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Presentation on Environmental Justice

Please find my presentation from the 3 24 22 Commission Meeting

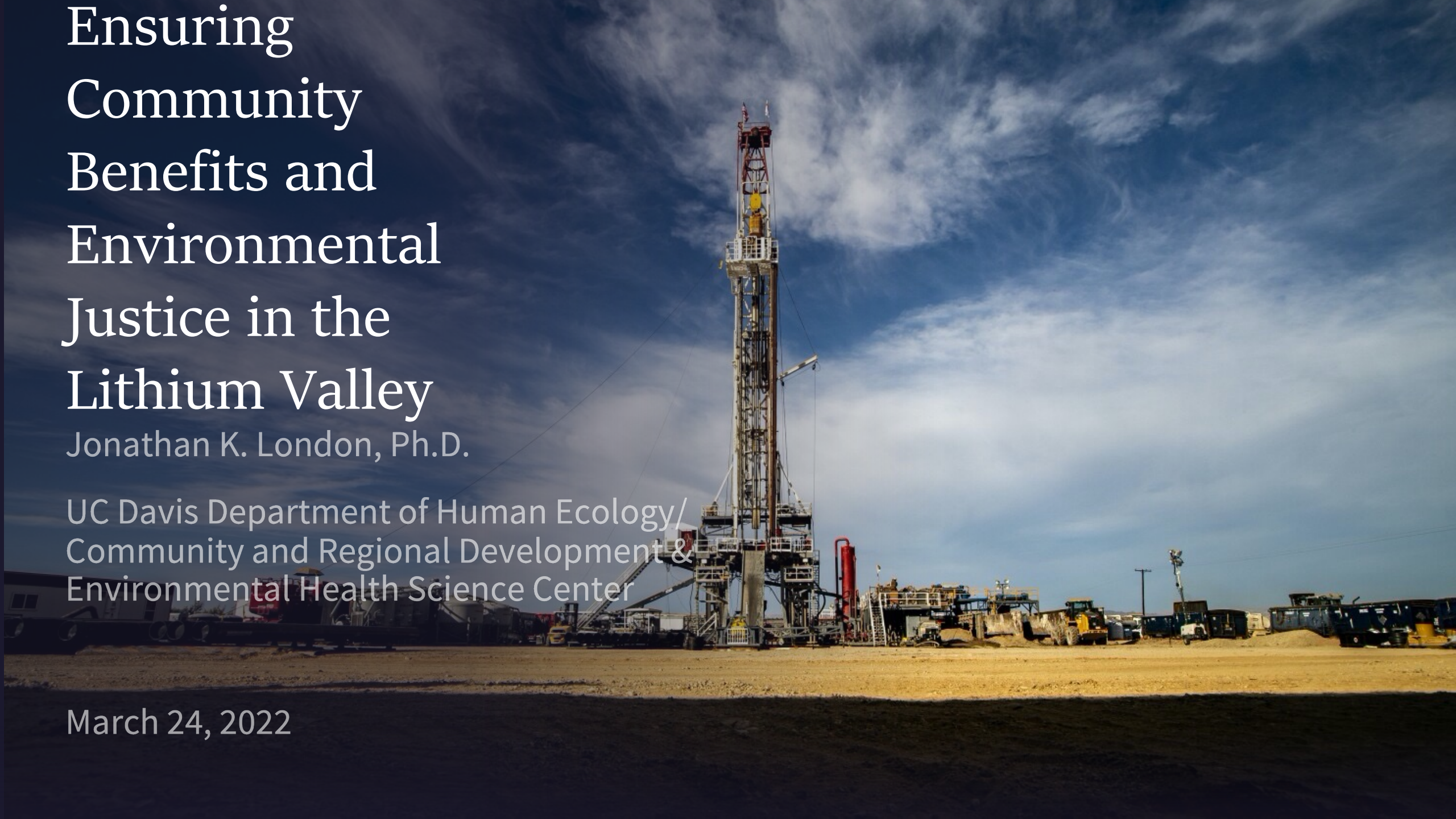
Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Ensuring Community Benefits and Environmental Justice in the Lithium Valley

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Take Away Points

- Mining impacts on communities provide cautionary tale
- Environmental Justice is an appropriate goal for the development of the Lithium Valley
- CEQA intended to promote transparent, accountable and democratic governance → process matters
- CEQA should be the floor, not the ceiling
 - HIA & Community Benefits Agreements



Context: Mining Dependent Communities

- Boom and bust cycles
- Long-term environmental impacts/ lack of long-term accountability
- Limited educational/ career pathways into better paying jobs
- Inadequate investments in community well-being
- Imbalance between economic and other community interests



Defining Environmental Justice



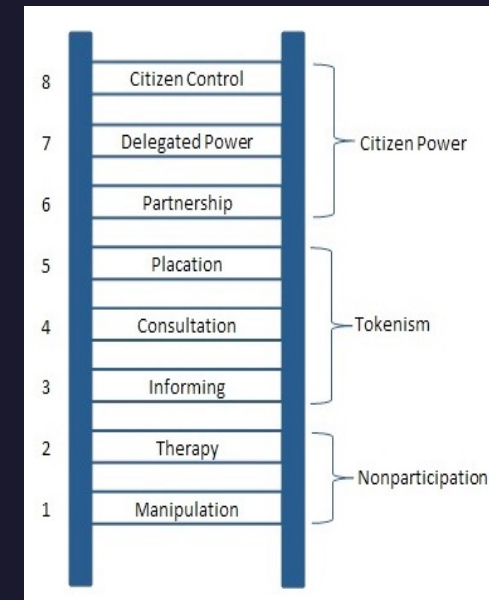
**Thriving
Communities**

**Distribution:
Hazards/
Opportunities**



**Respect for
different
knowledge**

**Process:
“We speak
for
ourselves!”**




EJ in Federal Policy

“ The **fair treatment and meaningful involvement** of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the **development, implementation, and enforcement** of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

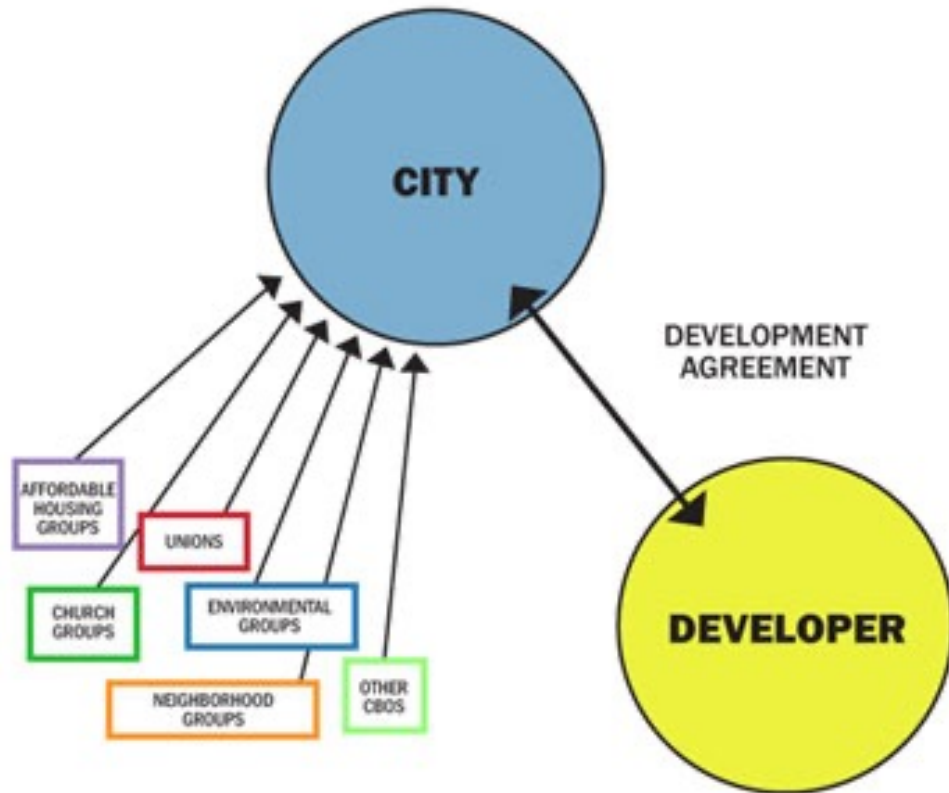
Fair treatment means that **no group of people, including racial, ethnic, or socio-economic groups should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences** resulting from industrial, municipal, and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies.”

EJ Recommendations

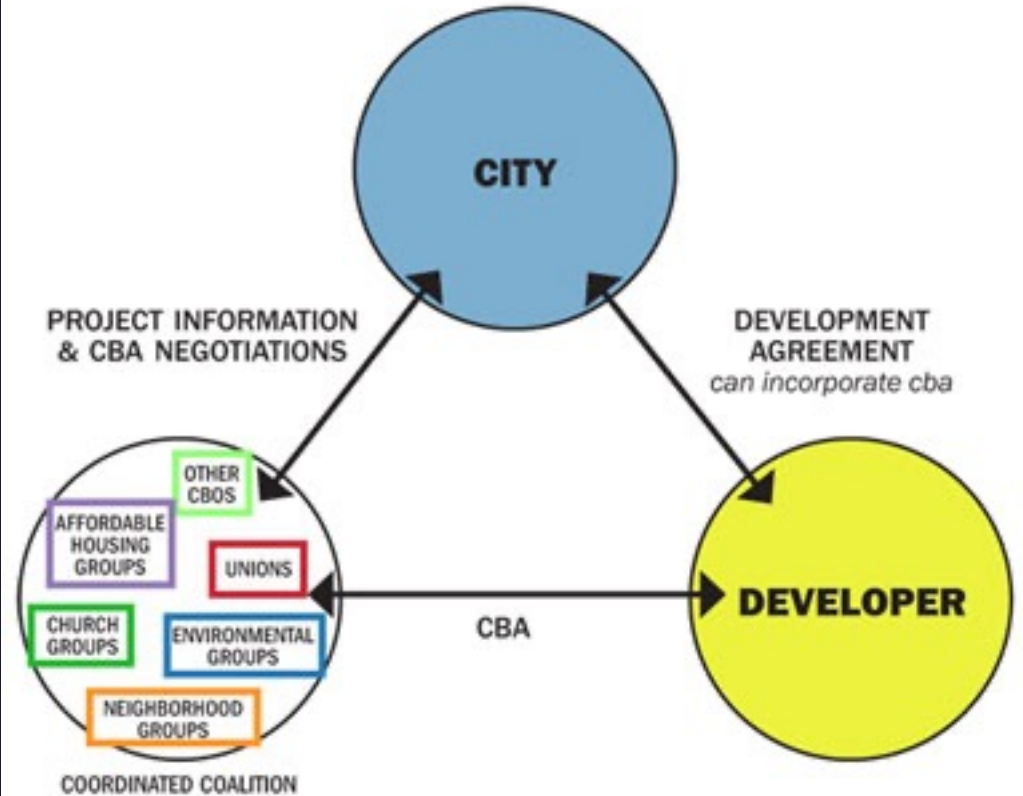
- Focus on engagement and impacts for the most over-burdened and disadvantaged people
 - Farmworkers, undocumented immigrants, tribal residents, youth, elders
 - Support meaningful engagement
 - Focus on cumulative and long-term impacts
 - Focus on strategies to increase health and well-being
- 

CBA: Changing the Relationships

HOW DEVELOPMENT WORKS WITHOUT A CBA



HOW DEVELOPMENT WORKS WITH A CBA



Promising Practices for CBAs

- Legally-binding agreements
- Three-way agreement: company-government-community parties
- Elements: Labor agreements, local procurement, environmental protections, significant investments in education and health
- Monitoring and enforcement mechanisms
- Lifecycle and lifetime assurances

