



The Southern Center for Environmental Justice, Inc.

DOING BUSINESS AS THE DEEP SOUTH CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, INC.

July 11, 2016

MEDIA STATEMENT

The Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Inc. (DSCEJ, Inc.) is deeply disturbed by the lack of transparency and community input on the plan by Entergy New Orleans, Inc. to build a combustion turbine natural gas power plant at the Michoud site in New Orleans East. This proposal comes after a recent NASA/LSU study found Entergy's use of groundwater at this site caused the land to sink in the surrounding area which includes the location near a levee break during Hurricane Katrina. We are troubled by the environmental injustice of placing on African American and Vietnamese American residents the burden of a new power plant that will release harmful air pollution and resume groundwater withdrawals which increase flood risk.

We are also concerned that Entergy's proposed power plant is part of a 20-year plan that moves our city in the wrong direction. This flawed plan by Entergy, called the Integrated Resource Plan or IRP, would increase energy use, result in higher bills, eliminate solar and wind renewable energy, and add to greenhouse gas emissions driving climate change and sea level rise.

DSCEJ, Inc. has carefully reviewed Entergy's IRP and application seeking the approval of the New Orleans City Council to build a 250 megawatt combustion turbine natural gas power plant in New Orleans East. DSCEJ, Inc. has partnered with Advocates for Environmental Human Rights to prepare an environmental justice impact analysis of Entergy's plan and application. We are pleased to be invited by the East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission (ENONAC) to present key points from our analysis at the next general meeting on **Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the St. Maria Goretti Church, 7300 Crowder Blvd.**

Information contacts:

Mary Williams, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Inc. 504-383-3563.