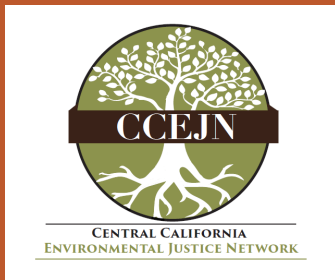


Environmental Justice — Energy Systems and frontline Communities in the San Joaquin Valley



Nayamin Martinez, Director



The Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)

Vision

CCEJN will end ***environmental racism***, achieve ***economic justice and health equity*** through sustainable regional solutions.

Mission

Empower our communities and secure our children's future by eliminating negative environmental impacts in low income and communities of color in the Central Valley.

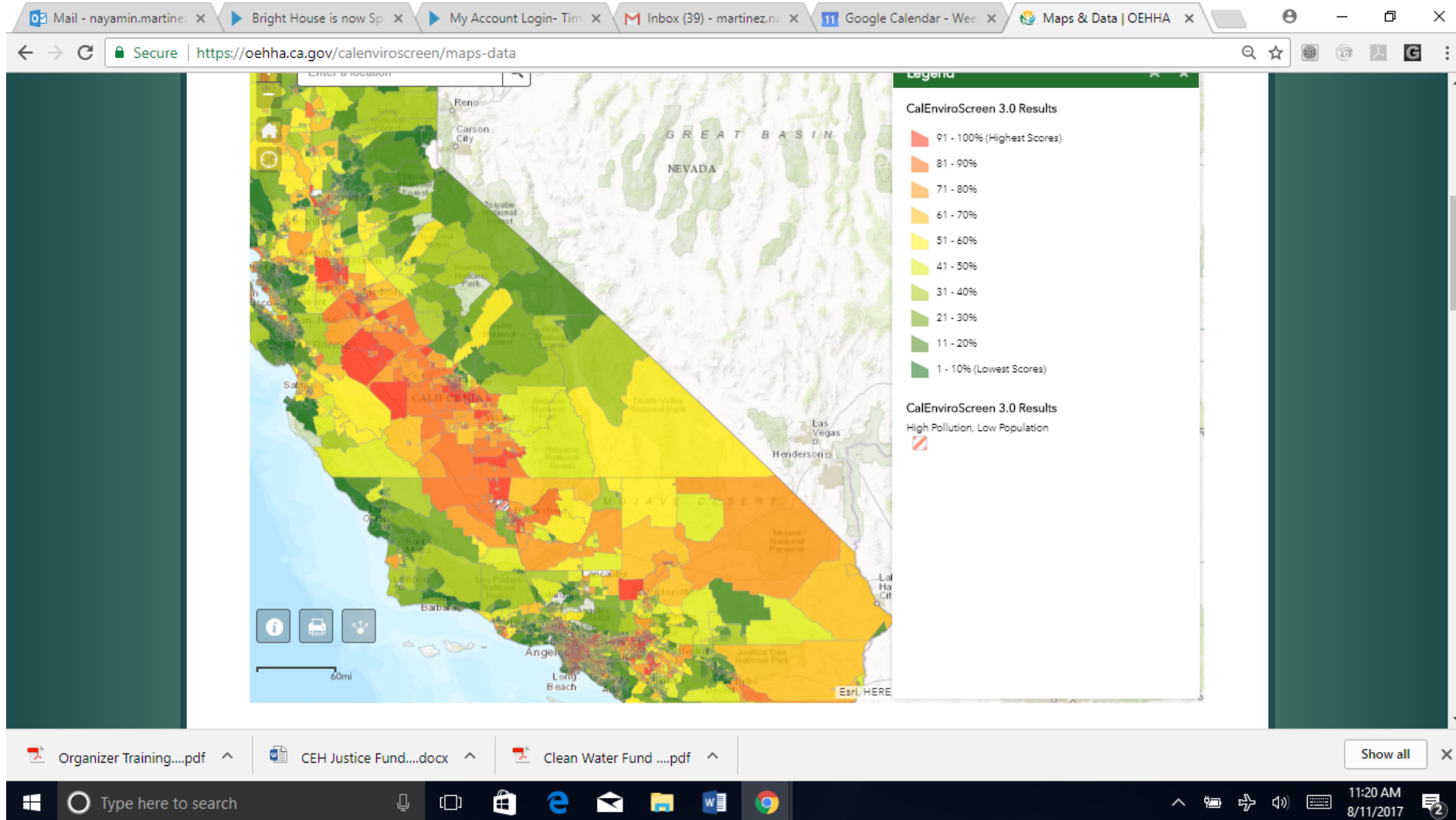


Environmental Justice

The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.



Disadvantaged communities in the Central Valley



Central Valley of California

- **Main sources of pollution:**
 - *Pesticides & fertilizers*
 - *Oil & Gas*
 - *Dairies*
 - *Waste disposal facilities*
 - *Biomass Facilities*
 - *Highways (99 & 5)*
 - *Warehouses*





Environmental Hazards

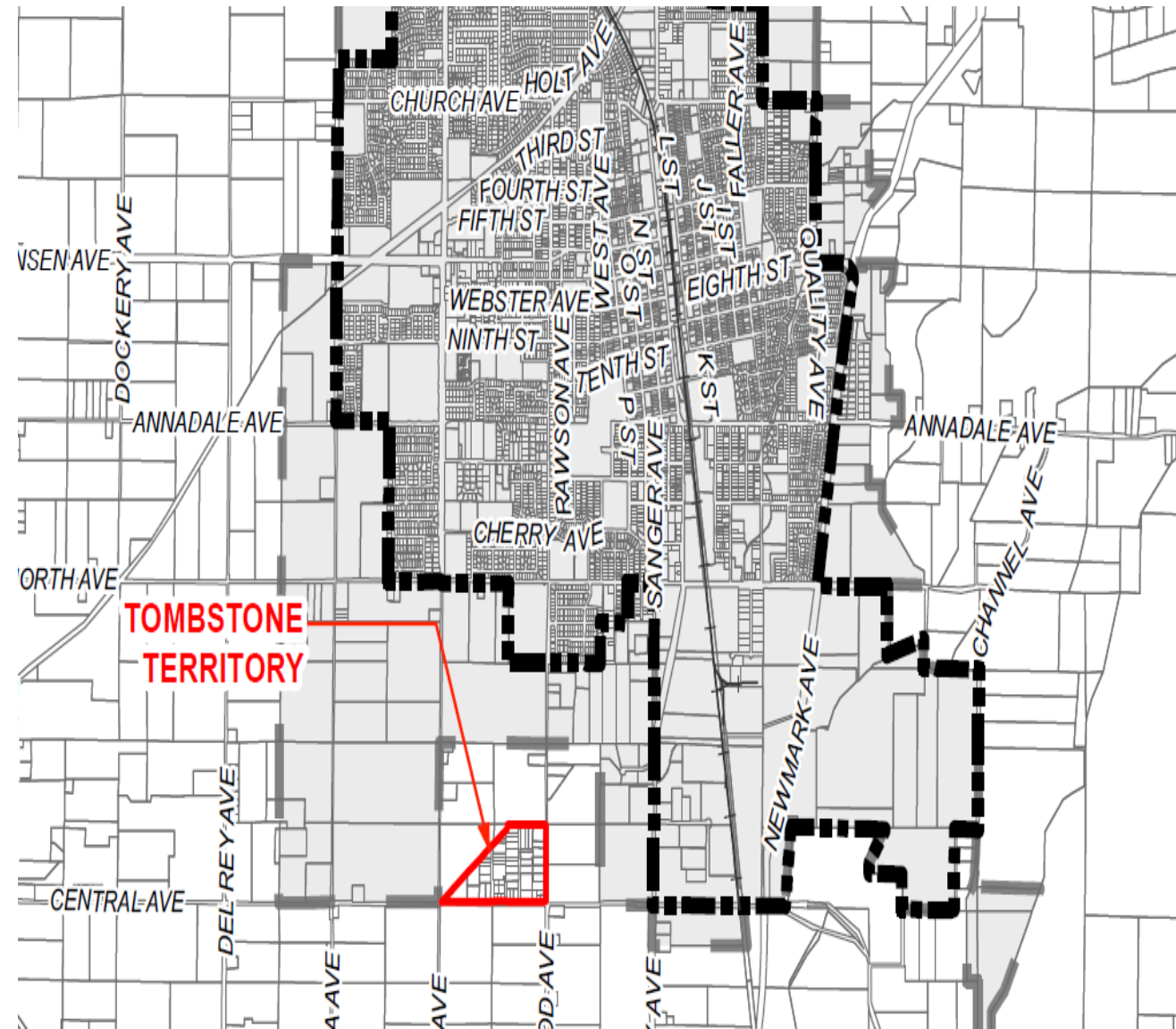
- *Agriculture: Fertilizers + Pesticides= Air & Water contamination
- *Major transportation arteries
- *Oil & gas
- *Distribution centers



Social Vulnerability

- *Poverty
- *Low levels of formal education
- *Low English literacy
- *Lack of direct local representation

Energy Challenges in EJ Communities: Tombstone Territory



- Small unincorporated community in Fresno County consisting of 57 rural residential lots.
- The Median Household Income (MHI) for the Tombstone area is \$27,4001
- Home use **Propane Gas**; rely on **private wells** for their drinking water and on **Swamp Coolers** instead of AC units

Other Energy Challenges

- Low income families in EJ communities struggle during the Summer months to pay for the utility bills.
- Low income families, especially those with limited English proficiency, have been victim of scams from dishonest solar panel companies



A photograph of solar panels installed on a roof. Overlaid on the image is a large yellow text graphic that reads "SWITCH TO SOLAR" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this, in a smaller yellow font, it says "WITH AEOS ENERGY". Above the main text, the word "AEOS" is partially visible in a blue font. At the bottom of the image, there is a blue banner with white text. On the left, it says "FOX 10" in a bold font, with "5:31" and "79°" below it. In the center, it says "SOLAR SCAM" in a bold font, with "AEOS ENERGY INC. LICENSE REVOKED" below it. On the right, there is a small, partially visible logo. At the very bottom, there is a blue button with white text that says "LOWER MY ENERGY COSTS".

Other Energy Challenges

- Large utility companies (PG&E and Southern California Edison) are the only options for residents in the Central Valley; we do not have access to local Energy Choice initiatives
- Inadequate resources to build community's resilience to climate change
 - For example, generators that use diesel are considered the primary source of power in case of a black out, use of these will only exacerbate the existing air quality problems that we are facing. The Central Valley has the worst air quality in the nation



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Questions?

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