

KENTUCKY



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

HEAT

- The number of heat wave days in Kentucky are expected to increase from 15 per year now to as many as 70 per year by 2050
- Extreme heat can disproportionately affect populations without access to housing that is well insulated or has air conditioning.
- More than 150,000 people in Kentucky are especially vulnerable to extreme heat.
- Kentucky is projected to see a 95% increase in its summer drought index by 2050
- Drought has already cost Kentucky billions of dollars in lost revenue from corn, soybeans, and hay.

AIR POLLUTION

- There are 19 coal-fired power plants in Kentucky; two received D-grades from the Coal Blooded Report
- Nearly 75% of Kentucky's energy is supplied by coal-fired power plants.
- Studies have found that low-income and racial minority populations bear an unequal burden of air pollution in West and South Louisville.

FLOODING

- More than 160,000 people live in areas at an elevated risk of inland flooding.



DOES KENTUCKY MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, KENTUCKY 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. Kentucky State Conference will **engage** in a Power to the People campaign to **increase** environmental standards.
3. Rural Kentucky NAACP branch leaders will **engage** with electric cooperatives.
4. All Kentucky NAACP branch leaders will **organize** Community Solar campaigns.
5. Kentucky will **convene** a Bridging the Gap Summit.