

CO-POLLUTANTS

ITS DANGERS TO NEW JERSEYANS



Photo credit: Applied Economics Clinic

WHAT ARE CO-POLLUTANTS?

Fossil fuel power plants release not only carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, but also co-pollutants. Co-pollutants from power plants include carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, ozone, particulate matter, and sulfur dioxide.

HEALTH IMPACTS

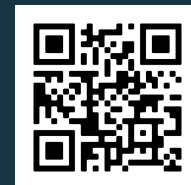
- Exposure to co-pollutants have significant health implications and increases risks of damaged airways, lung diseases, asthma attacks, preterm birth, cardiovascular morbidity and mortality, and stroke.
- Newark and Elizabeth are particularly exposed to increased co-pollutants such as nitrogen oxides and black carbon that negatively impact human health the most.
- Air pollution is one of the major causes of asthma and in Newark, one in every four children has asthma, 3x higher than the national average.

POLICY

How our lawmakers define clean energy matters. To protect environmental justice communities and improve public health to the greatest extent possible, NJ's 100% Clean Energy Standard must provide the greatest reduction of carbon dioxide AND co-pollutant emissions.

New Jersey Environmental Justice Alliance (NJEJA) and other allies have spearheaded the advocacy for climate change mitigation policy to reduce co-pollutants from power plants whose air pollution emissions have historically had a detrimental impact on their communities.

More information can be found in the report by NJEJA: Achieving Emissions Reductions for Environmental Justice Communities Through Climate Change Mitigation Policy



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