Yosef Shirazi Abstract – Spring 2013

Title: Investigating Unintended Environmental Consequences of Local Opposition to a proposed Cement Plant in North Carolina

Abstract: This presentation explores possible unintended consequences of one local environmental campaign and aims to compare these consequences against expected benefits. The case study investigates an intense and localized opposition movement to a proposed cement plant near Wilmington, NC. This plant will result in environmental and human health burdens on the community, but successful opposition will result in the displacement of burdens to other locations. Existing cement plants in the region that would likely arbitrate this capacity reduction rely on older, more polluting technologies. Two separate frameworks will be proposed to investigate the precise motivations and values of the opposition members, and also to quantify the net benefits/losses to society from a successful opposition campaign.