THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 11, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Executive Order on Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in
Minority   Populations and Low-Income Populations

Today I have issued an Executive Order on Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in
Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. That order is designed to focus Federal
attention on the environmental and human health conditions in minority communities and
low-income communities with the goal of achieving environmental justice. That order is also
intended to promote non-discrimination in Federal programs substantially affecting human
health and the environment, and to provide minority communities and low-income communities
access to public information on, and an opportunity for public participation in, matters relating to
human health or the environment.

The purpose of this separate memorandum is to underscore certain provision of existing law that
can help ensure that all communities and persons across this Nation live in a safe and healthful
environment. Environmental and civil rights statutes provide many opportunities to address
environmental hazards in minority communities and low-income communities. Application of
these existing statutory provisions is an important part of this Administration's efforts to prevent
those minority communities and low-income communities from being subject to
disproportionately high and adverse environmental effects.   I am therefore today directing that
all department and agency heads take appropriate and necessary steps to ensure that the
following specific directives are implemented immediately:

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil lights Act of 1964, each Federal agency shall ensure that
all programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance that affect human health or the
environment do not directly, or through contractual or other arrangements, use criteria, methods,
or practices that discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Each Federal agency
shall analyze the environmental effects, including human health, economic and social effects, of
Federal actions, including effects on minority communities and low-income communities, when
such analysis is required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C.
section #321 et seq. . Mitigation measures outlined or analyzed in an environmental assessment,
environmental impact statement, or record of decision, whenever feasible, should address
significant and adverse environmental effects of proposed Federal actions on minority
communities and low-income communities.

Each Federal agency shall provide opportunities for community input in the NEPA process,
including identifying potential effects and mitigation measures in consultation with affected

communities and improving the accessibility of meetings, crucial documents, and notices.

The Environmental Protection Agency, when reviewing environmental effects of proposed action of other Federal agencies under section 309 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. section 760, shall ensure that the involved agency has fully analyzed environmental effects on minority communities and low-income communities, including human health, social, and economic effects.

Each Federal agency shall ensure that the public, including minority communities and low-income communities, has adequate access to public information relating to human health or environmental planning, regulations, and enforcement when required under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552, the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552h, and the Emergency-Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, 42 U.S.C. section 11044.

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This memorandum is intended only to improve the internal management of the Executive Branch and is not intended to, nor does it create, any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.

William Clinton