



# MONTANA



## ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

### AIR POLLUTION

- In Montana about 83,619 live with asthma. Montana was home to the JE Corette coal fired power plant that had a D- rating in Coal Blooded Report. The plant was shut down in 2015. In 2017, coal-fired power plants accounted for less than half of the state's electricity generation for the first time, with coals share dropping to 49%. To ensure clean air for all, actions must be taken including retiring coal fired power plants and passing clean air ordinances.

### ASTHMA

- More than 4 out of 10 people live in counties with unhealthy levels of ozone or particle pollution. This can increase risk for asthma and respiratory issues, which lead to missed school days, hospitalization and full respiratory failure.

### DROUGHT

- More than 600,000 people living in Montana, or 62% of the state's population, are living in areas at elevated risk of wildfire. Montana faces one of the highest overall threats in the country from widespread summer drought. Montana is projected to see an approximately 95% increase in severity of widespread drought by 2050. More than 25,000 people living in Montana are especially vulnerable to extreme heat. Air quality gets worse as temperatures rise.



## DOES MONTANA MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

### TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, MONTANA 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. Montana Branch will **conduct** Coal Blooded Action Training/Campaign Training to be involved in the potential need to **develop** a *Just Transition* Plan for workers and communities near the retired JE Corette Plant.
3. Montana Branches should **engage** with their Local Rural Electric Co-op.