



For Immediate Release

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INDUSTRY MAKES APPLAUDES RECENT LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS IN LOUISIANA Court Ruling- EPA Disparate Impacts and Formosa Sunshine Project Permits Reinstated

BATON ROUGE, La., Mardi Gras excitement is not the only thing Louisiana and Washington DC have had in common recently. There is great excitement here in Louisiana about the recent common sense being applied by the Federal Courts regarding EPA permitting requirements, as well as the reversal by Louisiana's First Circuit Court of Appeal of the judgement rendered by former 19th JDC Judge, Trudy White, that vacated the permits issued by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to Formosa's Sunshine Project in St. James Parish.

If you will remember, then Louisiana Attorney General, Jeff Landry, sued the EPA arguing that the ridiculous notion that the air in minority communities is not as healthy as the air in non-minority communities was unconstitutional and violation of the Clean Air Act. The Federal Court agreed, saying, in part, that "The public interest here is that governmental agencies abide by its laws, and treat all of its citizens equally..." Current Louisiana Attorney General, Liz Murill, responded to the ruling stating "The EPA could not explain any legal basis for its attempts to force Louisiana to violate the federal constitution".

This ruling comes after the EPA announced the end of two civil rights investigations into Louisiana's permitting processes and how they have disparate impacts on minority communities.

The icing on this free market, economic development cake for Louisiana is the First Circuit ruling reversing former 19th JDC judge, Trudy White's ruling that vacated Formosa's air permits.

Petitioners argued that the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality **violated the Clean Air Act** due to its use of significant impact levels that are a violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS); that LDEQ **violated its constitutionally mandated duties** as the public trustee of the environment; and that LDEQ failed to properly consider environmental justice issues, such as the alleged **disparate impact** minority members of nearby communities.

It is important to note that when the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality issued Formosa their permits after a thorough analysis of the application and found the proposed project met all state and federal standards designed to protect the health and safety of the community and the environment, with an added margin of safety.

This reversal ruling by the First Circuit ensures that the air permits, issued to Formosa in 2020, are valid once again.

These recent court decisions will allow science and responsible investing in Louisiana that will make Louisiana's economy grow, allow for a better quality of life for her citizens, and will continue to allow Louisiana to responsibly supply the rest of this nation, as well as the globe, with the molecules and electrons it produces each and every day.

It continues to be a shock and surprise when activist groups suggest, "The people are not benefiting here," or "This is not working for the good of the community." While Industry Makes will ask, "what have **you** done to benefit your community? And "what is **your** group doing for the good of the community?"

Thank you, Louisiana for not giving up or giving in-