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.