August 16, 2000

Ann Goode
EPA Office of Civil Rights (MC 1201 A)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington D.C. 20460

I am very concerned about stopping discrimination by state environmental departments that issue permits to industries that continue to pollute our communities and harm our health particularly in low income communities.

The new Title 6 of the Civil Rights Act must be changed. It ignores existing civil rights law and policy and seems to be leaning towards protecting industries rather than communities. The new EPA Guidance will allow facilities to increase the pollution that is concentrated in communities of color by requiring scientific proof that the pollution causes a "substantial" increase in cancer risks and other health problems. NO increase in these diseases is acceptable.

Also promises that the company will create jobs should not be a defense to a Title 6 civil rights complaint. Also, why is there no appeal's process for Title 6 complaints? We need stronger protections of our civil rights. This is an example of Environmental Racism and should be stopped.

Sincerely,

Jan Gilbert

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received
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