

ALASKA



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

AIR POLLUTION

- Many Alaskans are exposed to unhealthy levels of air pollution and are at risk of asthma attacks, cancer, cardiovascular damage, developmental and reproductive, harm and death. Wood burning stoves, wild fires, and off shore oil drilling are responsible for unhealthy levels of air pollution. Fairbanks is particularly at risk.

ASTHMA

- A Federal judge in Alaska recently restored the ban on offshore drilling where 50,000 barrels of oil, per day, were drilled 8 miles from the Alaska Native Village, Nuiqsut. One health consequence for Alaskan Native communities is that 184,928 youth under the age of 18 and 82,580 adults 65 years of age or older, are at risk for asthma.
- 75 percent of the Nuiqsut residents are already critically affected as this has interrupted the ecological system and food subsistence of fish, whale and the caribou they hunt.

FLOODING

- Chevak, Newtok, Shishmaref and Kivalina are 4 of 30 Alaskan Native communities that have or are in imminent danger of harm due to climate change that causes land erosion as the sea ice recedes and causes major weather events, primarily flooding.
- Relocation plans are complicated by the almost-certain impact of the devastating disruption to culture, food subsistence, education and health systems, and overall way of life.



DOES ALASKA MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, ALASKA MUST HAVE A:

- ✓ **Mandatory** Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) with a target of 25% clean energy by 2025 with no nuclear, biomass, or natural gas allowed;
- ✓ **Mandatory** Energy Efficiency Resource Standard per NAACP standards, as defined by: at least 2% annual reduction over each previous year's average retail electricity sales;
- ✓ **Mandatory** Local Hire Provisions and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Provisions; and
- ✓ **Mandatory** Community Solar Policy, which is legislation that allows communities to take advantage of solar energy.



PROPOSED ACTION STEPS

1. Every Branch will **organize** an ECJ Committee and **chair** a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
2. Anchorage and Fairbanks Branches will **conduct** Coal Sea Level Rise Training and **launch** a Sea Level Rise Preparedness Project.
3. All Alaska branch leaders will **join** Climate Action Planning tables.