

# Environmental Justice Program



Claire Woods  
Director of Environmental Program

**Environmental Justice Advisory Board**  
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# Kerr-McGee's Legacy - An Environmental Injustice

- ✓ Kerr-McGee used creosote and other chemicals to treat wood utility poles and railroad ties
- ✓ Wood treating is low-end, messy process
- ✓ Kerr-McGee disposed of waste in open ditches, dumped and buried wastes
- ✓ Creosote is a mixture of hundreds of chemicals
- ✓ Exposure to creosote linked to serious health effects including:
  - Lung and respiratory injury
  - Skin irritation and eye damage
  - Kidney and liver damage
  - Cancers and other serious illnesses



Former Tronox Wood Treating Facility, Bossier City, LA (1982)

- ✓ Residents frustrated by the lack of information about Tronox Tort Claims Trust claims process, including the status of outstanding claims



# Our Commitment to Environmental Justice



## The Multistate Trust's Commitment to Environmental Justice

We recognize that communities and especially residents living near former Kerr-McGee sites now owned and managed by the Multistate Trust have been disproportionately harmed by contamination from years of Kerr-McGee operations.

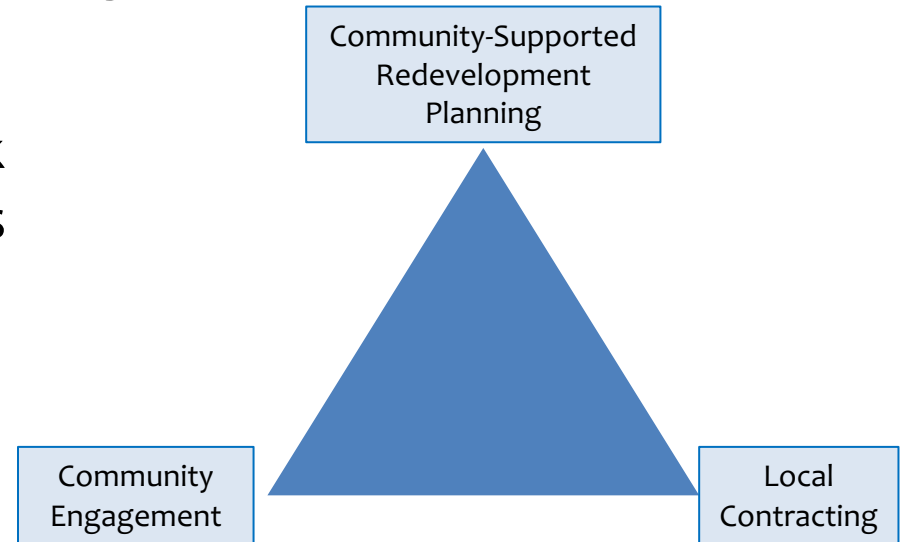
We are committed to upholding environmental justice principles, including transparency and open communication, while we work to clean up Kerr-McGee's toxic legacy, foster economic healing and growth for communities with environmental justice concerns, and ensure that residents' voices and ideas are incorporated into our efforts to remediate and redevelop former Kerr-McGee sites.

We are working to achieve the Multistate Trust's environmental justice goals through three major program areas:



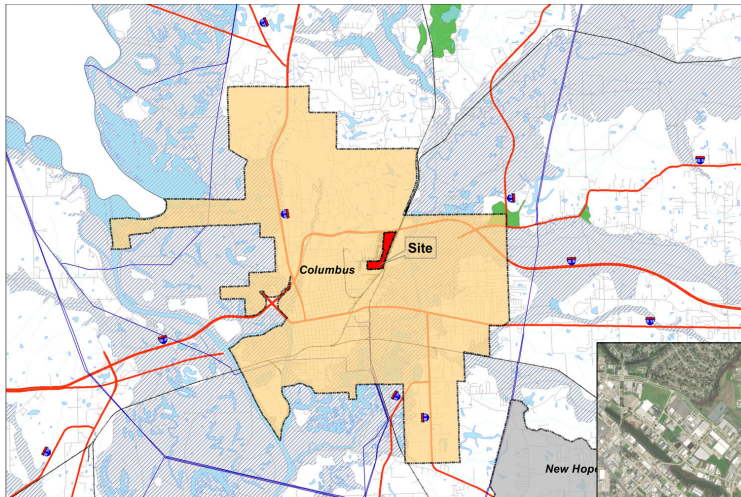
# Environmental Justice Program Pillars

- ✓ We strive to engage community members, clean up legacy contamination, and facilitate reuse with transparency, to support environmental cleanup and economic growth
- ✓ Our environmental justice goals:
  - Share information with and seek input from community members
  - Fulfill vendor and contracting needs by contracting locally, where possible
  - Support community's vision for safe Site redevelopment, where possible
- ✓ We also work to charter, manage, and implement recommendations from Environmental Justice Advisory Board



# Kerr-McGee Sites in Environmental Justice Program

## Kerr-McGee Superfund Site Columbus, Mississippi



## Kerr-McGee Superfund Site Navassa, North Carolina



## Former Tronox/Kerr-McGee Wood Treating Facility Bossier City, Louisiana



# Community Engagement



Community Meeting - Bossier City



Community Meeting - Navassa

- ✓ We are committed to involving communities in the cleanup and redevelopment of the former Kerr-McGee sites
- ✓ Our core values require transparency in information sharing, active listening, opportunities for meaningful input, clear and accurate communication, and constructive, community-based solutions to challenges
- ✓ We work to achieve these goals through:
  - Regular community meetings
  - Information sessions and workshops
  - Written materials, including fact sheets, newsletters, websites
  - One-on-one personal outreach



# Local Contracting

- ✓ Wherever possible, we seek to:
  - Invest cleanup funds in economies most harmed by fulfilling vendor and contracting needs locally
  - Facilitate and support training initiatives to offer meaningful opportunities for local businesses
  - Build capacity in local companies to support long term sustainable growth
  - Incentivize prime contractors to retain local subcontractors
  - Offer flexible contracting terms



Local Contractor Training in Navassa



Local Contractors and Contractor Training in Columbus

**Superfund Job Training Initiative** 

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT THE KERR-MCGEE CHEMICAL CORP – COLUMBUS SUPERFUND SITE**



**Introduction**

The Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp – Columbus (Kerr-McGee) Superfund Job Training Initiative (Super JTI) is an environmental remediation job readiness program that provided career development opportunities for 16 trainees living near the Kerr-McGee Superfund site in Columbus, Mississippi. Through a partnership between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Mississippians Community Action Group and remedial site contractor JSI, Kerr-McGee Super JTI provided local job seekers with new skills, certifications and hands-on training linked to construction and cleanup. EPA's goal is to help ascertain employment opportunities available for affected communities during the cleanup and redevelopment process, and to provide the workforce development skills needed to take advantage of those opportunities.



A chemical manufacturing facility operated on site from 1958 to 2003. (Map Sources: EPA, Decatur, AND, New Atlas, Fort American, USFPL)



# Community-Supported Redevelopment Planning

- ✓ Wherever possible, we seek to:
  - Support community members' priorities for future use
  - Host redevelopment planning initiatives to identify communities' goals and visions for reuse
  - Coordinate workshops, focus groups, visioning sessions, community surveys, and open houses, to seek community input on draft plans
  - Engage land use planners to create conceptual schematics that capture communities' goals
  - Work with potential buyer(s) to identify future uses and pursue necessary zoning changes, prior to property sale
  - Consider proposed future uses' consistency with community-supported reuse goals in evaluating bids/offers



Redevelopment Planning Meeting - Columbus



Visioning Workshop - Navassa





# Environmental Justice Advisory Board

- ✓ Chartering the Environmental Justice Advisory Board and implementing its recommendations is a key component of our Environmental Justice Program
- ✓ Environmental Justice Advisory Board was chartered to:
  - Recommend strategies for remediating sites in a manner that addresses environmental justice concerns
  - Evaluate Multistate Trust's Environmental Justice Program and suggest ways to expand and improve
  - Provide guidance on approaches to improving communications and strengthening partnerships with community stakeholders
  - Suggest options for facilitating protective reuse of Multistate Trust sites in ways that address community needs and objectives
  - Advise Multistate Trust on programs Multistate Trust can adopt to advance environmental justice principles



# Environmental Justice Program – Future Goals

- ✓ Prepare Site-specific environmental justice strategies to guide work at each Site within the program
- ✓ Expand Environmental Justice Program to include additional Sites located in communities with environmental justice concerns
- ✓ Gather tools, resources, and trainings for staff interested in learning more about environmental justice
- ✓ Develop recommendations for staff working on Sites that are not within the Environmental Justice Program, but where environmental justice or equity issues may arise
- ✓ Develop guidance to support technical staff's use of environmental justice tools, including EPA's EJ Screen and similar state-based tools
- ✓ Support the Environmental Justice Advisory Board and implement Board's recommendations



# Multistate Trust Environmental Justice Team



**Claire Woods**

**Director of Environmental Justice Policies and Programs**

Claire develops and implements policies to address disproportionate environmental and economic harm from legacy contamination at Greenfield Multistate Trust sites. Before joining Greenfield, Claire led litigation and advocacy efforts to secure safe drinking water, curb air emissions, protect species, and maintain critical environmental protections for communities. Claire earned her BA in history from Stanford University and her JD from Columbia Law School.



**Ngozi Ibe**

**Environmental Justice Specialist**

Ngozi manages the Multistate Trust Site in Navassa, NC, and supports the Multistate Trust's environmental justice programs. With more than 20 years of experience in environmental project management (most recently at Jacobs), she has led cleanup teams and worked with federal agencies and community stakeholders. Ngozi earned a BS in geology from University of Calabar and her MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Anna Novikova**

**Environmental Justice Coordinator**

Anna is responsible for communications support for the Greenfield Trusts' community involvement and environmental justice initiatives at multiple sites. She also provides technology and project support for multiple Greenfield Trusts, as well as to Greenfield's project and program managers. Anna earned her BA in environmental analysis/policy and BS in journalism from Boston University.

