



MEDIA ADVISORY UPDATE
June 12, 2009

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Houston Residents to Dialogue with National Experts on Climate Change Impacts
“The New Green Economy: Imagining Houston’s Future”

WHO: Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies (Joint Center) and its Commission to Engage African Americans on Climate Change (Commission)

WHAT: The 18-member national Commission seeks to increase the involvement of communities in the climate change debate and will hold a Town Hall meeting next week to hear from local residents on the impact of global warming on Houston’s African American and Hispanic/Latino communities. In addition to climate change and energy policy, the Town Hall meeting will focus on opportunities related to green jobs and green-related employment opportunities, and funding for projects to lessen the progression or impacts of climate change, including weatherization, building efficiency, transportation, alternative energy, and green spaces.

The event is being convened by the Co-Chairs of the Commission, Ralph B. Everett, Esq. and President and CEO of the Joint Center and The Honorable Rodney Ellis, Texas State Senator, District 13. The Town Hall is part of the Joint Center's partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative, an organization established by former President Clinton to help turn ideas into action, and the Commission's own "commitment to action" is to convene a series of regional meetings around the country exploring ways to raise awareness of the impact of climate change on minority communities and to ensure their voices are heard in the process of developing policy solutions.

WHEN: Wednesday, June 17, 2009
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Communications Workers of America
Local 6222, 1730 Jefferson Street
Houston, TX 77003

Registration will open at 5:30 p.m. and refreshments will be provided. The Town Hall meeting is open to the public and materials will be available in English and Spanish. Translators will also be available to ensure maximum participation.

MODERATOR: Gene Norman, Chief Meteorologist from KHOU Channel 11

OPENING PANEL: Students from *Casa Verde Builders*, American YouthWorks
John L. Hall, Former Chairman, Texas Natural Resources and Conservation
Commission and President, John Hall Public Affairs
Martina E. Cartwright, Esq., Director, Environmental Law and Justice Center,
Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University
Antonio Gonzalez, President, William C. Velásquez Institute

Co-Sponsors: Congressman Al Green, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, State Sen. Mario Gallegos, Rep. Alma Allen, Rep. Carol Alvarado, Rep. Garnet Coleman, Rep. Ana Hernandez, Rep. Sylvester Turner, City Councilmember Ronald Green, City Councilmember Jolanda Jones, American Association of Blacks in Energy - Houston Chapter, Environmental Defense Fund, Houston Area Urban League, Houston ACORN, Houston Citizen's Chamber of Commerce, NAACP Houston Branch, Public Citizen, and Sierra Club



JOINT CENTER FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES

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