

ARKANSAS



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

PRECIPITATION & TEMPERATURE EXTREMES

- Arkansas averages about 30 dangerous heat days a year. By 2050, that number is projected to triple.
- Increased heat results in: an increase in the number of wildfires, an increase in the number and length of droughts, and increased intensity of storms.

AIR POLLUTION & TOXINS

- As a result of the remaining coal power plants, Arkansas has air pollution and pesticide issues.

DOES ARKANSAS MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, ARKANSAS 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. Clark County and Jacksonville Branches will **engage** in Rural Electric Co-Op community solar projects.*
3. Arkansas State Conference will **launch** a "Power to the People" Campaign to **improve** Energy Justice* Standards.
4. Arkansas NAACP leaders will **initiate/join** Climate Action Planning tables.
5. Arkansas NAACP leaders will **pass** a Clean Air Ordinance.

*Arkansas is home to 17 electric distribution cooperatives powered by the Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation (AECC). The service area covers more than 60% of land area of the state.