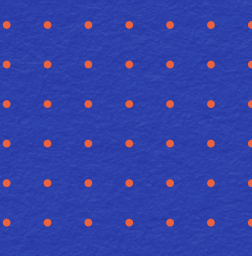
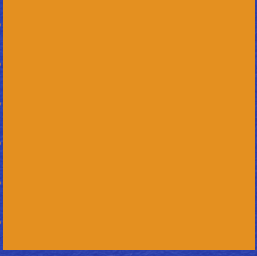
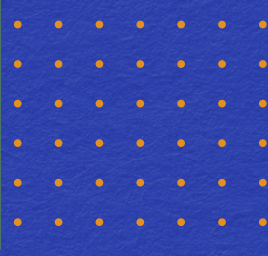
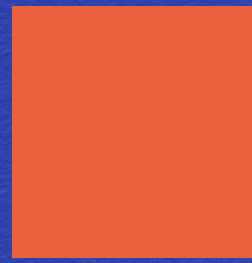
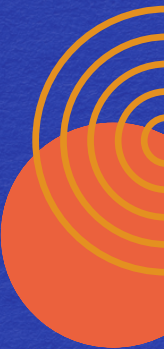




NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE



ANNUAL REPORT 2025 Edition





A FUTURE
FOR ALL!



2026 THEME



REIMAGINING CLIMATE FUTURES

2025 has been a challenge – For NJEJA, for environmental and social justice movements across the nation, and for the frontline communities most impacted by the unprecedented speed in dismantling hard-won social and environmental justice protections, which, in a matter of months, have shaken to their core the very foundations of our democratic systems. These attacks have come strong and fast, designed to undo progress while simultaneously draining our collective energy to sustain a coordinated resistance.

And yet! NJEJA, and our vast network of seasoned community organizations and activists, are well-versed in persistence – in the art of coming together, traversing adversity, adapting, overcoming, and dreaming up new possibilities.

This year, NJEJA made a conscious choice to not merely resist, but to reimagine our climate future from the ground up – rooting solutions in the wisdom of communities, youth, and frontline workers – and asking: **what could our future look like with equity and care at its core?**

Our reimagined climate future means a just transition, where the voices of the most impacted communities are placed front and center as we formulate and propose solutions, and where overburdened communities have the opportunity to economically benefit from NJ's transition to green energy and investment in extreme weather infrastructure and resilience.

“

In short, our reimagined climate future is all about **returning power to communities, fostering solidarity and understanding across differences in identity, occupation, and interest; and building systems that value individual lives over corporate profit.** In the face of rollbacks and repression, we have not retreated. We'll continue showing up alongside communities as we tackle the difficult work of planning, organizing, and fueling the change we want to see. And we are so glad you're part of this crucial work.





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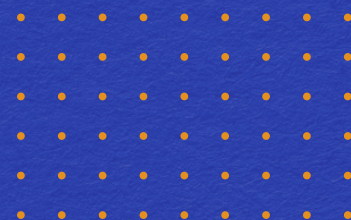
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MEET OUR TEAM

STAFF

MELISSA MILES

Executive Director



MELANIE REYES

Deputy Director



SARAH BALDWIN

Senior Director of Operations



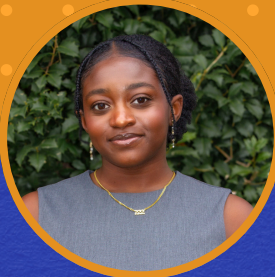
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QUIYA HARRIS

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INGRID ROSARIO

A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEAR NEW JERSEY COMMUNITY,

This Annual Review is a labor of love. Every part of it, from the locally produced art to the community interview, reflects care and consciousness. While the product is amazing, I also found the process to be quite profound. Before we laid out the words and pictures on the pages, life-to-life connections drove the creation of the content. Before the content creation, there was the intention. Before the intention, there was the vision.

What you see in this report is the continuity of the vision of Environmental Justice, like a baton passed while both runners are still in motion. Without looking or losing time and speed, we must trust that the hands are there to both give and receive. Runners execute the handoff by first matching speed with the forerunner and then taking off in their own burst of momentum. When the timing of the handoff is off or when the runners are not completely aligned, the baton may drop. We can never let that happen. For the sake of our communities, we must each run our hardest and our fastest (in our turn) until we reach the finish line.

For NJEJA, the finish line is nothing short of Environmental Justice. What does Environmental Justice mean to me? Simply put, it is a person's right and responsibility to interrupt, design, and lead the decision-making that affects their community, especially when the decision-making has historically harmed them.

The finish line is a day when an organization like NJEJA can serve as a repository for the stories of past battles we have collectively won and no longer need to fight. As of yet, that day has not come. As organizations and communities across the state face internal and external obstacles to their ability to thrive in the mission of Environmental Justice, we will continue to stand together with partners and allies to move the EJ agenda forward into the next administration in NJ. **We remain in this race for justice, with you.**

MELISSA MILES

Executive Director

New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance



ENVIRONMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES CENTER

This year, our Environmental Opportunities Center has been working to connect New Jersey residents to careers in clean energy and provide critical education on the issues most affecting our communities. Through trainings, interactive seminars, hands-on experiences, and youth-focused programs, we are equipping participants of all ages with the tools and knowledge to reimagine our climate future.

OFFSHORE WIND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In 2025, we celebrated the graduation of the third and final cohort of our Offshore Wind Workforce Development Program, completing a multi-year effort to train and equip community members for careers in the growing offshore wind sector. Through hands-on instruction in offshore wind construction, professional development, and environmental justice, we remain committed to ensuring our communities are at the forefront of the clean energy transition.

YOUTH CLIMATE AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

This year also saw the launch of our Youth Climate Ambassadors program, funded by the DEP's Youth Inclusion Initiative. Over six weeks, our participants aged 16–20 explored environmental careers through daily field trips, visits to hatcheries and state parks, in-depth conversations with environmental professionals, and career development experiences. Students engaged in a weekly community project focused on urban farming in Newark, gaining practical skills while contributing to local sustainability efforts. Together, we're cultivating the next generation of climate leaders and building pathways for equitable participation in a more sustainable future.



FUTUREFEST: CLIMATE REIMAGINED

In September, we hosted our inaugural FutureFEST: Climate Reimagined, a youth-led, intergenerational climate justice convening designed to inspire, activate, and connect climate leaders from across the state. The festival placed youth voices at the forefront, empowering the next generation of environmental justice leaders to imagine and shape a sustainable, equitable future.

Participants engaged in youth-led demonstrations, workshops, and discussions, explored hands-on activities on topics like textile justice and biodiversity, and shared in climate-focused art, fashion, and culture. The event featured a keynote address by activist Alexia Leclercq, followed by an organizing skill-share from the Climate Revolution Action Network, equipping attendees with the tools to take action in their own communities. We concluded with an eco-futurist fashion show, celebrating sustainability, self-expression, and the power of climate action in style.

FutureFEST united youth and allies of all ages in a space for connection, collaboration, and bold imagination. By putting youth leadership front and center and amplifying community voices, we're building a movement that is inclusive, action-driven, and visionary, inspiring a reimagined, just, and sustainable climate future for New Jersey.

A special thank you to our Champion sponsor, Climate Justice Alliance, for making this event possible!



ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION & LITERACY HUB SEMINARS

In 2025, we officially launched our Environmental Action & Literacy Hub Seminars, a statewide initiative designed to empower communities across New Jersey and strengthen our shared movement for environmental justice. Despite losing U.S. Environmental Protection Agency funding for this program, we continued as planned, understanding the importance of providing residents with the resources to become effective advocates in their own neighborhoods.



Throughout the year, in collaboration with our hub leaders at Isles, Inc., Native American Advancement Corporation, and O.C.E.A.N., Inc., we hosted four seminars across the state, engaging residents from diverse communities and providing education on critical topics, including the history of environmental justice and key legislation, home energy efficiency and brownfields, Indigenous education, power mapping, and coalition-building strategies. These sessions combined interactive tours with traditional lessons, helping participants strengthen local networks and advocate for community-led change. By continuing this work despite funding challenges, NJEJA and our hub leaders are ensuring that communities have the support they need to advance environmental justice across New Jersey.

KEAN SCHOLAR ACADEMY

Since 2024, we have been working closely with Kean University's Kean Scholar Academy. A pre-college program that further educates New Jersey students and prepares them for college, the Academy participates in workshops and mentoring sessions with NJEJA on environmental justice, policy, advocacy, and future careers in the green economy. By continuing this partnership for the 2025-2026 academic year, NJEJA is ensuring that young people have access to environmental justice conversations and can build on their existing experiences to make their communities more just for all.



As part of our ongoing Community Spotlight series, Director of Organizing, Oriana Holmes-Price, joined Salem community organizer Janice Roots. Janice reflects on how health challenges in her community, attributed to water contamination and other pollutants, introduced her to environmental justice advocacy. She emphasizes the importance of collective action and education to combat the systemic challenges facing the city. Launched last year, our Community Spotlight series aims to highlight local leaders working to advance environmental justice in their own communities and build solidarity in our shared struggle.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

WITH JANICE ROOTS

BY ORIANA HOLMES-PRICE

WHAT IS YOUR EJ STORY? HOW DID YOU GET INTO THIS LINE OF WORK?

This was a new experience for me, but what really got me interested was a combination of my own personal health issues, as well as community members around me who I noticed were having clusters of illnesses. Anytime you see clusters of illnesses, you have to start asking questions. We have clusters of pancreatic cancer, we have clusters of breast cancer, we have clusters of thyroid disease, and even thyroid cancer. So a lot of what I was seeing were illnesses that were related to the endocrine system. And then when I looked at people around me, like my father, for instance, my father also had endocrine problems, and he ended up with a very aggressive form of pancreatic cancer. And then I found out that my dog had pancreatic cancer, and she was dead in a matter of weeks. We all lived in this area, and we were all consuming the same foods and from the same water source. I started doing research and finding out that the DuPont facility was dumping their wastewater from making the fire retardant materials into the Salem River, and these toxins were traveling down to Paulsboro.



CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

So we have this, this stream of toxic waterways flowing into our rivers and ultimately into our water sources. And when I started doing research, one of the risk factors of this toxic water that contains PFAS chemicals is endocrine disruptors – the very things that I was suffering from: thyroid issues, pancreas issues, plus my father and my dog. When I started asking questions with other people in the community, the symptoms were very similar, even if people didn't know the source of their illness. So you can't help but start to believe that this may be related to our environment. And

WHAT DOES ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LOOK LIKE TO YOU?

To me, it looks like equal access to clean water and clean air. We are designated an overburdened community, and I'd like to see that designation overturned. I'd like to be able to live in a community that's no longer overburdened, but it does not look like that's going to happen anytime soon, maybe not ever in my lifetime. We have all these things going on – a landfill, the water, concrete crushing – and what environmental justice looks like to me is we shouldn't have to beg for help.



IT CAN'T HAPPEN WITHOUT YOU.

when I started asking questions, I started getting resistance and told, "You don't know what you're talking about." But I know that I'm sick, and I know that other people around me are sick, and I know other people around me don't understand why they're sick. So that's reason enough for me to get involved and start asking questions and trying to bring people into the fold so that we can fight together, because strength comes in numbers.

WHAT CHALLENGES ARE YOU FACING?

The biggest challenge I find amongst community members is the lack of education, the lack of knowledge, the lack of information, and the lack of resources. We are in a media desert, we are isolated, and most of the people around me have absolutely no knowledge. They're used to listening to people in leadership positions who tell them what to do, because these people have been in power so long. This is the way that the powers that be are able to act in a manner that's in their best interest, in their own personal best interest, and keep the people in the community in the dark.

IF YOU COULD GIVE ANY ADVICE TO SOMEONE NEW TO ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

It can't happen without you, especially if you live in an overburdened community. It's not an organic process that's just going to happen through osmosis or cosmic energy. You really have to get in there and fight. And the best way to do it is to do it in a collective – to find like-minded people who are willing to do the work, to speak up, and to read. Working as a collective unit: neighbors helping neighbors, neighbors, fighting together, and sharing the burden, because it's a lot of work.

WHAT IS ONE LAST THING PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOU AND THE WORK YOU'RE ENGAGED IN?

I just wish that the work that I'm doing will lead to a better environment. I'm trying to help people that can't necessarily help themselves, for whatever reason. I want to make sure that the children here in my neighborhood have the same advantages that I had growing up.

NJEJA IN THE MEDIA



01 FOURTH IRONBOUND POWER PLANT A 'SLAP IN THE FACE,' NEWARK MAYOR SAYS

"A fourth power plant would exacerbate the risks that this community already faces on a daily basis," the New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance said. "We cannot continue this centuries-old pattern of prioritizing profit over people."



02 TRUMP EVISCERATES A BEDROCK PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LAW

"After the federal administration's gutting of the National Environmental Policy Act this year, NJEJA Board Member Dr. Ana Baptista highlights the Ironbound's steadfast commitment to continuing the fight against polluters."



03 IN OBSERVANCE OF EARTH MONTH, NJEDA ANNOUNCES MORE THAN \$4.3M TO SUPPORT GREEN ECONOMY WORKFORCE

This year, NJEJA was proud to receive additional funding from the New Jersey Economic Development Authority to support a brand new green jobs training program for our communities, ensuring we are placed at the forefront of the growing clean energy economy.

04 SEN. MARKEY, REP. SUMMER LEE, LAWYERS FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT HOST ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON EPA'S TERMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GRANTS

This spring, we joined community and legal advocacy groups for a roundtable discussion with Senator Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) and Representative Summer Lee (PA-12), emphasizing the real-world impacts that federal funding cuts have on our partners and EJ communities across the country.



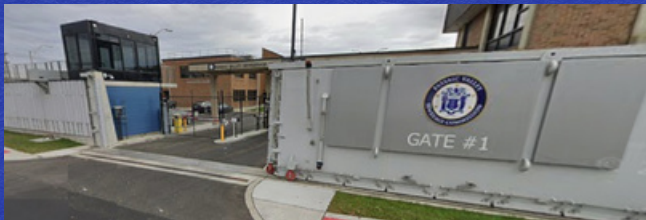
05 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES TO EPA: WE DEMAND PROTECTION FROM DEADLY SOOT POLLUTION

NJEJA joins its partners in the Clean Air for the Long Haul coalition in condemning the EPA's decision to abandon its defense of the stronger 2024 PM 2.5 standards, warning that the rollback endangers public health and disproportionately harms EJ communities.



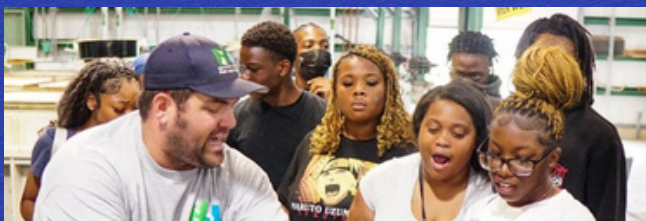
06 NEW FEDERAL CLEAN ENERGY REBATES ARE IN LIMBO FOR PENNSYLVANIA RESIDENTS

Amid uncertainty about federal home-energy rebates in PA, NJ, and DE, our staff emphasized that environmental justice communities should be among the first to benefit from the clean energy transition.



07 MURPHY APPOINTEES AGAIN DUMPING ON NEWARK'S IRONBOUND NEIGHBORHOOD

After PVSC's initial vote to approve Newark's fourth gas power plant, NJEJA spoke out against the Commission's rejection of climate science, clean technology, and community voices. Although the project was approved, construction has been halted due to the tireless efforts of local activists.



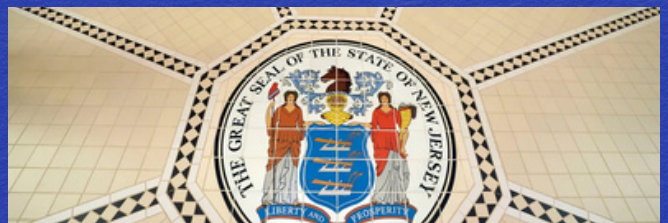
08 ANNUAL SUMMER PROGRAM TO INSPIRE FUTURE EJ LEADERS FROM OVERBURDENED COMMUNITIES

This summer, NJEJA launched our inaugural Youth Climate Ambassadors program, funded by the NJDEP, providing youth aged 16-20 with the opportunity to learn about environmental careers and EJ issues in their own communities.



09 POLLUTED AND POOR: BLIGHTED US CITIES TACKLE 'TOXIC SOUP'

Following our August letter to the NJDEP after the first decision under the landmark Environmental Justice Law, this article highlights the rise of state-led environmental justice laws and NJEJA's push for stronger protections in New Jersey.



10 COULD NJ BAN PLASTIC FORKS? LEGISLATION ADVANCES IN TRENTON

NJEJA testifies on proposed legislation limiting plastic utensils, highlighting its environmental justice impacts and ability to reduce costs for restaurants and communities.

“

“WE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN MAKING SURE THAT THE COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE TYPICALLY BORNE THE BRUNT OF DIRTY ENERGY INDUSTRIES ARE SEEING THE FIRST BENEFITS FROM THIS TRANSITION TO CLEAN ENERGY.”

MELISSA MILES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NJEJA



**MOVING FORWARD
NETWORK SPRING
CONVENING (CREDIT: MFN)**



**YOUTH CLIMATE
AMBASSADORS AT RABBIT
HOLE FARM**



BUILDING ONE AMERICA



**PEOLPE'S FORUM ON
CLEAN ENEGY**



**MOVING FORWARD
NETWORK CLIMATE WEEK
PANEL (CREDIT: MOVING
FORWARD NETWORK)**



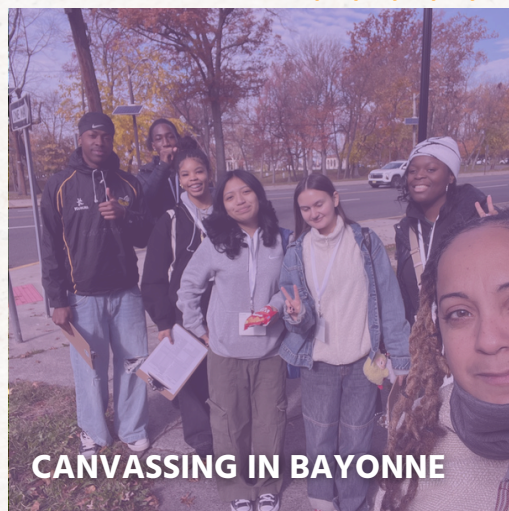
**PATERSON WATER
DISTRIBUTION**



**PASSAIC VALLEY SEWAGE
COMMISSION PRESS
CONFERENCE**



**PATERSON WATER
DISTRIBUTION**



CANVASSING IN BAYONNE



**LISC SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES**



**YOUTH CLIMATE
AMBASSADORS**



**FUTUREFEST KEY NOTE
SPEAKER ALEXIS LECLERCQ**



**FUTUREFEST: CLIMATE
REIMAGINED**



**EQUITABLE AND JUST
NATIONAL CLIMATE
PLATFORM CONVENING
(CREDIT: EJNCP)**



**PEOPLE'S FORUM ON
CLEAN ENERGY**



**YOUTH CLIMATE
AMBASSADORS AT RABBIT
HOLE FARM**



**CLIMATE REVOLUTION
ACTION NETWORK
TRAINING AT NJIT**



**2025 YOUTH CLIMATE
AMBASSADORS
GRADUATION**



**WHITESBORO BLACK
HISTORY GALA**



**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
LEADERSHIP FORUM
(CREDIT: WE ACT)**



**FUTUREFEST: FASHION
SHOW**



**FUTUREFEST: CLIMATE
REIMAGINED**



**PASSAIC VALLEY SEWAGE
COMMISSION PRESS
CONFERENCE**



**IRONBOUND COMMUNITY
CORPORATION
CHANGEMAKERS GALA**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This past year, we have been reimagining our climate future together with environmental justice communities across the state. Working alongside residents, advocates, and local partners, we've offered technical assistance, created spaces for meaningful conversations, and shared educational opportunities on the issues that matter most, from energy justice to community health. With every workshop, discussion, and collaboration, we are reminded that reimagining a just and sustainable future is only possible when we learn from and stand with the communities leading the way.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Last year, we began partnering with the WE ACT Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (WE ACT TCTAC) to connect communities throughout New Jersey to resources. While the federal grant upholding this work was unfortunately terminated this spring, our commitment to communities remains unwavering. We will continue working closely with partners across the state to provide communities with the education, resources, and expertise they need to advance environmental justice, grassroots organizing, and energy justice.

HARNESSING THE POWER OF COALITIONS

In May, even after the termination of the TCTAC program, we carried forward the first workshop. Partnering with The Urban Health Collaborative, we co-hosted a collaborative discussion on harnessing the power of coalitions to advance environmental justice, bringing together community leaders, advocates, and organizations from across New Jersey. Together, we explored strategies for building strong, values-driven partnerships, shared lessons on overcoming common challenges, and strengthened our collective ability to amplify the fight for environmental justice.



PEOPLE'S FORUMS

In 2025, we launched our People's Forum series for residents to come together to learn, share, and co-create solutions for healthier futures.

In Newark and Lawnside, community members joined discussions on home energy efficiency and the impacts of extreme heat – issues that directly affect their daily life and community health.

PARTICIPANTS EXPLORED:

Building emissions and how equitable building decarbonization can create healthier, more sustainable communities.

The state's retrofit and emissions reduction goals.

How communities can take advantage of the clean energy transition in their own homes to lower monthly energy bills while reducing pollution.

Practical home interventions and repairs needed to support building decarbonization.

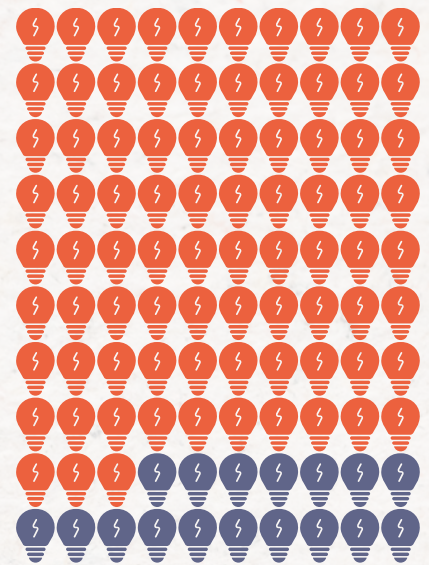
Connecting with fellow residents to build local networks for sharing knowledge and strategies with their neighbors.

Through presentations and interactive discussions, these forums allowed residents to explore and shape community-driven climate solutions, strengthening the foundation for resilient neighborhoods across New Jersey.

QUICK FACTS FROM OUR HOME ENERGY FORUM

83%

of attendees reported greater confidence in pursuing clean energy incentives.



66%

of respondents gained a deeper understanding of the health risks of gas appliances.



POLICY

This past year, the NJEJA policy team has seen significant growth in public participation and civics education in the environmental policy sphere. We have worked to advance strong, EJ-centered policy, legislation, and regulation, and to train and mobilize community members and partner allies to engage on these topics through education, coalition building, and empowerment. Simultaneously, we have educated legislators and government officials, as well as their staff, on the risk of false solutions, greenwashing, and risky climate policy. We have used these tactics and strategies across policy topics, including climate change mitigation, clean energy development, waste justice, goods movements, and transportation air pollution mitigation.

SCALING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAW

This year, NJEJA has worked to increase public participation in EJ Law hearings across the state and to educate more residents about the value of participating in these hearings. In October, NJEJA, along with our partners, organized over 30 residents and advocates to attend the Calpine Sherman Avenue Energy Center, with 15 people providing verbal comments, sharing their stories, and advocating for decreased emissions from the facility. The following week, residents engaged in the EJ hearing for the Merck Sharp and Dohme, LLC facility. Furthermore, NJEJA submitted written comments to both facilities elaborating on the points raised during the verbal comments. Additionally, NJEJA supported and signed on to other comments submitted, including those from partners at Earthjustice.

Likewise, NJEJA has been engaged in a conversation with the NJDEP regarding the interpretation of the EJ Rules through a public letter. In this letter, we addressed concerns regarding the interpretation of the obligation, the requirement to reduce emissions, and the best way to implement the regulatory language.

In addition to hearings and regulatory engagement, NJEJA supported training and education on the environmental justice law through a lunch-and-learn with partners to discuss the rules and protocol for implementation. We intend to continue this series with more partners in the future. Additionally, we hosted New Jersey groups as part of a state-based sub-group at a Climate Week event at the New School Tishman Environment and Design Center.





All of these policies and more can be found in our 2025-2026 Statewide Policy Platform, which was intended to help inform the gubernatorial election conversation and will continue to be used in conversation with the Sherrill Administration and the next legislative class.

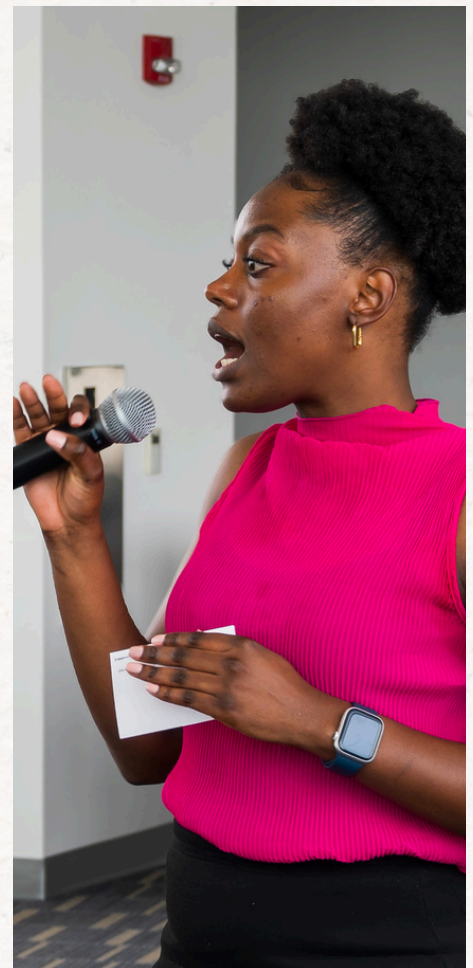
**STATEWIDE
POLICY PLATFORM**

CONTINUING EDUCATION ON MER

Last year, NJEJA hosted a roundtable for social justice partners across the state to discuss the Mandatory Emissions Reduction concept and the implications of this concept for their own organization's work and communities. This year, NJEJA continued this conversation with environmental partners, deep-diving into the MER concept, legal and regulatory levers, and establishing connections that can further this work.

CLEAN ENERGY GENERATION - STATEWIDE POLICY

This year, New Jersey politics focused heavily on energy affordability, from generation to consumer end-use. NJEJA worked hard to educate legislators, regulators, and our partners on the EJ perspective on clean energy development. In particular, NJEJA continued to provide education on concerns with carbon capture and sequestration (CCS), hydrogen generation – especially hydrogen combustion – renewable natural gas, biofuels, and liquefied natural gas. In contrast, NJEJA and our partners have uplifted valuable technologies that can support a Just Transition, including large-scale solar generation, onshore and offshore wind, large-scale battery storage, virtual power plants, community solar, microgrids, and the co-location of battery storage with renewable energy generation, as well as energy efficiency methods.



GOODS MOVEMENT

NJEJA continued to collaborate with partners and allies across the state to advance electrification goals in the goods movement sector, including ports, trains, trucks, and warehouses. In March, NJEJA joined the Moving Forward Network in Savannah, Georgia for the first MFN-wide convening since the COVID-19 pandemic. Then, in September for Climate Week, NJEJA joined MFN's Climate Week cohort and events, and spoke at the EJ Leaders Encuentro Panel hosted by El Puente in Brooklyn.

On the state level, NJEJA remained committed to supporting truck electrification, calling on the state to move forward with an Indirect Source Review policy to decrease local emissions from truck-attracting facilities. We also strengthened our relationships with the Port Authority with a team-wide tour of Port Newark.

Across November and early December, our youth volunteers participated in our Fall canvassing efforts, hitting the streets of Bayonne and reaching over 900 households to encourage residents and business owners to attend NJEJA's December Community Visioning Session. The first of many conversations, this session focused on building community relationships, discussing the impacts of ports on public and environmental health, and sharing information on the importance of community-led advocacy for healthy port development. Residents had the opportunity to share their vision and creative ways to ensure Bayonne has improved and safe air quality now and in the years to come.



WASTE JUSTICE

Waste justice remained a critical component of NJEJA's policy goals, with a focus still on educating communities about incineration. This included submitting comments to Rahway ReWorld to call for emissions reductions to support the surrounding environmental justice communities.

At the state level, NJEJA collaborated with environmental allies to educate and advocate for an Extended Producer Responsibility bill and a plastic reduction bill, colloquially called "Skip the Stuff." At the time of this report, Skip The Stuff has passed both Senate committees and is headed for a Senate floor vote with the hope of passing in lame duck.

Additionally, NJEJA educated ourselves on emerging trends in waste reduction legislation and advocacy by attending convenings hosted by our funders in Colorado, California, and Vermont.



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2026

In the coming year, NJEJA is excited to continue the policy work that emerged from 2025 education and advocacy efforts, while building bridges with communities across the state to support their local policy efforts. In particular, NJEAJ is looking at concerning trends in hyperscale data center proliferation and its impacts on surrounding communities, including emissions from natural gas combustion, water and energy consumption, noise levels, land use, and ratepayer impacts for energy costs.

REFLECTIONS FROM 2025

This past year, organizations and communities like ours have been pushed in ways we could never have imagined. Facing a political climate intent on reversing years of hard-won progress, we stood alongside one another in our mission for healthier communities and a more just world where we can eat, play, breathe, and thrive without fear of poisoning and contamination.

In 2025, we invited you all to join us in reimagining a brighter climate future, and across the state, New Jersey residents showed up, mobilized, and organized to build that future; fighting for the health, dignity and self-determination of our neighborhoods, fortifying our communities with proactive and decisive community plans for the weather and climate events to come; and uplifting the next generation of environmental justice leaders.

This year, some battles were won, some were lost, and many rage on. And through it all, our guiding light remained clear: Everyone is worthy of a dignified future, where they can securely breathe clean air, drink clean and free water, eat nutritious, locally grown food, live in healthy, energy-efficient housing, have access to clean and affordable transportation, and have work that provides economic stability and personal fulfillment.

In the face of rollbacks and repression, we have not retreated. We have risen – finding strength in each other, fostering creativity in the cracks, and uplifting hope in the work ahead. Because to reimagine climate is not only to dream – it is to design, to organize, and to transform that dream into reality.

IN SOLIDARITY,

New Jersey Environmental
Justice Alliance





2/20/20
J. J. J. J.
J. J. J. J.
2020



CLEAN AIR. GREEN JOBS. JUST FUTURES.

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