



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENT

New Executive Director - Miya Yoshitani

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN) Announces New Executive Director

Oakland CA, Nov 12, 2013—The Board of Directors of APEN is pleased to announce that Miya Yoshitani, established environmental justice leader with decades long experience in policy, organizing and leadership development, has been named as APEN's new Executive Director.

"APEN has been a leading voice for working class Asian American communities for 20 years, demanding a better California for all." said Mario Lugay, Chair of the board. "APEN declared that communities of color and immigrants are environmentalists, and we've proven it by stopping Chevron's expansion and helping enact historic legislation that invests resources into EJ communities. Miya's leadership, experience, heart and passion will raise APEN's vision for thriving California communities to the next level."

Miya has been a part of APEN for 12 years and comes with an understanding of the organization, culture and a deep understanding of what is needed to address the ecological and economic challenges CA and the nation face. In early 90's Miya was the executive director of the largest student environmental network in the US and worked broadly in international environment and development networks organizing for environmental and economic justice. Miya was a participant in the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit in 1991, and was on the drafting committee of the original Principles of Environmental Justice, a defining document for the environmental justice movement. Miya first joined the APEN staff in the mid-90's as a youth organizer, and has worked as an organizer, development, program and most recently as associate director.

"I am deeply honored to serve as APEN's Executive Director", said Yoshitani. "Being a part of APEN has transformed my understanding about what is possible and necessary for the world I am raising my own family in. We dream big at APEN and there is no place I would rather be than helping to harness the full power and vision of our leaders to fight for the local living economies that will benefit our communities and the planet."

About Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN): APEN amplifies the voice of APIs and working class communities of color for environmental, social and economic justice.

We are generating power for a renewable energy economy that will work for people and the planet. Our members, staff and allies are building thriving, healthy, resilient communities supported by successful local economies and robust democratic practices.

APEN members are catalyzing a just transition from an immoral fossil fuel based system to a low carbon economy that will energize our future and create career pathways, equitable and sustainable economic development as well as healthy environments for all working class and refugee communities in California.