State, Tribal, and Local Partnerships
6. Embracing EPA as a High Performing Organization
7. Working Toward a Sustainable Future



Administrator  
Gina McCarthy



# Background: Environmental Justice



- History
- Definition
- EO 12898
- Disproportionate Impacts
- Federal IWG
- EJ Showcase Communities



# Plan EJ 2014

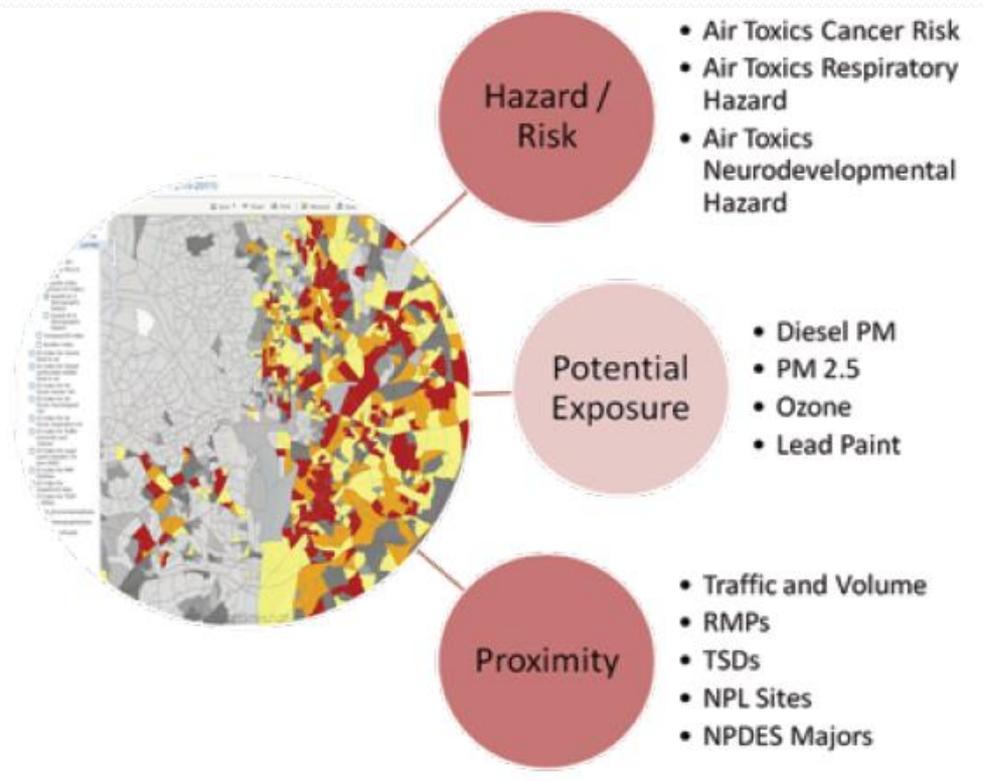


1. **Rulemaking:** Incorporating EJ into rulemaking framework
2. **Permitting:** Considering EJ concerns in EPA's permitting process.
3. **Enforcement:** Advancing EJ through compliance and enforcement initiatives that focus on overburdened communities.
4. **Community -Based Action:** Supporting community-based action programs that build healthy, sustainable and green communities.
5. **Interagency Collaboration:** Fostering Administration-wide action on EJ that foster environmental, health and economic benefits



# EJ Screen

- Nationally consistent dataset and methodology for calculating “EJ indexes.”
- Highlight places for further review, analysis, or outreach.
- Census block group level or a user-defined area for demographic and environmental indicators.
- High-resolution environmental and demographic information for communities.





# Jacksonville EJ Showcase



**SHOWCASE PROJECTS ACHIEVED EJ GOALS USING VARIOUS STRATEGIES**

## **FUNDAMENTAL GOALS FOR MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT**

*(Opportunity to participate in decisions)*

- ❖ 1. ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY
  - General Environmental Awareness
  - General Community Improvement Activities
- ❖ 2. EMPOWER THE COMMUNITY
  - Community Ownership of Project Activities
- ❖ 3. IMPROVE STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATION
  - Stakeholder Meetings and Forums
  - Facilitated Discussions

## **FUNDAMENTAL GOALS FOR FAIR TREATMENT**

*(No disproportionate environmental harms)*

- ❖ 4. REDUCE COMMUNITY EXPOSURES
  - Enforcement Initiatives and Fines
  - Direct Removal of Contamination
  - Exposure Awareness, Notification, and Preparedness Training
- ❖ 5. INVESTIGATE COMMUNITY EXPOSURE CONCERNS
  - Local Media Sampling
  - Facility Inspections
- ❖ 6. IMPROVE COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE
  - Train Healthcare Workers
  - Increase Healthcare Locations/Hours
  - Assess Healthcare Needs



# EJ Showcase- Successes

- Fish/Shellfish study & issuance of fish consumption advisories to protect public health
- Green infrastructure demonstration project
- Rain barrel/community garden workshops
- Community-industry forums
- Asthma and lead-based paint awareness programs
- “Shared learning” workshops to develop a community-based improvement plan



# Questions?

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