2014 NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE & TRAINING PROGRAM CONCLUDES IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Attendees from all over the nation participate in legendary environmental justice event

(Washington, DC) – April 16, 2014— The 2014 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program (NEJC) offered more than 20 hours of high quality educational programming and panel discussions to more than 400 registrants during a three-day event in Washington, D.C.

As the attendees met to share best practices, challenges and discuss environmental justice (EJ), this year’s National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program—held March 26-28—proved to be the most successful conference yet, with the highest attendance in NEJC history.

During the conference, attendees had the opportunity to interact with a diverse group of representatives from federal and state agencies, local governments, tribes, community groups, business and industry leaders. Congressman James E. Clyburn (D-SC), served as the Keynote Speaker on day two of the conference. He was joined by other acclaimed leaders in the environmental justice industry, including The Honorable Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen, M.D., (D-U.S.V.I.) and a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, David Klaus, Deputy Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy and Arthur “Butch” Blazer, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

The 2014 NEJC’s agenda provided workshops, panel discussions, Q&A segments, training opportunities, as well as networking receptions. It explored a plethora of topics including the growing presence of youth in EJ, the future of the EJ movement and the use of Title VI to address EJ. It focused on interactive and innovative ways to enhance communities and provided ways for improved productivity and efficiency. The continued partnership with Howard University School of Law produced an array of networking opportunities among students, faculty, community, business and government leaders. A reception was held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Executive Order 12898 on EJ. Many attendees gathered to pay special tribute and honor those in EJ who have been a part of the EJ movement for the past 20 years and continue to fight for environmental equity. Environmental justice gives a voice to communities through civil rights and environmental protection that have been historically excluded from environmental decision making. The 2014 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program gave a voice to all.

The 2015 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program will be held April 22-24, 2015; registration begins June 2, 2014. To learn more about the conference or the NEJC, visit www.thenejc.org.

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