



Collaborative on Health and the Environment

eNewsletter - May 2014

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Contents

[CHE Partnership Calls and Special Announcements](#)

[Working and Regional Group Updates](#)

[Announcements and News Highlights](#)

[Reports, Resources and Other Updates](#)



Science, Civility, and..."Politics"?

*by Steve Heilig, MPH, CHE Director of Public Health & Education, and
Director of Public Health & Education, San Francisco Medical Society*

CHE's motto is "Science and Civility"--it's right there on top of our home page. Just below that comes our mission: "... to strengthen the science dialogue on environmental factors impacting human health and to facilitate collaborative, multifactorial, prevention-oriented efforts to address environmental health concerns."

Fair enough and we think important, for, as our founding chairman and public health icon Dr. Philip Lee notes in his welcome letter, "Compelling scientific evidence increasingly indicates that the proliferation of chemicals in our air, water, soil, food, homes, schools, and workplaces can be an important factor in many human diseases and health conditions." This is even more true than it was in 2002 when CHE was founded--thanks to the diligent work of many researchers, of course.

But further in his letter, Phil concludes that one goal shared by CHE partners is "better policies and preventive efforts." It can even be logically argued that this latter aim is the ultimate aim of CHE-like activities. But we also know all too well that "pure" science does not automatically--or even often--lead to healthier, science-based policy.

The intrusion of money and "politics" into environmental science and health is certainly not news, and probably bedevils many if not most CHE partners in at least some manner. But I found myself especially struck by this dynamic while interviewing Professor Nicholas

Freudenberg for a recent CHE call titled "[Where Health and Profit Meet: How Corporations Influence Public Health](#)." This call was spurred by Freudenberg's talk at the University of California, San Francisco and his new book, *Lethal but Legal: Corporations, Consumption, and Protecting Public Health*.

Freudenberg, Distinguished Professor of Public Health at City University of New York and Hunter College, does not address environmental health in his book as much as he does six other sectors or industries--alcohol, tobacco, automobiles, firearms, food and beverages, and pharmaceuticals. As detailed in Freudenberg's book, the similarities of events and strategies across these sectors can be striking. From my perspective as a longtime anti-tobacco advocate, that industry seems to have set the model that others unfortunately aspire to--as has been learned by unprecedented access to the tobacco industry's internal records and plans. But other industries are not far behind, and their "scorecards" show many victories in terms of defeating or at least delaying healthier policies.

On the call, I pressed Professor Freudenberg to "grade" each of the six sectors he examined in terms of how well the efforts for better policy have gone to date; he gamely agreed, and the average was a solid "D+," When pushed, he agreed to provide a grade for chemical policies as well: "C." I did not ask him about other issues of concern, such as, say, climate change or antibiotic resistance, but then I'd already guessed those grades.

"Some public health researchers are uncomfortable traveling on both the research and advocacy roads," Freudenberg observes in his book. And it may be argued that such separation is historically appropriate in the imperative to keep science as "pure" as possible. But Freudenberg argues that science and advocacy are "two paths to the same destination: more just and healthy societies." And later he throws down something of a gauntlet: "After all, the purpose of public health analysis is to inform action to improve population health. If the best it can offer is to document allegedly immutable trends, then researchers come to resemble the medieval monks who described the unfolding of the epidemic of Black Death in Europe, while praying for salvation in another world."

Strong words indeed. "Public health analysis" is different than lab science, of course. But it's also true that each scientist, researcher, and advocate decides for themselves how deep into "advocacy" they will go--if at all. And as the great veteran double-Pulitzer-winning Harvard ecologist E.O. Wilson puts it in his 2013 book *Letters to A Young Scientist* "very few step forward because they really don't want to get into a squabble." For, as he also admits, "They've got enough to do back home"--meaning, in the lab or other office.

We hope you might find the time to listen to Freudenberg's challenging talk--it's about an hour, and could have been much longer--and perhaps read his landmark book, and of course avail yourselves of as many of the resources [CHE](#) provides. As for those big questions about the perilous future we face and what each of us might choose to try to do about that, well, to each his or her own. Whatever your own choices, we thank you for being part of CHE.

CHE Partnership Calls

CHE Partnership call: Retha Newbold Speaks About CLARITY-BPA: A Novel Approach to Study Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals

Wednesday May 21, 2014 at 10:00 am Pacific/1:00 pm Eastern

Hosted by the EDC Strategy Group

[RSVP for this call](#)

On this call Retha Newbold, MS, Researcher Emeritus, National Toxicology Program, National Institute of Environmental Health



Sciences, will discuss the program called "The Consortium Linking Academic and Regulatory Insights on the Toxicity of Bisphenol A (CLARITY-BPA)" which is an interagency agreement, conducted under the auspices of the National Toxicology Program (NTP), between The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) supported grantees, the staff of the Division of the National Toxicology Program (DNTP) at NIH/NIEHS, and the Food and Drug Administration at the National Center for Toxicological Research (FDA/NCTR).

CHE Partnership call: Epigenetics 101: How Exposure to Environmental Toxicants Alters Gene Expression and the Development of Disease

Thursday May 22, 2014 at 10:00 am Pacific/1:00 pm Eastern
Hosted by the EDC Strategy Working Group

[RSVP for this call](#)

Epigenetics is a term used more and more frequently among those concerned about environmental health. But what the term really means and its implications may still not be well understood to many of us who work on environmental health concerns, much less those we are trying to engage in other sectors. This call is an opportunity to learn the basics of epigenetics as well as about some emerging research and concerns in this field.

CHE Partnership call: Nanoparticles: Examining the Science, Determining the Risk, Considering Public Health

Thursday May 29, 2014 at 10:00 am Pacific/1:00 pm Eastern

[RSVP for this call](#)

Nanoparticles are already in consumer products, including food packaging, clothing, electronic devices, cookware and even some food. Many have never undergone rigorous safety testing for potential impacts on human health. The emerging research indicating nanoparticle exposure may lead to potential health risks in some cases suggests that precautionary and regulatory measures are a priority. On this call our speakers will discuss the current science and potential health risks related to nanoparticles, how nanoparticles interact with the environment and living systems, and what policy opportunities currently exist to ensure public health is protected.

CHE Partnership call: Catch of the Day: Healthy Fish, Healthy Humans

Tuesday June 10, 2014 at 10:00 am Pacific/1:00 pm Eastern

[RSVP for this call](#)

The health benefits of fish have been well documented. However, fish are vulnerable to contamination from toxic chemicals, including mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), so it is important for consumers to understand how to minimize risks and maximize the benefits of eating seafood. Speakers on this call will address issues such as how fish become contaminated, how they are tested for contaminants, fish consumption advisories, and safe eating guidelines.

Special Announcements

CHE participates in Reach the Decision Makers team

Sarah Howard, National Coordinator of the CHE Diabetes-Obesity Spectrum Working Group, and Karin Russ, National Coordinator of the CHE Fertility and Reproductive Health Working Group, were a part of the Reach the Decision Makers



Monica Vohmann, MD (Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin), Sarah Howard (CHE), Karin Russ (CHE), Loretta Doan, PhD (Endocrine Society), Nicole Acevedo, PhD (Tufts University School of Medicine)

team (sponsored by [UCSF's Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment](#)), that met with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to discuss how they evaluate thyroid hormone disrupting chemicals in the Endocrine Disrupter Screening Program. The Reach the Decision Makers Fellowship trains scientists, community members, clinicians and public health professionals to effectively promote science and health-based policies at the US EPA.

Resources from recent CHE calls:

If you missed any of the following CHE calls, you may listen to MP3 recordings and find supporting materials at the following links:

- April 30, 2014: [Acid Rock Drainage and Water Quality: Potential Environmental Impacts in Alaska](#)
- April 29, 2014: [Where Health and Profit Meet: How Corporations Influence Public Health with Nicholas Freudenberg](#)
- April 24, 2014: [Healthy Urban Gardens: Your Soil Health and You](#)

You can subscribe via podcast to receive notifications of new call recordings added to the CHE archives. [View a list of past calls and subscribe to the podcast.](#)

CHE Working and Regional Group Updates

CHE Asthma

~ coordinated by Génon Jensen, info@healthandenvironment.org

~ Asthma's impact on California

California Breathing Asthma Program has released a fact sheet summarizing data on the impact of asthma in California. This fact sheet includes data from the more detailed report, "Asthma in California: A Surveillance Report," which can also be found the California Breathing Asthma Program's [website](#).

[Read more](#)

~ American Lung Association releases State of the Air 2014 report

More than half of Americans breathe in unhealthy air, according to a new American Lung Association's "State of the Air 2014" report. The Association found that air pollution throughout the nation has gotten a little worse since last year's report. In particular, ozone levels rose in the three year period from 2010 to 2012, possibly because of climate change.

[Read more](#)

~ May is Asthma Awareness Month

The National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) joins the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention(CDC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in urging everyone to pay attention to their local air quality. People with asthma are particularly affected by air pollution and environmental trigger control is a key component of comprehensive asthma management.

[Read more](#)

~ "Know your air for health" aims to help us breathe more easily

Improving air quality can limit the symptoms of asthma and other breathing problems in children and adults, say HEAL and the European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA) on the joint launch of the "Know your air for

health" website.

[Read more](#)

~ **Génon K. Jensen receives award for advocacy on air quality**

HEAL's Executive Director, Génon K. Jensen recently received an award for "a valuable personal contribution to improving air quality in London and elsewhere". Génon was one of 24 people recognized in the Clean Air in Cities Awards this year. The awards are given by Simon Birkett, Founder and Director of Clean Air.

[Read more](#)

Last year, Deputy Director Anne Stauffer won an award for her work. [Read more](#)

CHE Autism

~ coordinated by Michael Lerner, info@healthandenvironment.org

~ **Environment as influential as genes in autism, study says**

Environmental factors are more important than previously thought in leading to autism, as big a factor as genes, according to the largest analysis to date to look at how the brain disorder runs in families.

[Read more](#)

~ **Call for proposals: Environmental Contributors to Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Funding is available to stimulate and foster research to 1) identify environmental contributors to risk and expression of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and 2) understand how environmental factors impact the underlying biologic processes implicated in ASD. The first application due date is August 26, 2014.

[Read more](#)

CHE Breast Cancer

~ coordinated by Michael Lerner and Jeanne Rizzo, info@healthandenvironment.org

~ **Training Opportunity in Community Based Participatory Research in Breast Cancer, the Environment and Disparities**

Do you wonder about the effects of the environment on the development of breast cancer? And why some groups of women are more likely to get breast cancer or die from the disease? Commonweal, the California Breast Cancer Research Program, and Plumblinc Coaching and Consulting are partnering this summer to train academics and community-based leaders to conduct community based participatory research to answer these questions. California-based teams are encouraged to apply. To learn more, participate in one of our informational webinars:

- Thursday May 15, 2:00-3:30 pm
- Thursday May 22, 1:00-2:30 pm

Deadline for applications is June 4, 2014. Register for a webinar and learn more at <http://www.cbcrp.org/community/quickstart.php>. For more information, contact Heather Sarantis at QuickStart@cabreastcancer.org.

~ **New review on breast carcinogens**

This new review of breast carcinogens, "New Exposure Biomarkers as Tools For Breast Cancer Epidemiology, Biomonitoring, and Prevention: A Systematic Approach Based on Animal Evidence", was published in *Environmental Health Perspectives*. The study identifies 100 common chemical exposures as priorities for exposure reduction and further study, and identifies biomonitoring methods for 62 of them.

[Read more](#)

~ **Institute of Medicine offers Q&A booklet on breast cancer and the environment**

This lay-friendly Q&A booklet draws from the findings of the 2011 IOM report [Breast Cancer and the Environment: A Life Course Approach](#) to answer common questions about environmental risk factors for breast cancer. The booklet is available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

CHE Climate Change

~ coordinated by Génon Jensen, info@healthandenvironment.org

~ 3rd National Climate Assessment report released

The National Climate Assessment summarizes the impacts of climate change on the United States, now and in the future. A team of more than 300 experts guided by a 60-member Federal Advisory Committee produced the report, which was extensively reviewed by the public and experts, including federal agencies and a panel of the National Academy of Sciences.

[Read more](#)

~ EU extends life of Europe's biggest polluter while IPCC calls for coal phase out

The EU Commission's February decision to allow a Polish state owned energy company to continue operating two outdated production units at Europe's largest coal power plant is being challenged by several public interest and legal groups.

[Read more](#)

~ Health costs of coal power generation in Austria

HEAL, its member, the International Society of Doctors for the Environment, Austria, and environmental organization GLOBAL2000 presented a study showing that air pollution from three remaining coal power plants in Austria contributes to health costs of 194 million EUR per year. Their phase out should now be a public health priority and would put Austria in a leadership position among EU countries.

[Read more](#)

Cumulative Impacts Working Group

~ coordinated by Elise Miller and Carolyn Raffensperger, info@healthandenvironment.org

~ Working Group call: Using Cumulative Impacts Analysis to Protect Public Health with Dr. Peter Montague

Thursday June 12, 2014 at 10:00 am Pacific/1:00 pm Eastern

[RSVP for this call](#)

Dr. Peter Montague, an historian and journalist dedicated to environmental health and justice, will present on why cumulative impacts analysis is needed whenever a new disturbance (such as a new project, process, technology, etc.) is introduced into the natural, built, or social environment. Dr. Montague will provide an overview of cumulative impacts analysis, current impediments for its implementation, and ways to encourage researchers and others to reframe "one cause, one effect" thinking to include multiple impacts on health over time. He will also discuss a three-part "checklist" as part of the cumulative impacts analysis that community leaders and other decision-makers can use to evaluate any proposed new disturbance in order to better protect human and ecological health.

CHE Diabetes-Obesity

~ coordinated by Sarah Howard, sarhow@gmail.com

~ New articles and research published in academic and scientific journals

There was a 21.1% increase in type 1 diabetes prevalence, and a 30.5% increase in type 2 diabetes prevalence in US youth between 2001-2009. The authors note that "Further studies are required to determine the causes of these increases." [Prevalence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes among children and adolescents from 2001 to 2009](#). Dabelea D, et al. JAMA. 2014 May 7;311(17):1778-86.

~ Upcoming events

American Diabetes Association's 74th Scientific Sessions, June 13-27, San Francisco CA: Includes sessions on "The Role of Gut Bacteria in Diabetes and Obesity," and "Early Life Origins of Obesity--Epigenetic and Developmental Mechanisms," among others.

[Read more about the program](#)

[Visit the conference webpage](#)

The ICE/Endo (joint meeting of the International Society of Endocrinology and The Endocrine Society), June 21-24, Chicago IL:
Includes a symposium on "Mechanisms of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals in Diabetes and Obesity" (Sun. June 22, 9:30- 11 AM).

[Read more about the symposium](#)

[Read more about the conference](#)

CHE Fertility and Reproductive Health

~ coordinated by Karin Russ, karin@healthandenvironment.org

~ Webinar: Fracking, Natural Gas, and Maternal Health



Nationally renowned doctors and scientists are presenting a series of webinars that will provide resources and information on fracking. This six-webinar series is presented by the Center for Environmental Health. [Read more](#)

~ New articles and research published in academic and scientific journals

Fetal programming and metabolic disease

[Epigenetic dysregulation of the IGF system in placenta of newborns exposed to maternal impaired glucose tolerance.](#) Epigenomics.

[In utero exposure to the endocrine disruptor di-\(2-ethylhexyl\) phthalate promotes local adipose and systemic inflammation in adult male offspring.](#) Nutrition & Diabetes.

[Oxidative stress and altered lipid homeostasis in the programming of offspring fatty liver by maternal obesity.](#) American Journal of Physiology. Regulatory, Integrative and Comparative physiology.

[The effect of feto-maternal blood type incompatibility on development of gestational diabetes mellitus.](#) La Clinica Terapeutica.

[Obesity and lifespan health-importance of the fetal environment.](#) Nutrients.

Fetal programming and alerted neurodevelopment in offspring

[Maternal viral infection during pregnancy impairs development of fetal serotonergic neurons.](#) Brain & Development.

[Neurocognitive development of children exposed to doxylamine-pyridoxine combination in utero for morning sickness.](#) Obstetrics & Gynecology.

PCOS

[Polycystic ovary syndrome: do endocrine-disrupting chemicals play a role?](#) Seminars in Reproductive Medicine.

[Bisphenol A \(BPA\) and its potential role in the pathogenesis of the polycystic ovary syndrome \(PCOS\).](#) Gynecological Endocrinology.

[The influence of antenatal exposure to phthalates on subsequent female reproductive development in adolescence: a pilot study.](#) Reproduction.

CHE Healthy Aging and the Environment Initiative

~ coordinated by Maria Valenti, mvalenti@igc.org

~ New articles and research published in academic and scientific journals

["Gray and Green Revisited: A Multidisciplinary Perspective of Gardens, Gardening, and the Aging Process."](#) by Scott Wright and Amy Wadsworth, in *The Journal of Aging*

Research (March 6, 2014) reviews the specific role of gardens and gardening in the aging experience.

Last week the White House released the [3rd US National Climate Assessment \(NCA\)](#), and its impacts across every region of America and major sectors of the U.S. economy. In addition to the dire predictions for humankind in general, what are some of the particular concerns for elders? Watch "[Aging in the Age of Climate Change](#)" presented by the Cornell University College of Human Ecology.

~ **Upcoming Events**

Webinar: Microbes, the Environment, and You

This webinar on May 21st will feature talks from two researchers who are using model systems to investigate how the microbiome responds to environmental exposures, as well as its relationship to environmentally induced disease states.

[Read more and register](#)

National Center for Creative Aging Leadership conference: "THE CREATIVE AGE: Exploring Potential in the Second Half of Life"

June 10-14, Washington, DC

The conference will Convene leaders from local to international across the sectors of aging, arts, health, and social services dedicated to promoting creative and healthy aging.

[Read more and register](#)

Gerontological Society of America annual scientific conference: "Making Connections: From Cells to Societies"

Nov 5-9, Washington, DC

GSA's Annual Scientific Meeting brings together more than 4,000 of the brightest minds in the field of aging. This meeting is the premier gathering of gerontologists from both the United States and around the world. They participate in over 400 scientific sessions including symposia, paper, and poster presentations.

[Read more and register](#)

CHE Initiative on Children's Environmental Health

~ coordinated by Elise Miller, info@healthandenvironment.org

~ **Webinar series on children's environmental health**

The webinar series hosted by the EPA and NIEHS features presentations and interactive discussions including recent findings and new developments in children's environmental health.

[Read more](#)

~ **Children's Environmental Health "wiki" launched**

The Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health has created and launched a new "wiki". Children's neurodevelopmental disorders, respiratory health, asthma, and cancer are at the heart of the wiki page. The wiki page is loaded with research that addresses links between health problems and environmental exposures. As more users read and contribute to the wiki, the wiki's power is amplified, allowing the page to reach a large and diverse audience.

[Read more](#)

CHE Regional Working Groups

CHE Alaska

~ coordinated by Pamela Miller, pamela@akaction.org

~ **CHE-AK Working Group call: Breast Cancer Prevention: Beyond Pink Ribbons**

Wednesday May 28, 2014 at 9:00 am Alaska/10:00 am Pacific/1:00 pm Eastern

[RSVP for this call](#)

Join this panel of expert speakers including Connie Engel of the Breast Cancer Fund, Karuna Jaggar of Breast Cancer Action, and Janet Ackerman of Silent Spring Institute, for a discussion of the science linking exposures to toxic chemicals and breast cancer, environmental risk factors, the precautionary principle, and ways to prioritize prevention through individual and collective action. Our goal is to inspire participants to make choices that eliminate contaminants linked to cancer from their homes and communities. We also hope participants will join the many breast cancer advocates across the country who are working for public policies that will reduce the risks of breast cancer.

CHE HEAL

~ coordinated by Lisette van Vliet, lisette@env-health.org

~ France launches EDC strategy with a clear message for Europe

Ségolène Royal, the new sustainable development minister and former French presidential candidate, recently announced a draft national strategy on endocrine disrupting chemicals (SNPE) in France. A key component of the national strategy will be bringing the public health issue of EDCs to the European level so that France becomes a driver for health and environment protection in Europe. According to a summary of the adoptive text, the strategy sets the reduction of population and environmental exposure to endocrine disruptors as its primary objective.

[Read the full document](#) (French)

~ 21 residues of endocrine disrupting pesticides found in samples of French children's hair

HEAL member Générations Futures recently launched a successful report showing that children in a small-scale study in France have an average of 21 residues of endocrine disrupting pesticides in samples of their hair.

[Read more](#)

~ Proposed plans for US/EU trade deal would weaken health, consumer, worker, environmental protections

Current proposals being floated as part of the TTIP negotiations would grant foreign governments and corporations an increased opportunity to influence public protections in both the EU and the US warn more than 170 environmental, health, labor, and consumer organizations in an open letter. This would include standards related to food safety, toxic chemicals, occupational health, and the protection of the environment. This transatlantic public interest statement is being released ahead of the next negotiations to share concerns and increase public debate and transparency on the trade agreement.

[Read more](#)

CHE Washington

~ coordinated by Aimee Boulanger and Steve Gilbert, info@healthandenvironment.org

~ CHE-WA Children's Environmental Health Working Group meeting

Save the date for the next Children's Environmental Health Working Group monthly meeting, which will take place on Thursday June 12, 2014 from 9:30-11:30 am Pacific at the Seattle EPA office. This will be the last meeting before the July/August break. The meeting's speaker and topic will be announced soon.

Questions? Please email gail.gensler@kingcounty.gov or call [206-263-3082](tel:206-263-3082).

Announcements and News Highlights

EPA seeking public comment on enhancing transparency for chemicals and mixtures used in hydraulic fracturing

EPA is seeking public comment on what information could be reported and disclosed for hydraulic fracturing chemicals and mixtures and the approaches for obtaining this information, including non-regulatory approaches. EPA is also soliciting input on

incentives and recognition programs that could support the development and use of safer chemicals in hydraulic fracturing.

[Read more](#)

CDC epidemiologist wins 2014 Ozonoff Award for studies of Camp Lejeune families



Richard Clapp, Frank Bove,
David Ozonoff and Roberta
White

Frank Bove, a senior epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is the recipient of the 2014 David Ozonoff Unsung Hero Award for his work as a tireless advocate for communities suffering the long-term effects of contaminated water and soil. In particular, Bove was honored for his efforts on behalf of the families of US Marines stationed at Camp Lejeune, which he documented in his book: *A Trust Betrayed: The Untold Story of Camp Lejeune and the Poisoning of Generations of Marines and Their Families*. [Read more](#)

NCEH/ATSDR release strategic plan and priorities

The CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), has shared NCEH/ATSDR's final strategic plan for fiscal years 2014-2016, as well as their topical priorities for the next 1-2 years.

[Read more](#)

Conference: Your World, Your Health: Nurses' Role in Environmental Health

The Maryland Nurses Association will host this one day conference on May 30th. The event will focus on how nurses can improve health in facilities, the community and the world. Locally and nationally recognized experts will discuss ways to reduce exposure to chemicals, pesticides, and pollution, as well as policy issues in environmental health.

[Read more and register](#)

Environmental Health News (EHN) and its sister site, The Daily Climate, offer a wealth of valuable information each day at no cost to subscribers. The daily email subscriptions and the 350,000-item news archive have recently been supplemented by a Facebook page and Twitter feed.

Environmental Health News: email, Facebook, Twitter and a website archive

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[Visit the EHN archives page](#)

[Sign up for EHN's free weekly e-newsletters](#) focused on children's health and energy and health

Friend EHN on Facebook by searching for Environmental Health News

May 2014 issue of *Environmental Health Perspectives* available online

[Read more](#)

May 2014 issue of *Environmental Factor* available online

[Read more](#)

CHE maintains a [news feed](#) of environmental health related news announcements and events collected from a multitude of sources on CHE's website.

Reports, Resources and Other Updates

New IOM report on identifying and reducing environmental health risks

The IOM's Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine held a workshop in late 2013 to discuss approaches related to identifying and reducing potential environmental public health risks to new and existing industrial chemicals. Speakers at the workshop examined successes and areas for improvement within

current regulatory programs for assessing industrial chemical safety, frameworks for chemical prioritization to inform targeted testing and risk management strategies, concepts of sustainability and green chemistry that support the design and use of safer alternatives, and efforts to reduce the risk of chemicals in our society.

[Read more](#)

Reviews on Environmental Health publishes special issue on environmental exposure in indigenous communities

This special issue addresses oil sands, arsenic, mercury, hazardous waste, PCBs, and more in indigenous communities.

[Read more](#)

New fact sheet offers tips to avoid toxic chemicals before, during, and after pregnancy

Women's Voices for the Earth (WVE) has created a new fact sheet with 10 tips to avoid unnecessary toxic exposures during pregnancy.

[Read more](#)

New report: Who's in Danger? A Demographic Analysis of Chemical Disaster Vulnerability Zones

This report presents new research showing that residents of chemical facility "vulnerability zones" are disproportionately African American or Latino, have higher rates of poverty than the U.S. as a whole, and have lower housing values, incomes, and education levels than the national average.

[Read more](#)

CHE lists hundreds of reports, books, videos, databases and other resources in a searchable [Portal to Science](#) on CHE's website.

Thank you for taking the time to read the latest about CHE. As always, we welcome your questions and suggestions. Please direct comments to Elise Miller, Director of CHE, at elise@healthandenvironment.org

Best wishes,

Elise Miller, MEd, Director

Steve Heilig, Director of Public Health and Education at San Francisco Medical Society and CHE

Erika Sanders, Administrative Coordinator

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