

Davis, Cristina@ARB

From: Xugo Lujan Jr. <xugo@cbeval.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 27, 2018 11:35 AM
To: ARB Clerk of the Board
Subject: AB617 Comments of CBE Member Xugo Lujan Jr. from SELA (Southeast LA) – which received no Community Emission Reduction Plan

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Hello. My name is Hugo Lujan. I am a lifelong resident of east Los Angeles.

Like my compañeros here, I find it disappointing to know that those communities most contaminated did not make it to the list. Just earlier this week, we met with some of your staffers and it was frustrating to see how unmovable their position to understand and include our communities in this list. We were told that our communities were not included because we did not have enough contamination studies done in our neighborhoods and that our neighborhoods lacked partners. We were then told that next year we may be chosen.

First of, it is a disgusting process to have created criteria for this without engaging community. For many years, we have worked hard to develop studies and reports in partnership with local universities, scientist, and community led monitoring to develop documents that validate the environmental violence that front line communities live in every single day. How many more studies and documents do you need to see our worth? How many studies to you need to make our lives real to you?

If you are, yet again, telling us to wait another year for some form of environmental justice, then what guarantee will you give us for next year? If you claim that we don't have enough studies to be included in this round, the what responsibility will you take in identifying those studies needed and directing funds in creating those studies? Because if there is lack of studied or documents, it isn't due to the lack of need or motivation from our communities, but the continue lack of investment from agencies such as CARB. This is the continuation of the same cycle of systemic racism targeting those communities of color for centuries in across this nation. Shameful for this state to claim a leadership role in environmental justice policies.

What responsibility will you take?

We are tired of more studies. We don't need more studies to justify what we already know and experience day to day. We have done the work for the state and have countless of studies and many generations that demonstrate the impact of Environmental racism in our communities.

We don't need more studies.

What we need is action!

We need commitments to reduce emissions!

We need accountability!

We need concrete action plans that hold industry accountable!

We need a process that is transparent and engaging of community that gives us what we deserve.

We are ready for real solutions not decisions that further continue the deprioritization of those overburdened and underresourced communities you pay lips service to.

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(He/Him/His)