

# Climate Change Adaptation and Environmental Justice

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Director, Center for the Urban Environment, John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy of Thomas Edison State College and member of the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance

#### **Environmental Justice:**



#### **Concerned with:**

- The disproportionate burden of pollution inflicted upon communities Of Color and poor neighborhoods.
- Participation in decision-making by Environmental Justice communities.
- Access to benefits produced by improving the environment.

#### **New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance:**



#### **Key Members:**

Concerned Citizens' Coalition of Long Branch
Environmental Research Foundation
Eyes of Trenton Civic Association
GreenFaith
Ironbound Community Corporation
NJ Environmental Federation
Peoples' Organization for Progress
We The People

#### **New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance:**



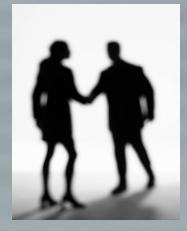
#### **Key Partners:**

**Black Issues Convention** 

Center for the Urban Environment of the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy

**Environmental Justice Advisory Council** 

State Chapter of the NAACP Sustainable Jersey



# **Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change:**



#### **Key Members in:**

**Albuquerque** 

**Atlanta** 

Chicago

**Detroit** 

Los Angeles

**Minneapolis** 

**New Orleans** 

**New York** 

**Philadelphia** 

Savannah
San Francisco/Oakland
San Diego



# **Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change Report:**



"Climate Change, Public Health and Environmental Justice Communities"

By Cecilia Martinez, Ph.D.,

Associate Research Professor, College of Earth, Ocean and Environment, University of Delaware and Senior Policy Fellow, Center for Earth, Energy and Democracy in Minneapolis, Minnesota

### **Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change:**



#### **Key Areas of Concern Identified by Report:**

- Heat Island Effect
- Vector Borne Diseases
- Flooding and Ensuing Contamination
- Extreme Weather Event Readiness
- Extreme Weather Event Recovery Capability
- Cultural Barriers: language and immigration status
- Mental Health Issues Including Solastalgia
- Existing Inequities (Health care, infrastructure, income...)

With respect to vulnerable communities.

### **Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change:**



Climate change (adaptation) policy should decrease, not perpetuate or exacerbate, existing inequities suffered by vulnerable communities.





#### **Particulate Matter Air Pollution:**

Comments on the New Jersey State Implementation Plan (SIP) Revision for the Attainment and Maintenance of the Fine Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) National ambient air quality standard

#### Submitted By:

New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance Environmental Research Foundation Change to Win International Brotherhood of Teamsters Coalition for Healthy Ports

Date: 8/15/08

#### Prepared By:

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How can we connect mitigation to adaptation wrt PM air pollution?

### Maybe through two EJ PM policies:

- •Climate change policy should address GHG copollutants
- PM Footprint



#### **Cumulative Impacts:**

What are the health effects on community residents of multiple pollutants emitted by multiple sources of pollution?







# Connect cumulative impacts through health impacts assessments?





**Community Based Participatory Research:** 

Get EJ organizations, community organizations, people Of Color involved as full partners.

#### **END**



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