

MINNESOTA



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

AIR POLLUTION

- Minnesota Black Dog coal fired power plant was ranked a D- in the Coal Blooded Report. According to the report 15.6 % of the population is people of color and the average income within a 3-mile radius is \$26, 854. In 2015 the plant converted to natural gas. Minnesota's Electricity generation mix in 2016 includes 39% coal. To ensure clean air for all, actions must be taken including retiring coal fired power plants and passing clean air ordinances.

ASTHMA

- In Minnesota about 261,572 live with asthma. Those that live in counties with unhealthy levels of ozone or particle pollution are at increased risk for asthma and respiratory issues, which lead to missed school days, hospitalization and full respiratory failure.

HEAT and DROUGHT

- 110,000 people living in Minnesota are especially vulnerable to extreme heat. By 2050, the severity of widespread summer drought is projected to nearly triple. With the fourth greatest increase, Minnesota is projected to be in the top five worst drought-affected states with an above average threat level. This affects the affordability of food and food access within vulnerable communities.



DOES MINNESOTA MEET NAACP *JUST ENERGY STANDARDS?*

TO MEET NAACP *JUST ENERGY STANDARDS*, MINNESOTA 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. Minnesota Branches will **conduct** Coal Blooded Action Training/Campaign Training to **develop** a *Just Transition* Plan, for the many coal fired power plants converting to natural gas, resulting in job loss.
3. Minnesota Branches should **engage** with their Local Rural Electric Co-op.
4. Minnesota State Conference should **infuse** the Black Green Economy with a Bridging the Gap: Connecting the Black Community to the Green Economy Summit.