

RGGI CAN PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN PENNSYLVANIA

Communities of color and low-income communities across Pennsylvania have faced historical and disproportionate harms from environmental pollution.

- Research shows that people in poverty and communities of color all have higher risk of exposure to air pollution than wealthy communities.
- Communities living near polluting industries - most often communities of color - endure more air pollution, higher asthma rates, and more environmental health harms than other communities.

Steps to control pollution and turn back climate change, like the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative ("RGGI"), can and must protect and benefit these communities.



- RGGI, a program that caps carbon pollution from power plants and creates a system for power plants to pay for the pollution they emit, does that.
- RGGI will **cut carbon pollution by 25%**, have a significant impact on climate change, and **create 27,000 PA jobs**.

Under RGGI, Pennsylvania can take steps to help most impacted communities.

- The Wolf Administration has committed to monitor RGGI's effects to make sure it does not shift pollution to communities of color and low-income communities already heavily impacted by pollution.
- A significant portion of the proceeds from RGGI should be used to assist low-income families with their energy bills and to invest in development, job creation, and clean energy investment in communities that historically and currently face disproportionate environmental stress.
- The Wolf Administration has proposed an Environmental Justice Communities Trust Fund (EJCTF) to make targeted investments to minimize and correct adverse environmental impacts, create jobs, and empower frontline communities.