

MARYLAND



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

SEA LEVEL RISE

- Maryland is at risk of having another 1-foot rise in sea level by that will contribute to higher storm wave heights, greater flooding in low-lying coastal areas, intensified shoreline erosion, and infrastructure and property damage.
- 16 of Maryland's 23 counties, as well the city of Baltimore, border tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay estuary and its many tributaries; this constitutes a combined total of more than 4,000 miles of shoreline.
- Maryland has a near 48 percent people of color (POC) population, many of whom are in communities vulnerable to flooding and sea level rise.

EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

- Since September 2010, counties housing 90 percent of the total Maryland population (over 5 million people) were affected by federally-declared weather-related disasters.
- Maryland experienced 6 weather-related disasters including severe storms, flood, tropical storms, snow and ice storms, and droughts that occurred since September 2010.

HARMFUL EMISSIONS

- Maryland is home to Morgantown, Brandon Shores, and AES Warrior Run coal-fired power plants that were received a D or D- grade in the NAACP Coal Blood Report.
- 5 leading causes of death for Blacks or African-Americans in Maryland during 2000-2012 was heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, and **chronic lung disease**.



DOES MARYLAND MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, MARYLAND 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. Maryland State Conference will **conduct** Coal Blooded Action Training/Campaign and work to strengthen the Maryland Green House Gas Reduction Act and **develop** a *Just Transition* Plan.
3. Maryland State Conference will **host** Sea Level Rise Training and **launch** a Sea Level Rise Preparedness Project on the Eastern Shore.
4. All Maryland NAACP branch leaders will **join** Climate Action Planning tables.