

A New World Is Possible

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Welcome to CBE's first electronic newsletter. We will now be able to keep our members, supporters, and allies informed in a more timely way about our exciting campaigns and issues facing the environmental justice movement. This newsletter debuts at a time of a grave economic crisis that has thrown millions of people out of work, caused millions more to lose their homes, and the failure of hundreds of thousands of small businesses. Communities of color bear a disproportionate burden of this crisis with higher than average rates of unemployment, and increased poverty. Our communities also suffer the most from cuts in funding for education, health care, and social services.

Our communities continue to suffer disproportionately from pollution and toxins, causing enormous health problems, especially for our children. If there is one thing that we have learned in CBE during our thirty years of operation it is that the only answer to crisis, to injustice, to racism is resistance. Slavery ended in the US when Black soldiers poured into the Union army and turned the tide against the slaveholding Confederacy. Segregation ended in the US South when millions of African Americans rose up in struggle. Chicano and Mexicano farm workers won the right to unionize when they got organized and went on strike. Women won the right to vote through marches, protest, and struggle.

It is no different now. The economic crisis provides us with an opportunity to demand a People's Bailout: jobs, housing, education, health care, and the benefits of the emerging green economy. Absent organization and resistance, the bailouts will continue to mainly help the banks and large corporations while workers are forced to cut their

wages and health benefits, the stimulus monies will mainly help construct a fossil fuel infrastructure, our schools will get worse, and our health care system will deteriorate even more, the occupation of Iraq will continue and the war in Afghanistan will get worse.. CBE offers you the opportunity to join us in wonderful and exciting campaigns of resistance. We take on the big polluters, guided by a vision of a truly green and sustainable economy and of clean air, water and soil for all. Please join us in this tremendous endeavor guided by the slogan: **A New World Is Possible!**