

FEMA Implementation of E.O. 12898 - Environmental Justice for Low Income and Minority Populations

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FEMA

FEMA's Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) Cadre

- Responsible for working with FEMA grant programs to ensure that consideration of potential impacts to environmental, historic, and cultural resources are incorporated into FEMA's mission, programs, and activities.
- FEMA requirements under EO 12898: Environmental Justice for Low Income and Minority Populations.



Background on Executive Order 12898

- Signed by President Clinton in 1994
- **Responsible Agency:** Environmental Protection Agency
- **Trigger:** Adverse and disproportionately high adverse affect on human health or environments to low income and minority populations, including Native American tribes and peoples.

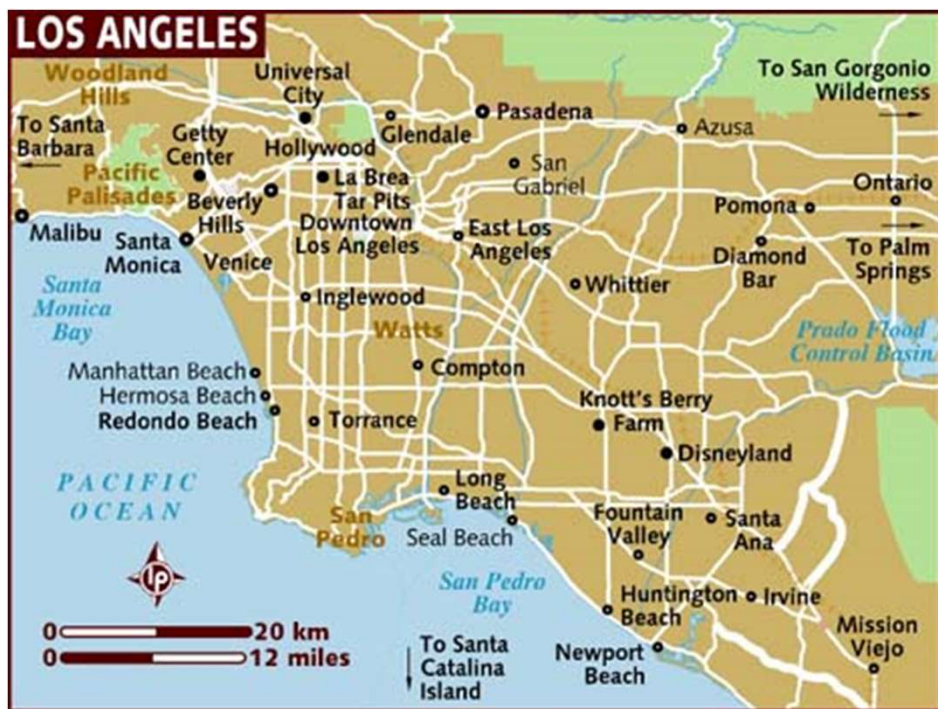
Federal Register Vol. 59, No. 32 Wednesday, February 16, 1994	Presidential Documents
Title 3—	Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994
The President	Federal Actions To Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

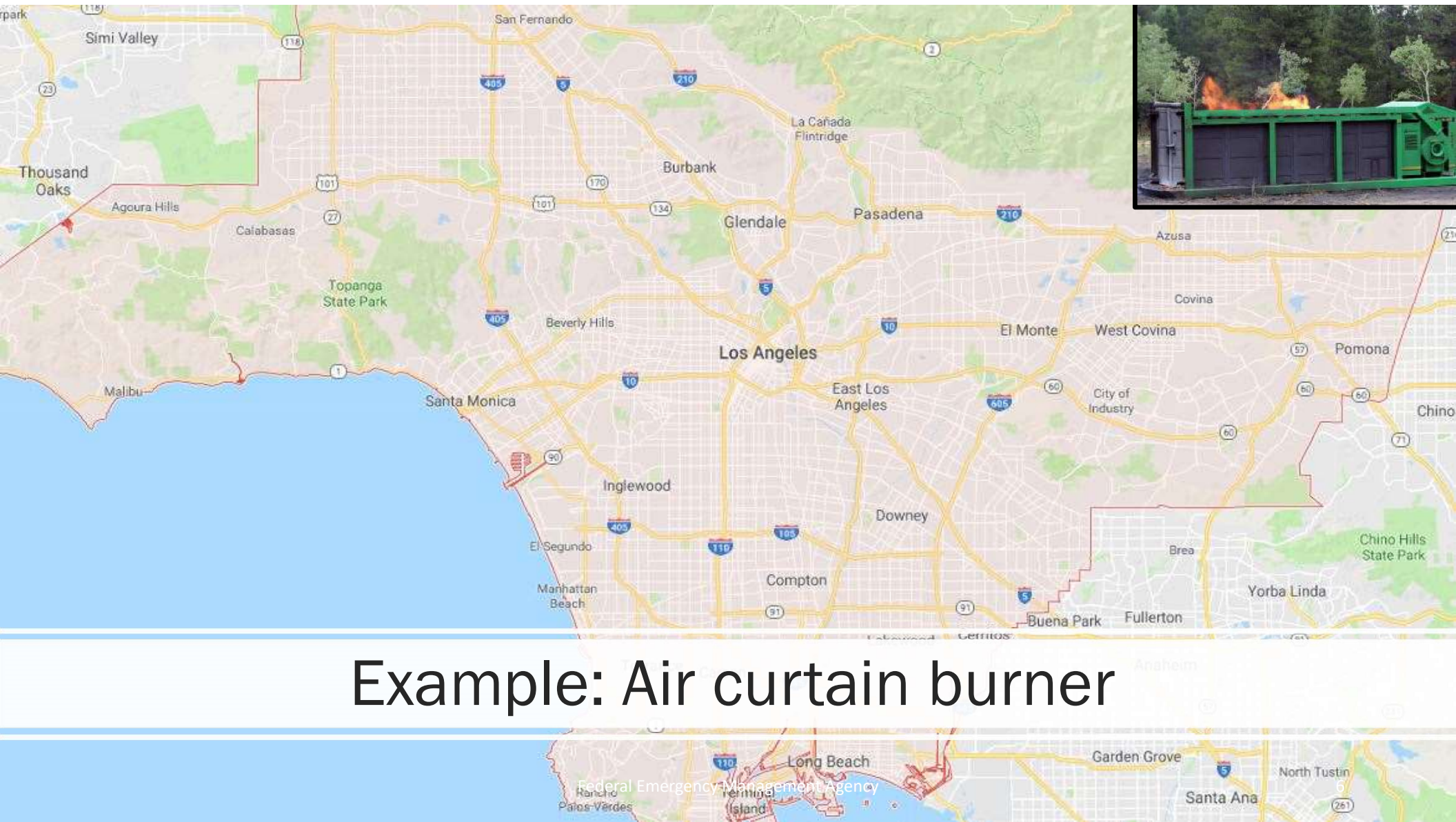
Definition of Environmental Justice

The EPA defines Environmental Justice as 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.

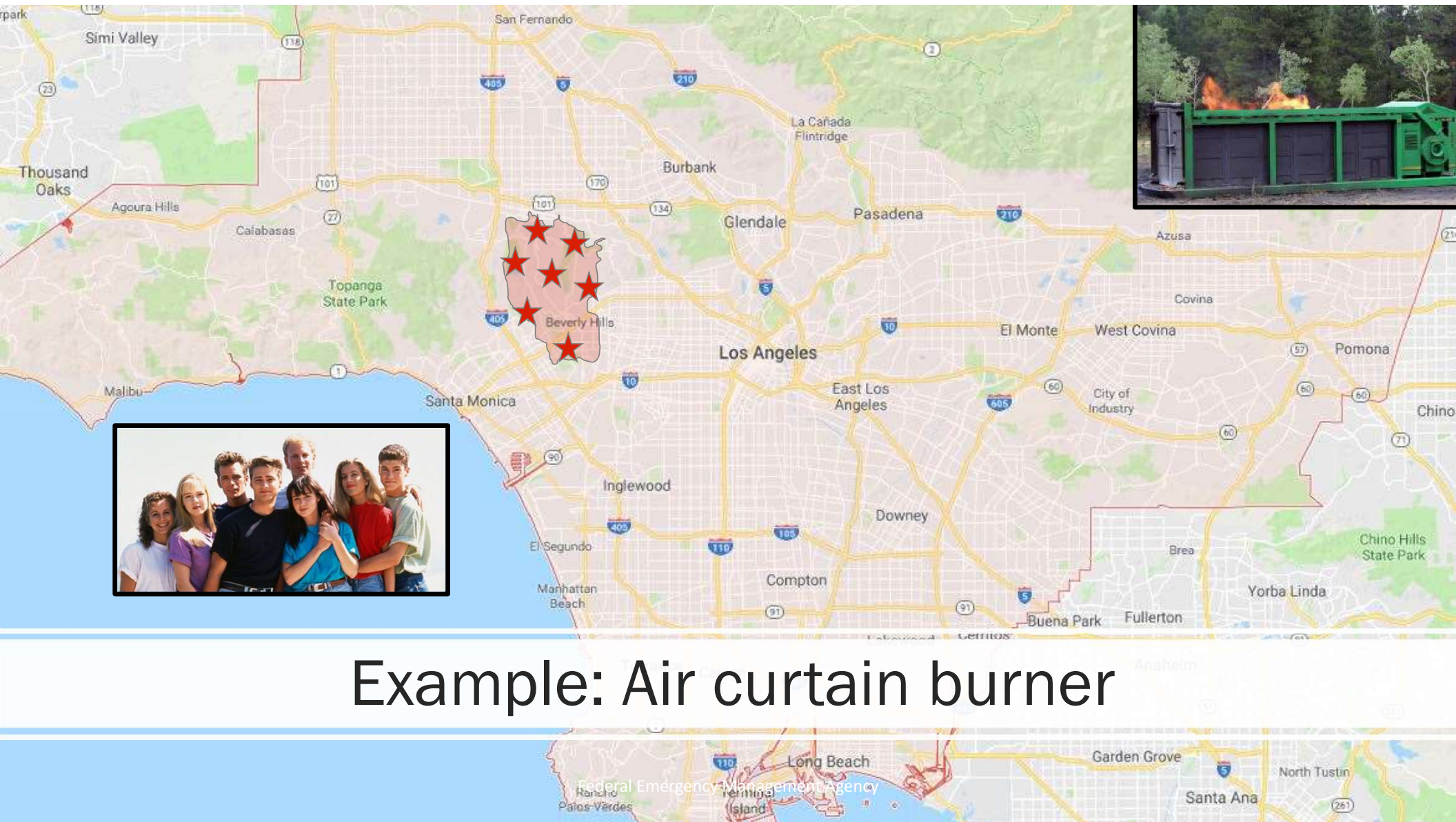


Example: Air curtain burner

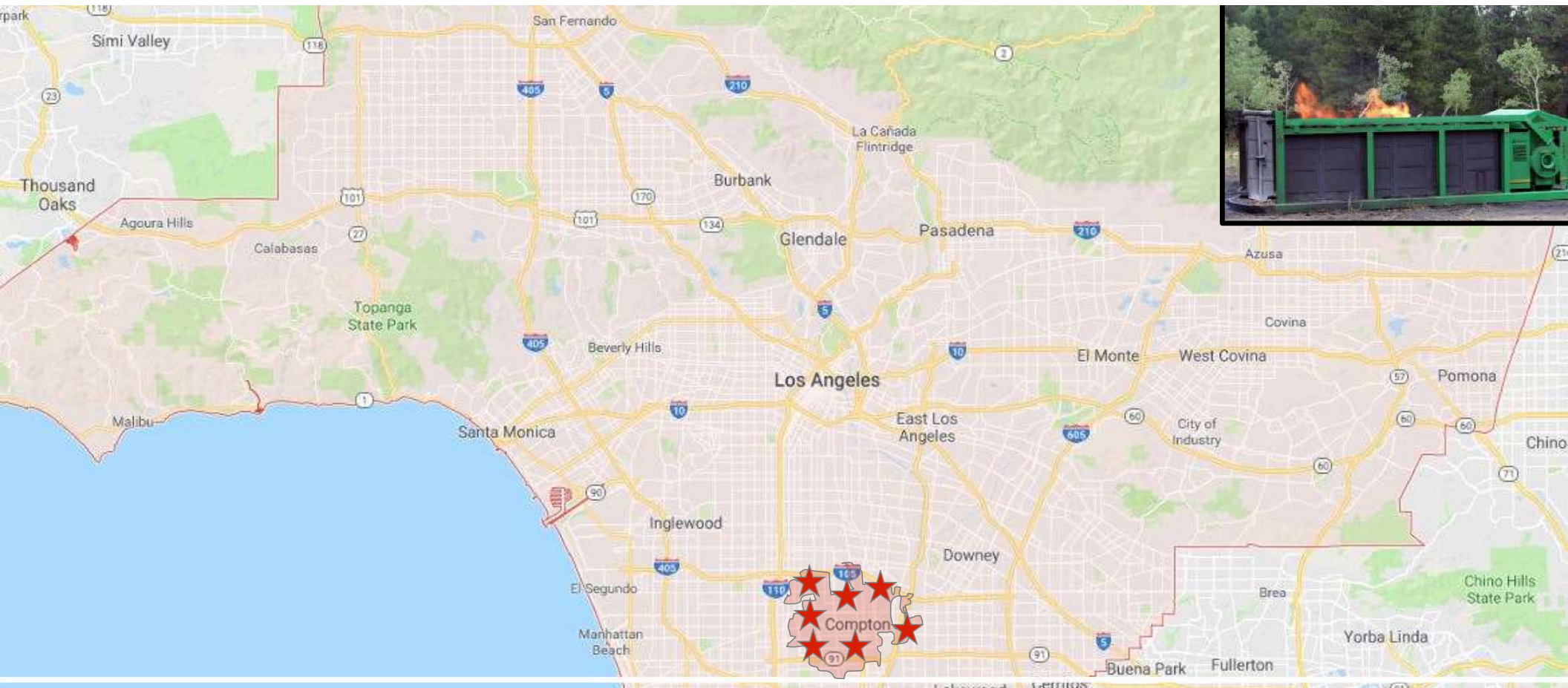




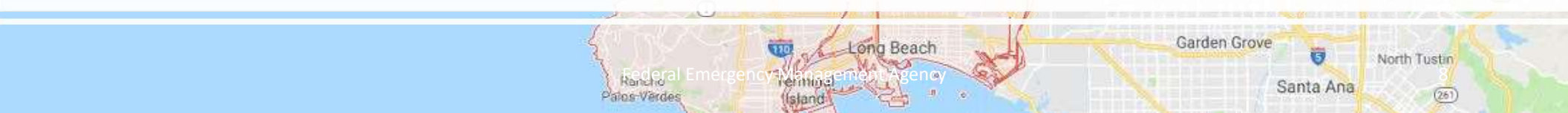
Example: Air curtain burner



Example: Air curtain burner



Example: Air curtain burner





Example: Construction
of the Interstate
Highway System 1938-
present.

Downtown Connector I-
75/I-85 Atlanta, GA



EJ Triggers

- Health:
 - Odor
 - Sewage systems
 - Noise
 - Vibration
 - Elderly and young populations
- Social:
 - Consistency with land uses
 - Visual impacts
- Economic:
 - Traffic patterns and impacts to area





EJ Triggers: FEMA Individual Assistance (IA)

- Where Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) are located
- Temporary housing is often needed for disaster survivors.
 - Important to consider employment and economic base for residents of temporary housing
 - FEMA programs usually take this into consideration when they select possible sites
- Direct Housing Projects

EJ Triggers: FEMA Public Assistance (PA)

- Debris staging and disposal
- Public Housing
- Patterns of subsistence consumption of fish, vegetation, or wildlife
- Not returning to pre-disaster condition, including relocations



EJ Triggers: Hazard Mitigation

- Safe rooms
- Warning sirens
- New Construction



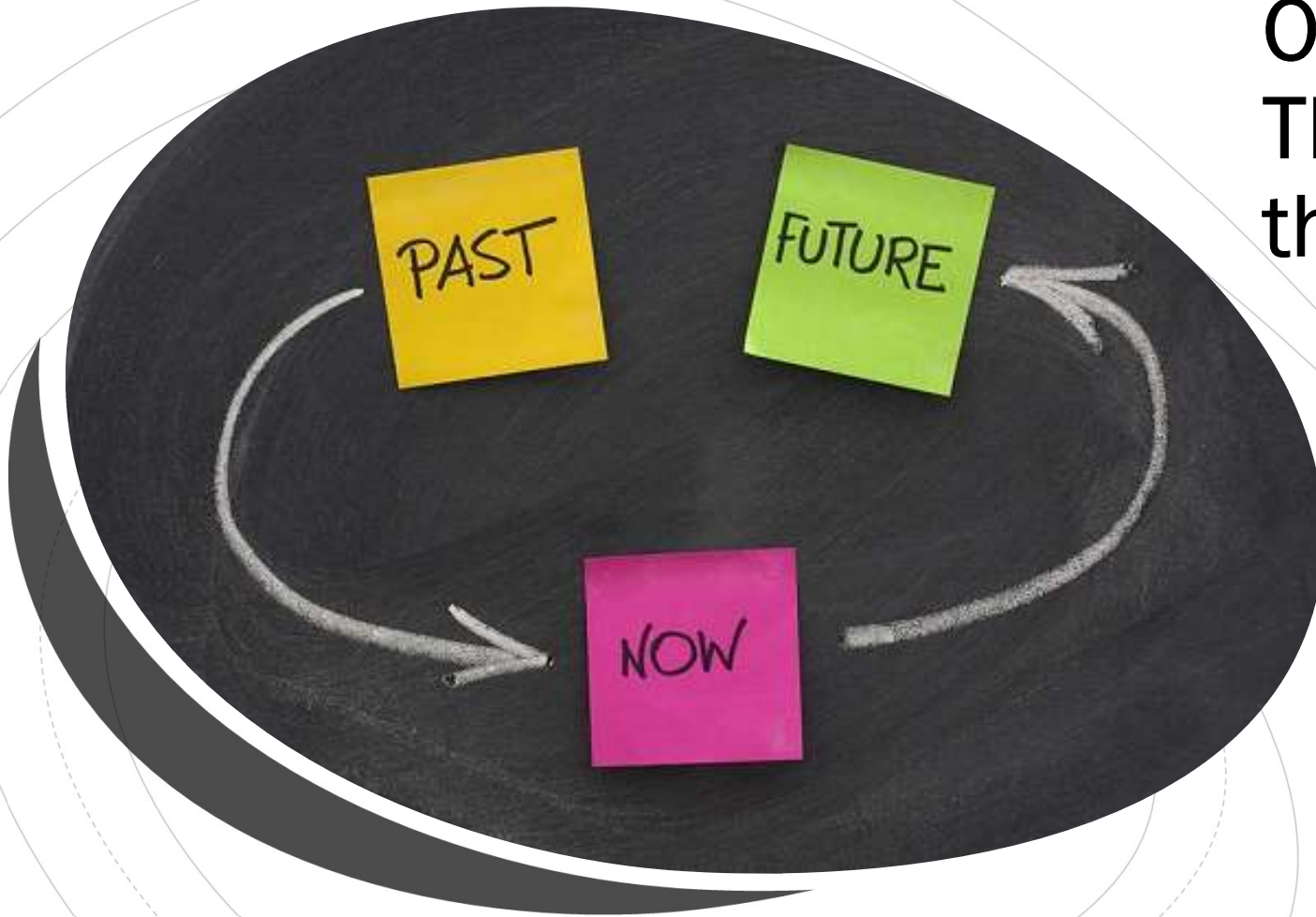
Data Sets for EJ Analysis

- Census data
- Studies and reports (e.g. traffic, noise, dust, odor, hazardous materials, etc.)
- Studies, reports, and recommendations from state, regional, county, and local planning and development agencies
- EPA's EJSCREEN: <https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>
- EPA's NEPA Assist: <https://www.epa.gov/nepa>
- Office of Equal Rights At Risk Community Assessment

Additional EJ Resources

- EPA Environmental Justice website:
 - Main page: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>
 - Glossary: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-glossary>
- Environmental Justice in NEPA Case Studies – Federal Highway Administration
 - https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/environmental_justice/resources/ej_and_nepa/case_studies/case00.cfm
- EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples
 - <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-10/documents/ej-indigenous-policy.pdf>

OER and EHP: The Past and the Future



A photograph of a field of wildflowers, primarily yellow and purple, in the foreground. In the background, there are rolling hills or mountains under a cloudy sky. The text "Any Questions?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Any Questions?

Contact Information

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Thank you!



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