

Green Urban Manufacturing Initiative (GUMI) Roundtable

September 23, 2010

Worker Health & Safety: An Integrated Approach

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Program (LOSH)**

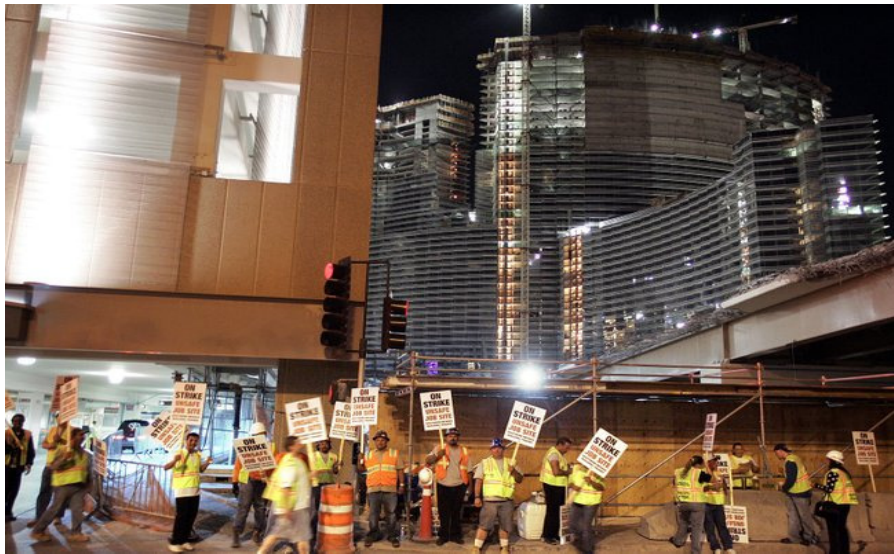


Overview

- **What do we mean by green?**
- **How did we get here?**
- **Moving to good, green, safe jobs:
Challenges & Opportunities**
- **Worker health, education and
involvement**
- **Resources**

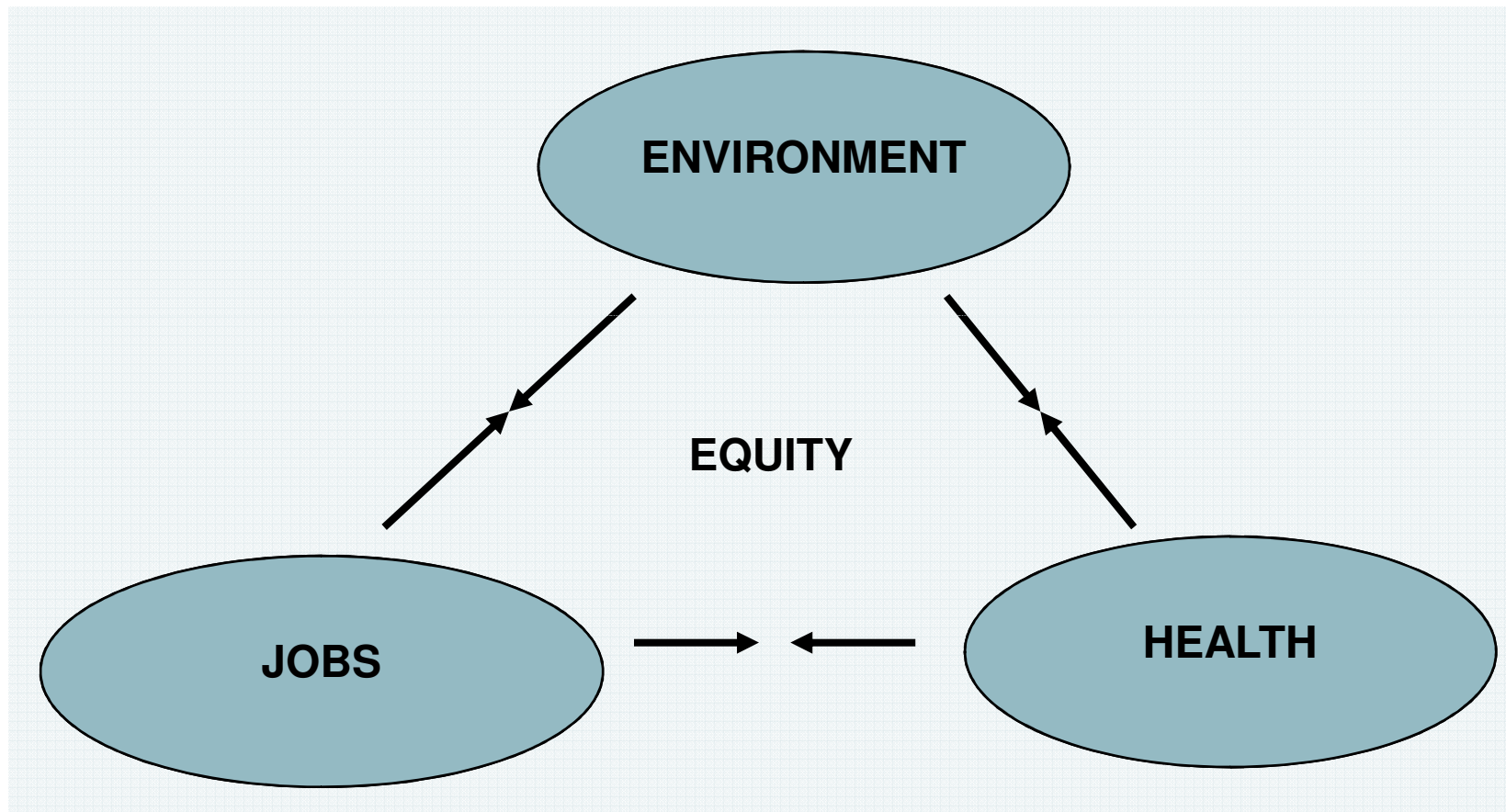
Green = Sustainable ?

- Las Vegas City Center
 - ❑ One of largest “green building” construction projects worldwide – LEED certification
 - ❑ Construction workers dying at a rate of 1 every 6 weeks
 - ❑ OSHA investigation



What do we mean by green?

Sustainability Framework



How did we get here?



Valley of the Drums – Kentucky , 1967-77
Painting and coating industry waste; app. 4,000 drums

Del Amo/Montrose Sites

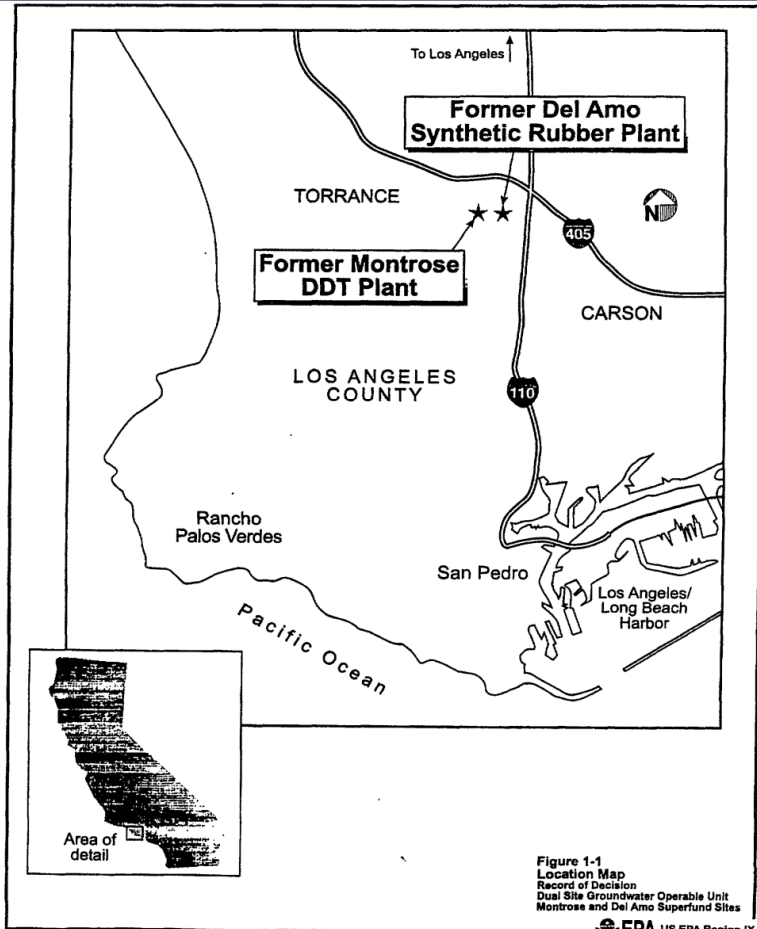
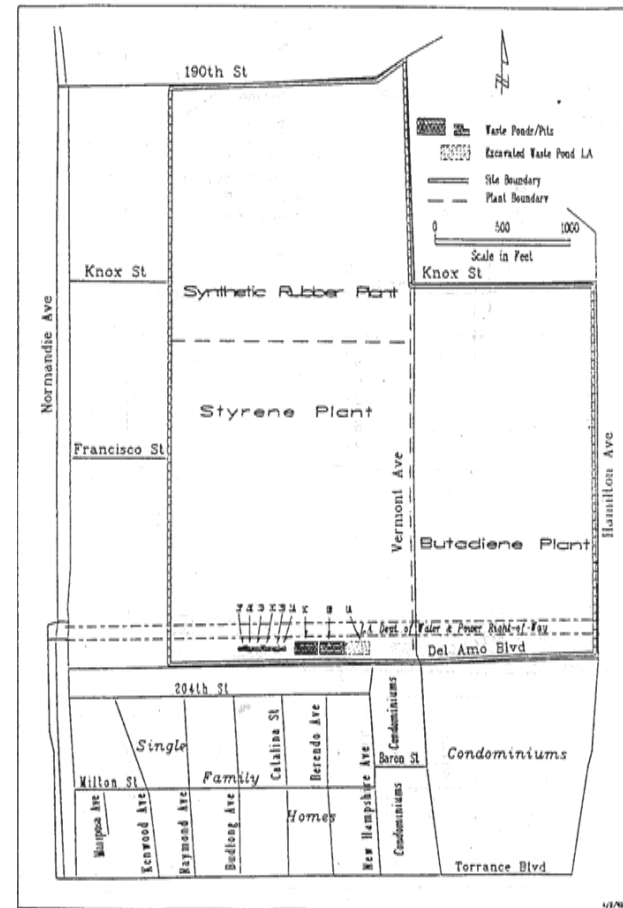
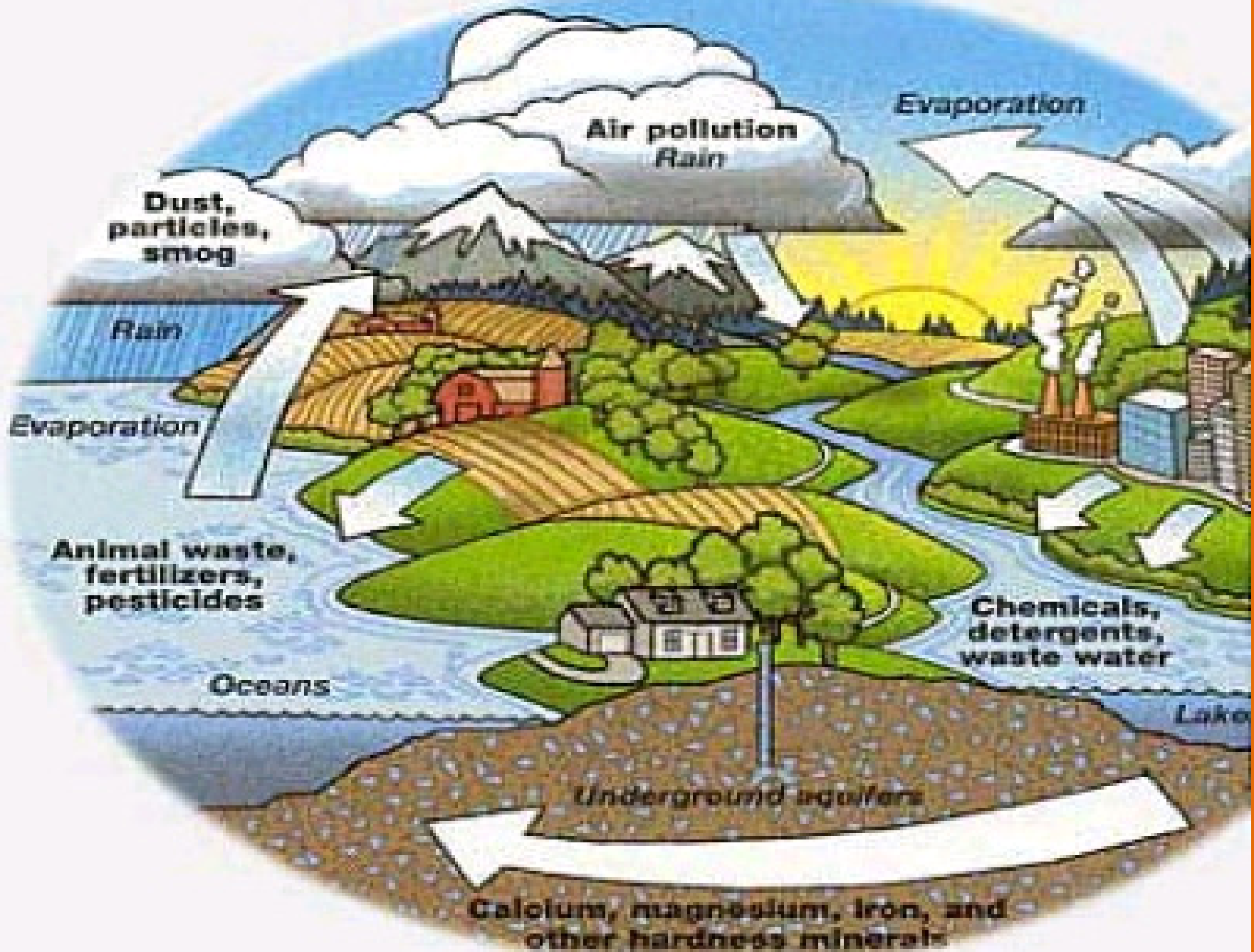


Figure 2-1 Former Rubber Manufacturing Facilities at the Del Amo Study Area.





Green Jobs in '80's: Hazardous Waste Cleanup

- Environment Benefits
 - Clean up the mess
 - Superfund legislation
- Worker Health Protection
 - Training & Protection required
 - OSHA HAZWOPER regulations
- Job Creation
 - Union JLM apprentice programs; Minority Worker Training program
 - Funding by National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, late '80's

Green Jobs in 2010: Opportunities & Challenges

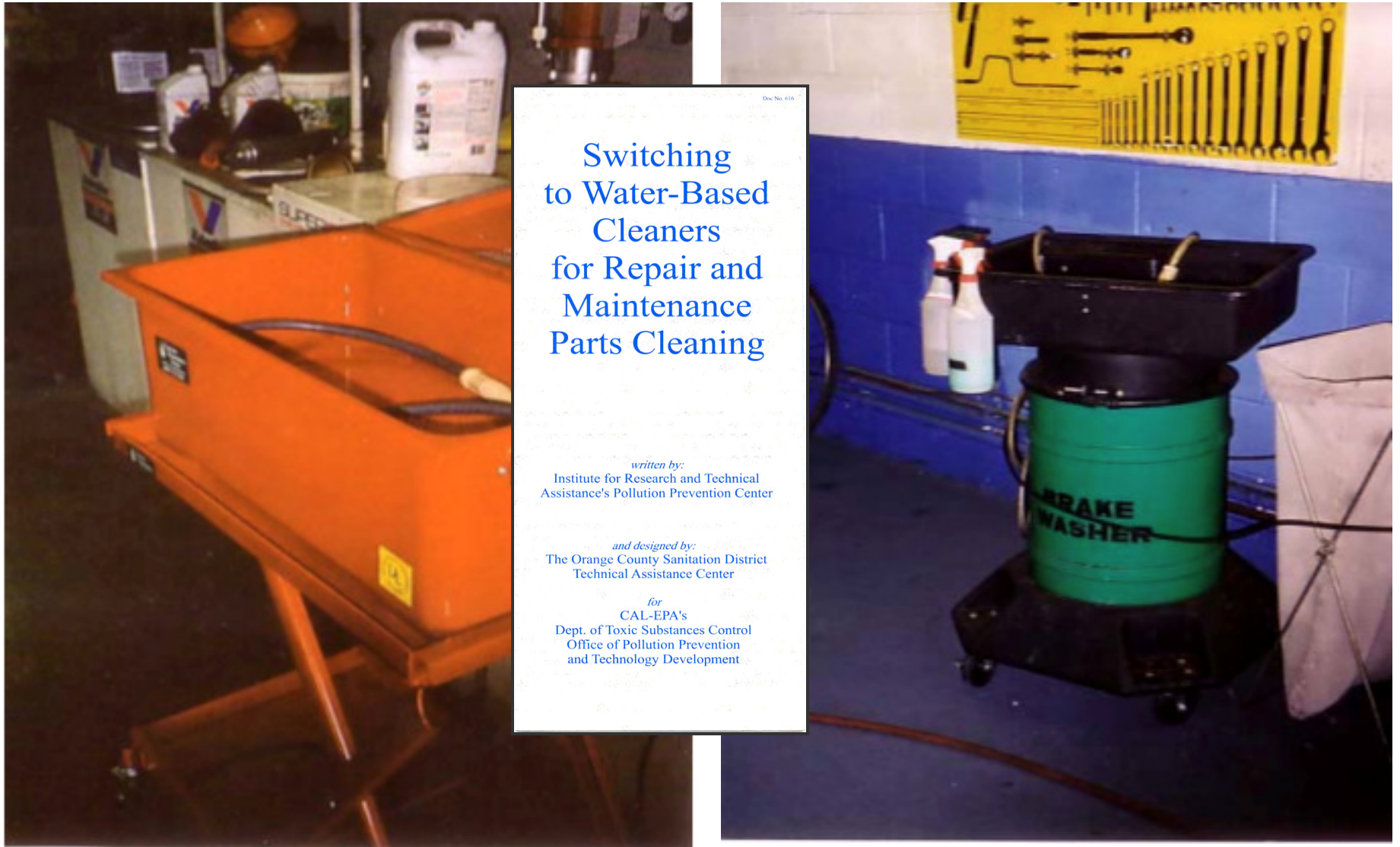
- Challenge of Job Blackmail – Health/Environment **versus** Jobs
 - 1974: vinyl chloride – rare liver cancer
 - OSHA regulation to limit worker exposure
 - VC/PVC manufacturers: cost \$65 billion, lose million jobs
 - Outcome: technology forcing regulation → closed loop polymerization process – reduced worker exposure, reused some of product
 - 2010: AB 32
- Chance to “green” production process – products; prevent worker, community exposures



Auto Repair – Unintended Consequences



CDPH Recommended Water-Based Brake Cleaners



Doc No 616

Switching to Water-Based Cleaners for Repair and Maintenance Parts Cleaning

written by:
Institute for Research and Technical
Assistance's Pollution Prevention Center

and designed by:
The Orange County Sanitation District
Technical Assistance Center

for
CAL-EPA's
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
Office of Pollution Prevention
and Technology Development

Collaboration: Safer Chemical Products & Processes



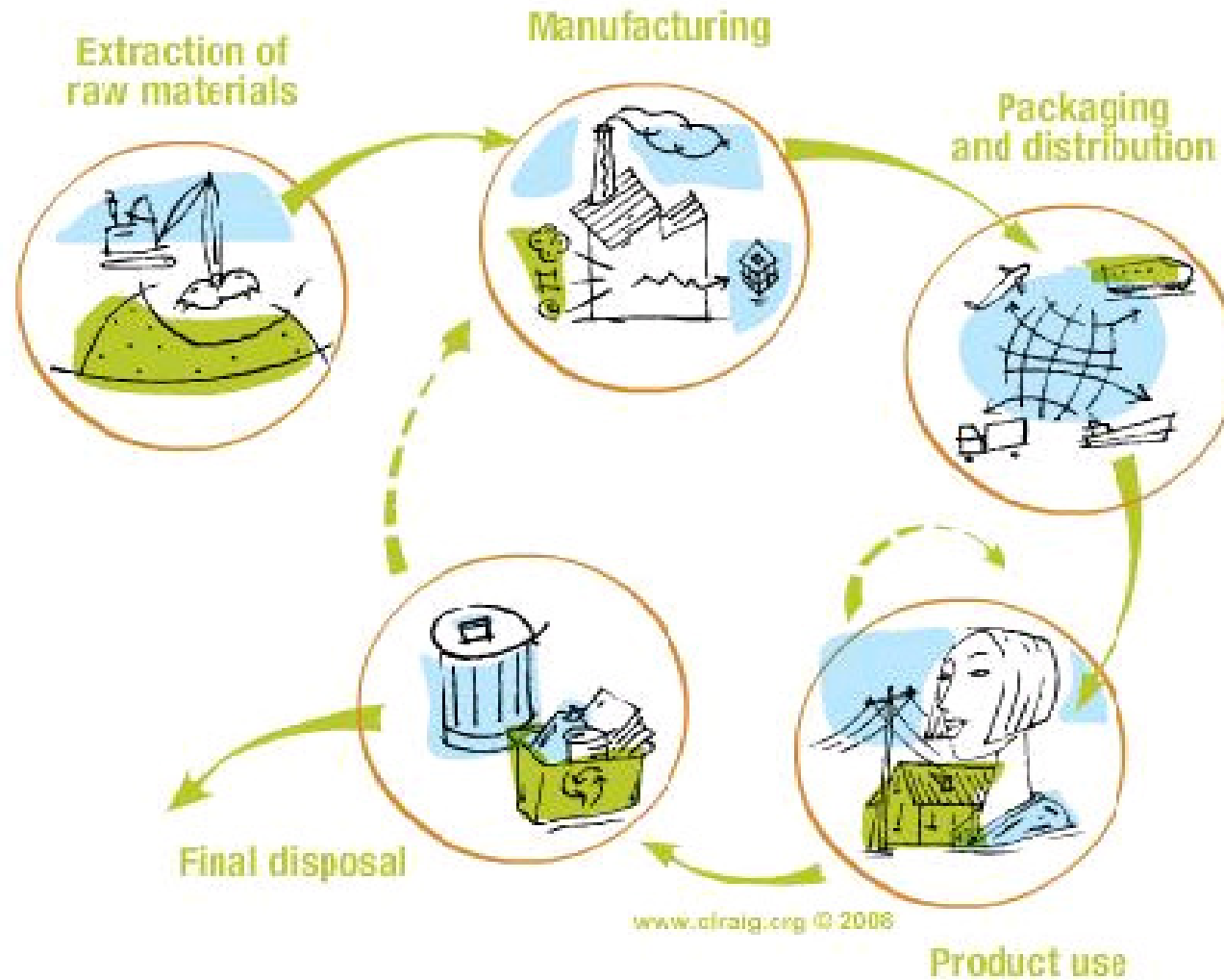
**Printing Press
Chemicals**



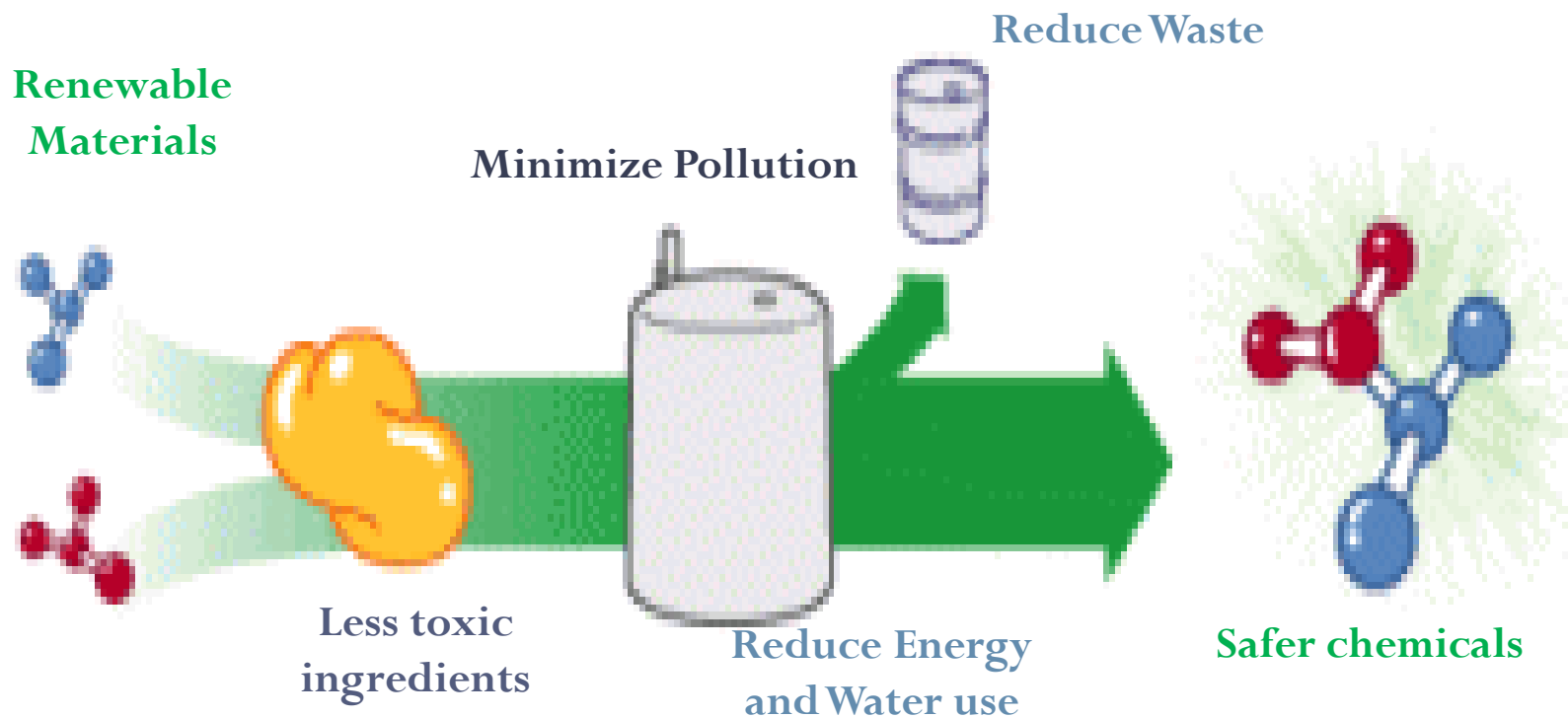
**Hospital
Disinfectants**

Holistic approach – worker, community, environmental health

The life cycle of a product



One approach: Green Chemistry - Worker Health & Environment



Reduce – Reuse- Recycle

Back to Basics



- Protection from Safety & other hazards – falls, trips, back injuries

LA Fatality

Investigations:

- Solar energy technician electrocuted
- Deadly skylights – solar energy & warehouse workers killed

Worker Health, Education & Involvement



- Injury & Illness Prevention Program
- Education – new job, new process
- Worker involvement critical to goals of sustainability

Key Points

Sustainability

- Comprehensive approach
- Conflict → Cooperation/collaboration
- Fragmented → Integrated strategies

Education, Organizing

- Build a movement (green bldgs, jobs)

Government policy

- Mixed approach – legislation, regs, \$\$

Some Resources

- UCLA-LOSH:
www.losh.ucla.edu
- UCLA STPP
- CA Dept. of Public Health,
Occupational Health
Branch
- Preventing Toxic
Exposures:
www.healthresearchforaction.org



www.healthresearchforaction.org

- *Preventing Toxic Exposures:
Workplace Lessons In Safer
Alternatives*