EM-LA Efforts within the Justice40 Initiative

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Overview

➢ The Justice40 Initiative is a requirement of President Biden’s Executive Order 14008, “Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad”

➢ The Justice40 Initiative is a whole-of-government effort to deliver at least 40% of the overall benefits from Federal investments in climate and clean energy to disadvantaged communities


➢ This guidance supports the Administration’s comprehensive approach to advancing environmental justice
Overview

➢ Under the Justice40 Initiative, Federal agencies are directed to engage with states, Tribal Governments, including Pueblos, and local communities on Federal investments in the following areas:

  o Climate change
  o Clean energy and energy efficiency
  o Clean transportation
  o Affordable and sustainable housing
  o Training and workforce development
  o Remediation and reduction of legacy pollution
  o Development of critical clean water and wastewater infrastructure
EM-LA Pilot Program

➢ EM-LA was selected as one of five U.S. Department of Energy Justice40 Initiative Pilot Programs

➢ The Justice40 Initiative aligns with EM-LA’s core mission
  o Safely, efficiently, and transparently complete cleanup of legacy contamination and waste resulting from decades of nuclear defense research at LANL
  o Commitment to invest in the communities that have been affected

➢ Under the OMB Justice40 Interim Guidance, EM-LA’s legacy cleanup at LANL fits under the Federal Covered Program of “remediation and reduction of legacy pollution”

➢ EM-LA submitted required deliverables as defined in the Interim Implementation Guidance for the Justice40 Initiative
Look Ahead

➢ The Justice40 Initiative is continuing to develop

➢ Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
  ○ The Council on Environmental Quality released a beta version February 18, 2022
  ○ CEQ solicited comments from users of the tool and the public

➢ Further guidance from OMB on next steps, including the definition of disadvantaged communities, is forthcoming

➢ Environmental Justice Scorecard
  ○ OMB is developing and will publish a scorecard detailing agency environmental justice performance measures
Current Efforts

➢ Ongoing Listening Sessions are key to engagement and meaningful discussion

  o Tribal Governments, including Pueblos in Northern New Mexico
  o Regulators
  o Los Alamos County
  o Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustee Council
  o Northern New Mexico Citizens’ Advisory Board
  o Environmental Management Cleanup Forum
  o Local community members
  o Santa Fe Indian School
Current Efforts

➢ Leveraging “Thought Partners” to discuss the Justice40 Initiative in an open and transparent manner and to learn

➢ The Justice40 Initiative provides a unique opportunity to enhance the way EM-LA approaches legacy cleanup decisions
  
  o Cleanup values and priorities received from Listening Sessions will guide strategic vision development
  
  o Stakeholder feedback will help to prioritize work scope and end states for cleanup campaigns
  
  o Developing strategic vision with early input from community engagement is a means for delivering on environmental justice
Questions?