

# NORTH CAROLINA



## ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

### AIR POLLUTION

- North Carolina is home to 67 coal fire plants in 25 location and ranks 9th in the nation for coal ash generation. 12 coal ash plants are listed by the EPA as “high hazard,” more than any other state. These coal ash plants are operated by Duke Energy.

### HEAT

- North Carolina averages around 10 dangerous heat days a year.
- By 2050, that number is projected to increase to 60; directly harming the 300,000 citizens of North Carolina vulnerable to heat, increasing the number of wildfires (which 50% of North Carolinians are vulnerable to), and increasing the number and length of droughts.

### ASTHMA

- About 1 out of 10 children in North Carolina live with asthma. More than 900,000 adults have been diagnosed. 1 in 10 African Americans in North Carolina have been diagnosed with asthma.
- African Americans have the highest hospitalization rates, 19.4% per 10,000, compared to 6.4% per 10,000 for White Americans.

### FLOODING

- More than 450,000 people, approximately 5 percent of the state’s population, are living in flood-prone areas (defined as FEMA’s 100-year riverine floodplain). By 2050, North Carolina’s inland flooding threat is projected to have an average increase of almost 40 percent.
- Currently, North Carolina has more than 120,000 people at risk of a 100-year coastal flood. By 2050, North Carolina’s coastal flood risk is projected to see an average increase, putting an additional 45,000 people in the 100-year coastal floodplain.



## DOES NORTH CAROLINA MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, NORTH CAROLINA 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 should have an ECJ **committee** and **chair**, and a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
2. All NC branches may **engage** in Rural Electric Co-Op projects.
3. North Carolina State Conference will **engage** in a "Power to the People" campaign to strengthen environmental standards
4. North Carolina NAACP leaders will **join** Climate Action Planning tables.
5. Rocky Mount Branch may engage in Coal Blooded campaign to **retire** Edgecombe Genco and *transition* to clean energy.
6. Wilmington and Pamlico County branches will **engage** in resilience projects.
7. NC State Conference may **host** "Bridging the Gap: Connecting Black Communities to the Green Economy Summit."
8. New Hanover branch will **launch** a PowerUP Employment Project to train formerly incarcerated persons in energy efficiency retrofits and solar installation.