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Uneasy Alchemy: Citizens and Experts in Louisiana's Chemical Corridor Disputes

By Barbara L Allen

MIT Press Ltd. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Uneasy Alchemy: Citizens and Experts in Louisiana's Chemical Corridor Disputes, Barbara L Allen, Louisiana annually reports over eight tons of toxic waste for each citizen. Uneasy Alchemy examines the role of experts -- lawyers, economists, health professionals, and scientists -- in the struggles for environmental justice in the state's infamous Chemical Corridor or "Cancer Alley." This legendary toxic zone between New Orleans and Baton Rouge is home to about 125 oil and chemical plants; cancer and respiratory illness rates there are among the highest in the nation. The efforts of residents to ensure a healthy environment is one of the most important social justice movements of the post-civil rights era. Louisiana is an especially appropriate venue for the examination of race, class, and politics within an environmental justice framework because of the critical role the chemical industry has played in the economic development of the state, and the weak record of state agencies in controlling toxic chemicals and enforcing environmental regulations. But while Louisiana suffers from some of the worst chemical pollution in the nation, it has also been the site of important environmental victories. Using ethnographic analysis of interviews with citizens,...



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