

July 3, 2016

Department of Toxic Substances Control
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95812-0806
Attn: Gideon Kravoc, JD
Independent Review Panel- Chairman

**SUBJECT: DTSC DIRECTOR GUILTY OF PERPETUATING ENVIRONMENTAL
INJUSTICE PRACTICES FOR THE EXIDE PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Kravoc

This is to request your assistance in exposing a huge injustice that is occurring right before your eyes. The Governor approved over \$176 million dollars of taxpayer money to deal with the Exide contamination issue. DTSC Director Barbara Lee has created a whole new Division within DTSC which includes hiring 40 staff specifically for Exide. Logic would suggest that you place the staff who are responsible for assisting the community, in or nearby the community they are supposed to serve. Instead, Director Lee has recently hired a Deputy Director (annual salary 150K), and two Managers (annual salary 140K each) who will be responsible for leading the Division, and has placed them close to her in Sacramento. These managers will be located over 300 hundred of miles away from the community which they are supposed to serve. Does that make any sense?

Of course, none of the Managers she hired are minorities. Instead, she has developed a token job training program to train minorities in the Exide community with field instruments to detect lead. The only jobs that this will create if any, are low paying field jobs performing manual labor with instruments. Director Lee's Sacramento managers get the lucrative jobs, and she throws the community a bone with some XRF training program. The newspapers say nothing, the local and Sacramento politicians are suckered into thinking this is a great thing, DTSC pretends its spending the money wisely and has a plan, and the community gets the shaft.

This is the epitome of environmental injustice, taking tax payer money that should be used to benefit the local community, and using it to benefit high paid bureaucrats in Sacramento who do not have a clue of what the community needs. DTSC should have created the Division locally in one of its southern California locations, and should have had a strong recruiting effort in the Los Angeles area to give qualified minorities a chance to interview for the management positions and other positions to come. This would have been in line with the principles of environmental justice. What the Director did was either extremely ignorant and insensitive to the community, or she was practicing cronyism. Neither are good for the community she is supposed to be serving.

Sincerely,
Concerned Citizen