

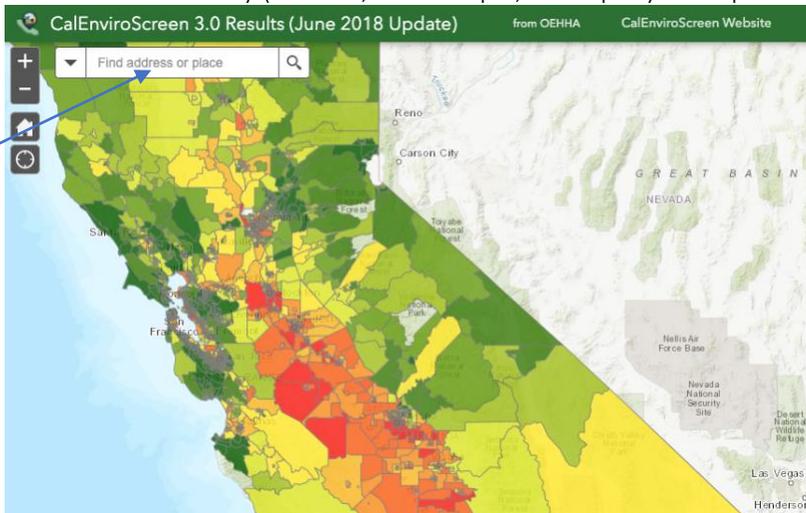
## Guidance to determine if a location is in a disadvantaged community (DAC)

When assessing the impacts of a program or policy on disadvantaged communities, an initial step is to determine whether a project/facility/etc is physically located in a disadvantaged community. This document provides instructions to make this determination. Note that simply completing the steps below is not sufficient to analyze the potential impacts to DACs. These steps simply outline the process of identifying DACs. Additionally, while CalEnviroScreen (used to identify DACs) is a good starting place for DAC data, it is not the sole source of information that should be used in an analysis of DAC impacts.

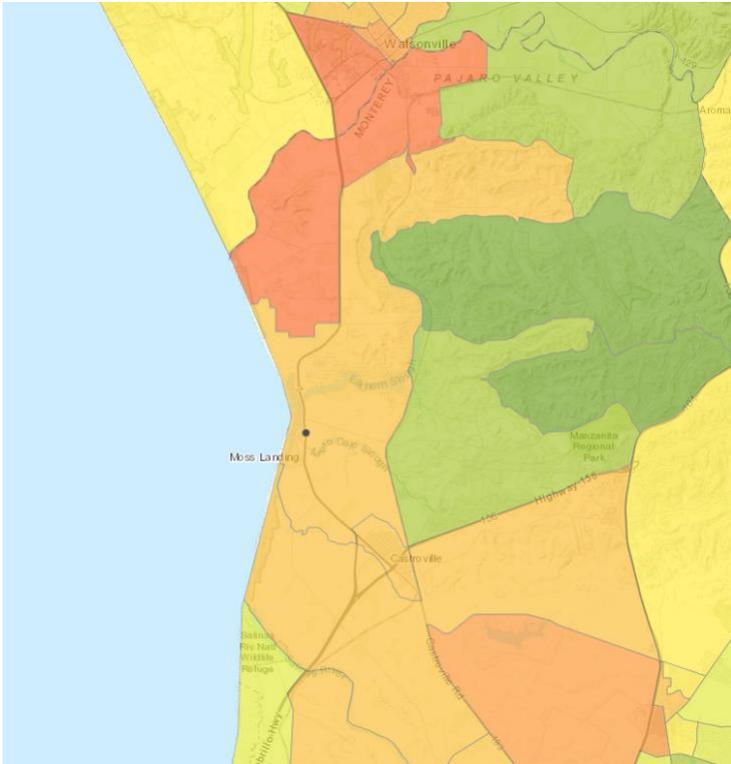
Example: check the DAC status of the Dynergy Moss Landing facility in Moss Landing, CA.

Pull the data from the [CalEnviroScreen tool](#):

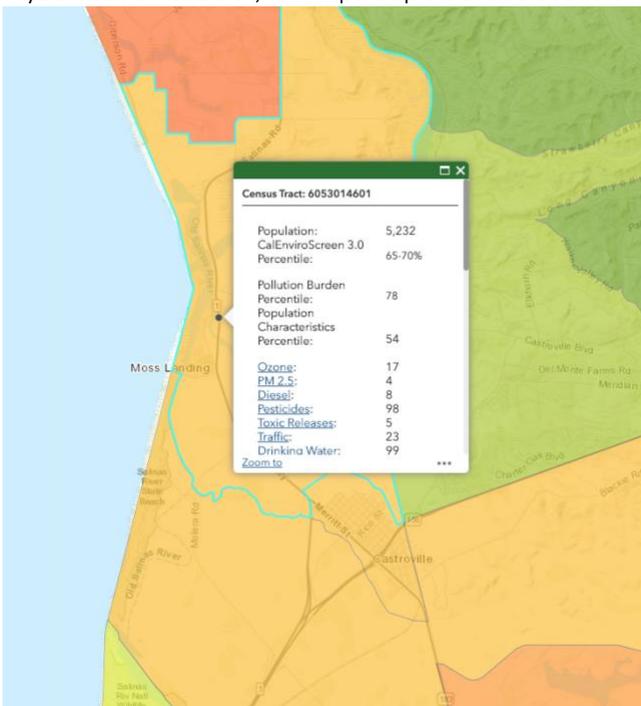
- Start [here](#)
- Enter the address of the generating station in the address window. Make sure you use the address of the facility (and not, for example, a company headquarters)



- Search
- CES will navigate you to the location of the station.



If you click on the dot, it will pull up all the relevant info you need.



Expand the window to see full details

**Census Tract: 6053014601**

Population:	5,232
CalEnviroScreen 3.0 Percentile:	65-70%
Pollution Burden Percentile:	78
Population Characteristics Percentile:	54
Ozone:	17
PM2.5:	4
Diesel:	8
Pesticides:	98
Toxic Releases:	5
Traffic:	23
Drinking Water:	99

from OEHHA CalEnviroScreen Website

7301 CA-1 Moss Landing

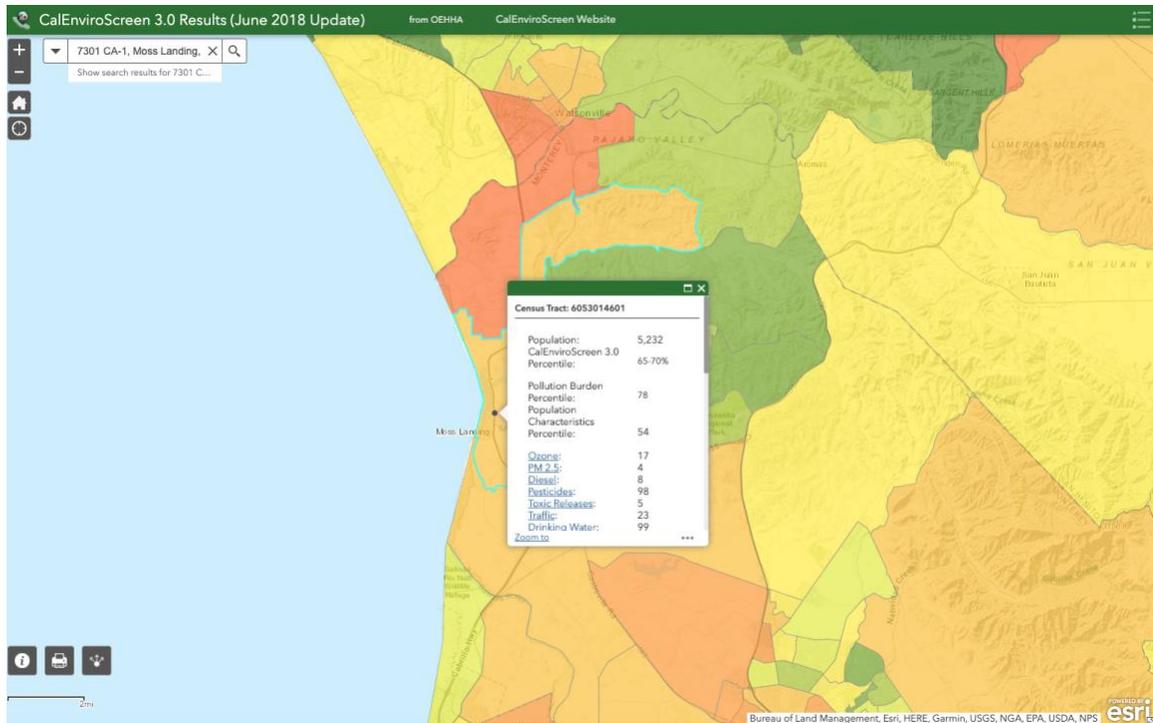
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Ozone:	17
PM2.5:	4
Diesel:	8
Pesticides:	98
Toxic Releases:	5
Traffic:	23
Drinking Water:	99
Cleanups:	60
Groundwater Threats:	82
Hazardous Waste:	99
Impaired Water:	100
Solid Waste:	79
Asthma:	67
Low Birth Weight:	9
Cardiovascular Rate:	36
Education:	91
Linguistic Isolation:	83
Poverty:	67
Unemployment:	77
Housing Burden:	24

**Information about age**  
This tract contains 17% Children under 10. The average in California census tracts is 13%. It also contains 9% Elderly over 65. The average in California census tracts is 12%.

**Race/Ethnicity & Age Profiles**  
Hover your mouse over the pie chart to see the race/ethnicity characteristics of this census tract. Click on the arrow next to the pie chart to see the age profile of this census tract.

Zoom to

Zoom out to see the adjacent tracts.



## Sample language based on this Moss Landing example

### Disadvantaged Community Designation

Senate Bill 350 (de León, Chapter 547, Stats. 2015) contains disadvantaged community goals that are cross-cutting and therefore integrated into all policy areas. As such, in evaluating [insert relevant language], the Commission will analyze its impact on such communities.

Disadvantaged communities are defined by the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) as the top 25 percent overall scoring areas from CalEnviroScreen, as well as the top 5 percent pollution burdened census tracts as from CalEnviroScreen, but do not have an overall CalEnviroScreen score.<sup>1</sup> CalEnviroScreen is a mapping tool that helps identify California communities that are most affected by multiple sources of pollution, and where people are disproportionately burdened by and especially vulnerable to the effects of various sources of pollution. CalEnviroScreen uses a weighted scoring system to produce an average CalEnviroScreen score for each census tract using 20 different indicators of pollution burden and population characteristics. These scores range from 0 to 100, with higher scores representing the most affected census tracts.

<sup>1</sup> <https://calepa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2017/04/SB-535-Designation-Final.pdf>, "After reviewing the updated results from CalEnviroScreen 3.0 and taking into consideration previous comments and input received over the past two years, including workshops held in February 2017, CalEPA is designating the highest scoring 25% of census tracts from CalEnviroScreen 3.0 as disadvantaged communities. Additionally, 22 census tracts that score in the highest 5% of CalEnviroScreen's Pollution Burden, but do not have an overall CalEnviroScreen score because of unreliable socioeconomic or health data, are also designated as disadvantaged communities."

Disadvantaged Communities include but are not limited to:

- Areas disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative public health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation.
- Areas with concentrations of people that are of low-income, high unemployment, low levels of home ownership, high rent burden, sensitive populations, or low levels of educational attainment.

[insert facility name] is located at [address]. CalEnviroScreen version 3.0 indicates that this location is in census tract [insert census tract number], and has a CalEnviroScreen score of [insert score]. [insert location] ranks in the [XX number] percentile for [indicators of concern/interest, i.e. pollution burden].

*This is from the Moss Landing example, and highlights characteristics of the location from CalEnviroScreen, beyond just the overall CES score. In looking at the data, this location has all the characteristics of what we would consider to be a disadvantaged community – with high pesticide use, high levels of drinking water contaminants, strong presence of hazardous waste generators and facilities, and severely impaired water bodies. However, the overall CES score is low because the location of this facility is on the coast and enjoys the benefits of the coastal breeze keeping PM 2.5 low and a CES air pollution score of 4, however, all other things considered, this community is heavily impacted by environmental burdens. This is an example of other language to include:*

This facility is not located in a DAC, but its census tract is adjacent to a DAC. The facility is in a census tract with a CalEnviroScreen score of 65-70 percent, and a pollution burden of 78. Although the pollution burden score of the census tract is 78, several other indicators score in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles – including the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile for drinking water and hazardous waste, 100<sup>th</sup> percentile for impaired water, and the 91 percentile of impacted education areas. A high percentage of the population over 25 years old has less than a high school education, and 78 percent of the population is Hispanic.