

VIRGINIA



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE THREATS

SEA LEVEL RISE AND SUBSIDENCE

- Virginia Beach has experienced 1-foot increase in the sea level since the 1960s.
- The rate of relative sea level rise (SLR) in the Hampton Roads region, is within the top 10 percent of the nation. Long-term records of water levels in southeast Virginia gauges have relative sea level rise trends that are almost twice that of the global average. This is primarily due to the relatively high rate of subsidence in Hampton Roads.

HAZARDOUS EMISSIONS

- Virginia is home to 4 coal-fired power plants that received a D or F grade in the NAACP Coal Blooded report: Spruance Genco, Portsmouth, Clover and James River Cogeneration.
- The Hampton Roads, Tidewater region of Virginia has a 46 percent people of color population, 31.8 per of which are African-American. African-American children have 4x greater emergency room rates with 2,050 per 100,000 people compared to White-Americans with 502 per 100,000 people.



DOES VIRGINIA MEET NAACP *JUST ENERGY STANDARDS?*

TO MEET NAACP JUST ENERGY STANDARDS, VIRGINIA 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. The Virginia State Conference will **conduct** Coal Blooded Action Training/Campaign Training to retire Spruance Genco, Portsmouth, Clover and James River Cogeneration and **develop** a *Just Transition Plan*.
3. Virginia State Conference will **engage** in a Power to the People campaign to **increase** environmental standards.
4. The Virginia State Conference will **host** Sea Level Rise Training and **launch** a Sea Level Rise Preparedness Project.
5. All Virginia NAACP branch leaders will **join** Climate Action Planning tables.