

Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change Petition
SIGNATURES CALLING FOR
THE CREATION OF CLIMATE JUSTICE POLICY

The looming threat of climate change demands that the U.S. act quickly and aggressively to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. **While climate change will have impacts on everyone, it is clear that communities of color and low-income communities will be hit first and worst.** These communities are already experiencing the more extreme weather and associated public health impacts resulting from climate change. Unless we are able to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, environmental justice communities will continue to disproportionately pay for the costs created by our fossil fuel economy.

We must enact federal policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions but we must ensure that climate policy does not create further burdens for vulnerable communities. Frontline environmental justice communities know from experience that rushing to create policy can result in negative impacts on communities of color and low-income communities. **We call on Congress to stop gambling on future on climate solutions that are crafted to benefit polluters and pass the burdens on to overburdened communities. We call on Congress to pass true Climate Justice Policy.**

Climate Justice policy would:

- **Dramatically and rapidly reduce CO₂ emissions;**
- **Address co-pollutant as well as CO₂ emissions;**
- **Provide an economic safety net for low-income consumers;**
- **Transition us away from fossil fuels to a clean, green, renewable energy economy.**

The American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACES) does not achieve any of these goals and puts environmental justice communities at risk. ACES promotes and protects traditional energy industries at the cost of consumers, delays necessary action and puts all communities at risk. ACES crafts a program of climate *injustice* that will put millions of Americans at risk.

We can do better than this. The future of our planet and our people **demand**s that we do better. We ask Congress to stand with our communities, demand Climate Justice and oppose the false climate solutions presented by the industry-sponsored ACES bill.

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