



President Obama's Clean Power Plan + Black Churches

What is the Clean Power Plan?

President Obama's Clean Power Plan will protect clean air and fight climate change, by limiting the amount of pollution that power plants are allowed to spew into our air.

How will the Clean Power Plan affect Black communities?

- Obama's clean air plan will save lives.
 - It will prevent 3,500 premature deaths a year and more than 1,000 heart attacks and hospitalizations from air-pollution-related illness, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
 - It will prevent 140,000 to 150,000 asthma attacks in children, according to the EPA.

- Whose lives will it save? A lot of African American lives.
 - 40 percent of the six million Americans living in close proximity to a coal plant are people of color, according to NAACP.
 - Maybe that explains why one in six African American kids has asthma, compared with one in ten nationwide.
 - African Americans make emergency room visits for asthma-related issues more than three times as often as whites, according to the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.
 - By addressing climate change, President Obama's plan will keep our communities safer.
 - People of color are hit first and worst when disaster strikes— Hurricane Katrina and Superstorm Sandy drove that home.

- Obama's plan will save money.
 - Families will save an average of \$8 a month on their utility bills, according to the EPA.
 - The EPA estimates that it will bring health benefits worth an estimated \$55 billion to \$93 billion per year in 2030.

- Obama's plan will *create* jobs and opportunity.
 - Cutting power plant pollution will create **a quarter of a million new jobs**, mostly in clean energy, according to the Energy Foundation.
 - We have a chance to drive clean energy investments and jobs towards the communities that are hit hardest.
 - California is already doing this; the state has raised almost \$300 million for communities on the frontlines—investments in transit, affordable housing, energy efficiency
 - Green For All is working to ensure that the Clean Power Plan lifts all boats, and that our communities have access to the jobs and opportunity that will be created in clean energy.

What is the threat to President Obama's Clean Power Plan?

- Dirty energy companies are fighting the president every step of the way.

- This is President Obama's fourth quarter and he is trying to leave a legacy and a better future for his kids and ours.

- Fossil fuel companies are pouring millions of dollars into stopping him. A key part of their strategy is **to claim that people of color don't want clean air safeguards, and that the president's plan will hurt us.** [They're already claiming that the Clean Power Plan will raise electricity rates and eliminate jobs.](#)
- In fact, the opposite is true. The Clean Power Plan is designed to increase health, wealth, and opportunity for our communities. The EPA predicts that it will save families an estimated \$8 a month on utility bills, and will create a quarter of a million new jobs.

What are Green For All and Green The Church doing to help the President?

- We need to come to the president's defense. Green For All and Green The Church are working to mobilize people of color to show their support for the Clean Power Plan.
- We need to get the word out that dirty energy companies are lying to—and about—our communities. They're trying to convince us that the president's plan is bad for us, and they're trying to convince the world that we don't like it. Churches have a key role to play in educating communities and getting the truth out.

What can churches do to help?

- We have a moral obligation to protect clean air and safeguard our kids' futures. That's what President Obama is trying to do with the Clean Power Plan. Every single congregant can help the president get clean air protections over the finish line.
- **Sign a petition to your governor asking him or her to implement the president's plan. Just go to:** http://www.greenforall.org/casc_takeaction