

Feb. 14, 2014

Jean,

This is the definition of "**Environmental Justice**" that I have been using. Please see below, this is a direct cut and paste from the well know Wikipedia site, and this specific portion of it is the definition offered by the **US EPA**:

The United States [Environmental Protection Agency](#) defines **environmental justice** as "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies

If you wish to take issue with this definition, by all means contact Wikipedia and offer your proof they have misquoted or misrepresented the US EPA. You may wish to contact Tom Eaton in that regard as well.

Assuming you are unable to roll back this very specific language, boiled down to a single sentence, then perhaps you need to coin a new term for whatever it is that you are trying to communicate.

As I have said many times before, the agricultural community, which includes direct producers, suppliers, shippers, processors and workers views the appearance of an attorney, ANY attorney at the GWAC meeting, in the same way a villager would react in the 1500's to the announcement that the "black death" (bubonic plague) is now in town.

Jean, when the EPA says that EJ is focused on **development, implementation and ENFORCEMENT** I will take them at their word. As previously discussed, Yakima County and Washington State DOE could easily have joined forces with EPA and taken this route. Wisely, in my humble opinion, they have REJECTED this view in favor of a cooperative, technical, science based approach. Until these two entities fold their tent and dissolve the GWMA, EVERYONE involved has a moral duty to support this primary thesis. If you feel you are unable to do so, we should talk about that at the next meeting. I am for an all inclusive approach, and bringing all of the stake holders together to work towards a common goal. Bailing out the life boat is productive, but drilling holes to let more water in is not. You must understand that the base of EJ is simply not compatible with the stated Goals and Expectations the Legislature set forth when substantial sums of money were appropriated for this work.

You have much to contribute Jean, but you would be wise to sound the retreat on this issue. These thoughts and opinions are my own personal and do not reflect those of any other individual, GWAC member or staff. Please feel free to share this definition with Commissioner Elliot along with my comments if you so desire.

Best Regards,

Stu Turner, CPAg, CCA