

UTAH



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

HEAT

- Extreme heat can disproportionately affect populations without access to housing that is well insulated or has air conditioning.
- More than 55,000 people in Utah are especially vulnerable to extreme heat.
- By 2050, Utah is projected to face a 225% increase in drought threat.
- 45% of the state's population lives in areas with an elevated risk of wildfire.

AIR POLLUTION

- There are six coal-fired power plants in Utah.
- Utah is consistently ranked as one of the states with the poorest air quality.
- Air pollution is associated with increased risk for asthma and other respiratory issues, which can cause missed school and work days, hospitalization, and chronic disease.

DOES UTAH MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS?

TO MEET NAACP *JUST* ENERGY STANDARDS, UTAH 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. Utah State Conference will **engage** in a Power to the People campaign to **increase** environmental standards.
3. Utah State Conference will **engage** in a clean energy demonstration project.
4. All Utah NAACP branch leaders will **organize** Clean Air campaigns.
5. All Utah NAACP branch leaders will **join** Climate Action Planning tables.
6. All Utah NAACP branches will **launch** a Just Energy campaign.