

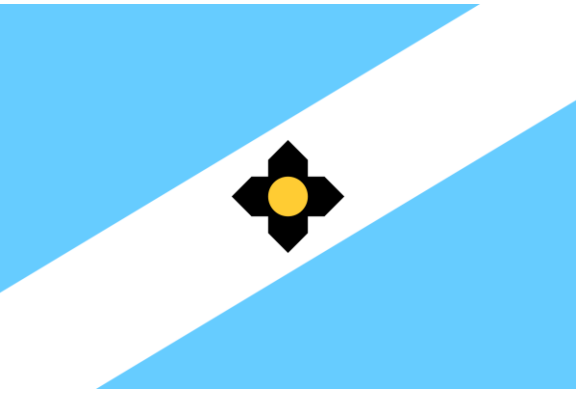


Madison

Sustainability

Water Utility Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 27, 2020





What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>





What is Environmental Justice?

1982 – PCB Landfill in Warren County, North Carolina

The landfill was located in rural Warren County, which was primarily African American. Warren County has about 18,000 people living in the county. Sixty-nine percent of the residents are non-white, and twenty percent of the residents live below the federal poverty level.

- Six-week trucking opposition, with collective nonviolent direct action, which included over 550 arrests

<https://www.energy.gov/lm/services/environmental-justice/environmental-justice-history>





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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iCxb0BYjgl&feature=emb_title



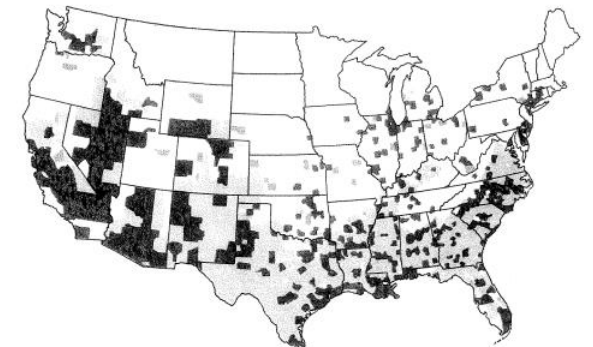
What is Environmental Justice?

In 1987, the United Church of Christ, through its Commission for Racial Justice, prepared a report, "[Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States](#)," which provided the concrete evidence that had so far been lacking. The church's researchers found that race was more strongly correlated with the placement of a hazardous-waste facility than any other single factor, and remained so even when they controlled for income and geographic area. The report also indicated that three of the country's five largest commercial hazardous-waste landfills, comprising forty per cent of the nation's entire commercial-landfill capacity, were located in black or Hispanic communities.

Two decades after its initial report, the United Church of Christ published a follow-up, "[Toxic Wastes and Race at Twenty](#)." It found that little had changed in the intervening years; most of those living within 1.8 miles of a hazardous-waste facility today are people of color.

TOXIC WASTES AND RACE In The United States

A National Report on the Racial and Socio-Economic
Characteristics of Communities
with Hazardous Waste Sites





What is Environmental Justice?

1991 - First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit

<https://www.ejnet.org/ej/principles.pdf>

2) Environmental Justice demands that public policy be based on mutual respect and justice for all peoples, free from any form of discrimination or bias.

3) Environmental Justice mandates the right to ethical, balanced and responsible uses of land and renewable resources in the interest of a sustainable planet for humans and other living things.

7) Environmental Justice demands the right to participate as equal partners at every level of decisionmaking, including needs assessment, planning, implementation, enforcement and evaluation.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF COLOR, gathered together at this multinational People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, to begin to build a national and international movement of all peoples of color to fight the destruction and taking of our lands and communities, do hereby re-establish our spiritual interdependence to the sacredness of our Mother Earth; to respect and celebrate each of our cultures, languages and beliefs about the natural world and our roles in healing ourselves; to ensure environmental justice; to promote economic alternatives which would contribute to the development of environmentally safe livelihoods; and, to secure our political, economic and cultural liberation that has been denied for over 500 years of colonization and oppression, resulting in the poisoning of our communities and land and the genocide of our peoples, do affirm and adopt these Principles of Environmental Justice:

The Principles of Environmental Justice (EJ)

- 1) **Environmental Justice** affirms the sacredness of Mother Earth, ecological unity and the interdependence of all species, and the right to be free from ecological destruction.
 - 2) **Environmental Justice** demands that public policy be based on mutual respect and justice for all peoples, free from any form of discrimination or bias.
 - 3) **Environmental Justice** mandates the right to ethical, balanced and responsible uses of land and renewable resources in the interest of a sustainable planet for humans and other living things.
 - 4) **Environmental Justice** calls for universal protection from nuclear testing, extraction, production and disposal of toxic/hazardous wastes and poisons and nuclear testing that threaten the fundamental right to clean air, land, water, and food.
 - 5) **Environmental Justice** affirms the fundamental right to political, economic, cultural and environmental self-determination of all peoples.
 - 6) **Environmental Justice** demands the cessation of the production of all toxins, hazardous wastes, and radioactive materials, and that all past and current producers be held strictly accountable to the people for detoxification and the containment at the point of production.
 - 7) **Environmental Justice** demands the right to participate as equal partners at every level of decision-making, including needs assessment, planning, implementation, enforcement and evaluation.
 - 8) **Environmental Justice** affirms the right of all workers to a safe and healthy work environment without being forced to choose between an unsafe livelihood and unemployment. It also affirms the right of those who work at home to be free from environmental hazards.
 - 9) **Environmental Justice** protects the right of victims of environmental injustice to receive full compensation and reparations for damages as well as quality health care.
 - 10) **Environmental Justice** considers governmental acts of environmental injustice a violation of international law, the Universal Declaration On Human Rights, and the United Nations Convention on Genocide.
 - 11) **Environmental Justice** must recognize a special legal and natural relationship of Native Peoples to the U.S. government through treaties, agreements, compacts, and covenants affirming sovereignty and self-determination.
 - 12) **Environmental Justice** affirms the need for urban and rural ecological policies to clean up and rebuild our cities and rural areas in balance with nature, honoring the cultural integrity of all our communities, and provided fair access for all to the full range of resources.
 - 13) **Environmental Justice** calls for the strict enforcement of principles of informed consent, and a halt to the testing of experimental reproductive and medical procedures and vaccinations on people of color.
 - 14) **Environmental Justice** opposes the destructive operations of multi-national corporations.
 - 15) **Environmental Justice** opposes military occupation, repression and exploitation of lands, peoples and cultures, and other life forms.
 - 16) **Environmental Justice** calls for the education of present and future generations which emphasizes social and environmental issues, based on our experience and an appreciation of our diverse cultural perspectives.
 - 17) **Environmental Justice** requires that we, as individuals, make personal and consumer choices to consume as little waste as possible; and make the conscious decision to challenge and reorientize our lifestyles to ensure the health of the natural world for present and future generations.
- More info on environmental justice and environmental racism can be found online at www.ejnet.org/ej**

Delegates to the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit held on October 24-27, 1991, in Washington DC, drafted and adopted these 17 principles of Environmental Justice. Since then, the Principles have served as a defining document for the growing grassroots movement for environmental justice.



What is Environmental Justice?

How Did the Environmental Justice Movement Arise?

The environmental justice movement was started by individuals, primarily people of color, who sought to address the inequity of environmental protection in their communities.

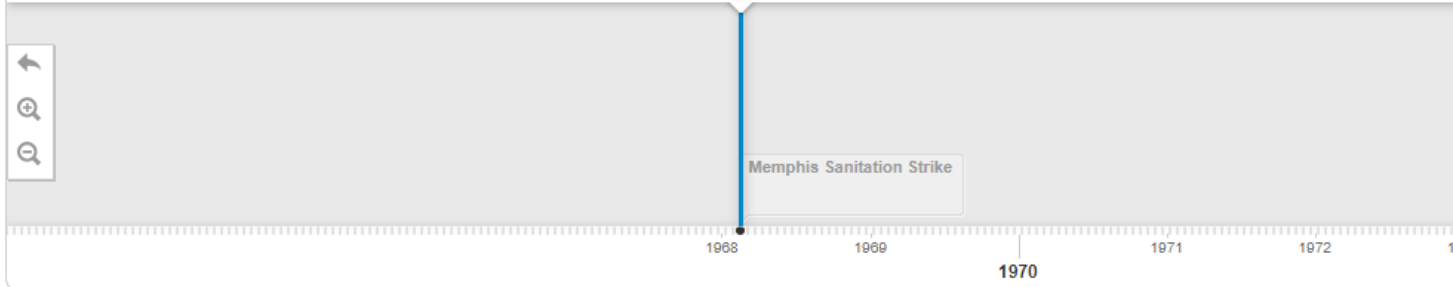
Professor Robert Bullard wrote, "whether by conscious design or institutional neglect, communities of color in urban ghettos, in rural 'poverty pockets', or on economically impoverished Native-American reservations face some of the worst environmental devastation in the nation."

The Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s sounded the alarm about the public health dangers for their families, their communities and themselves.

FEBRUARY
11, 1968
Memphis
Sanitation Strike



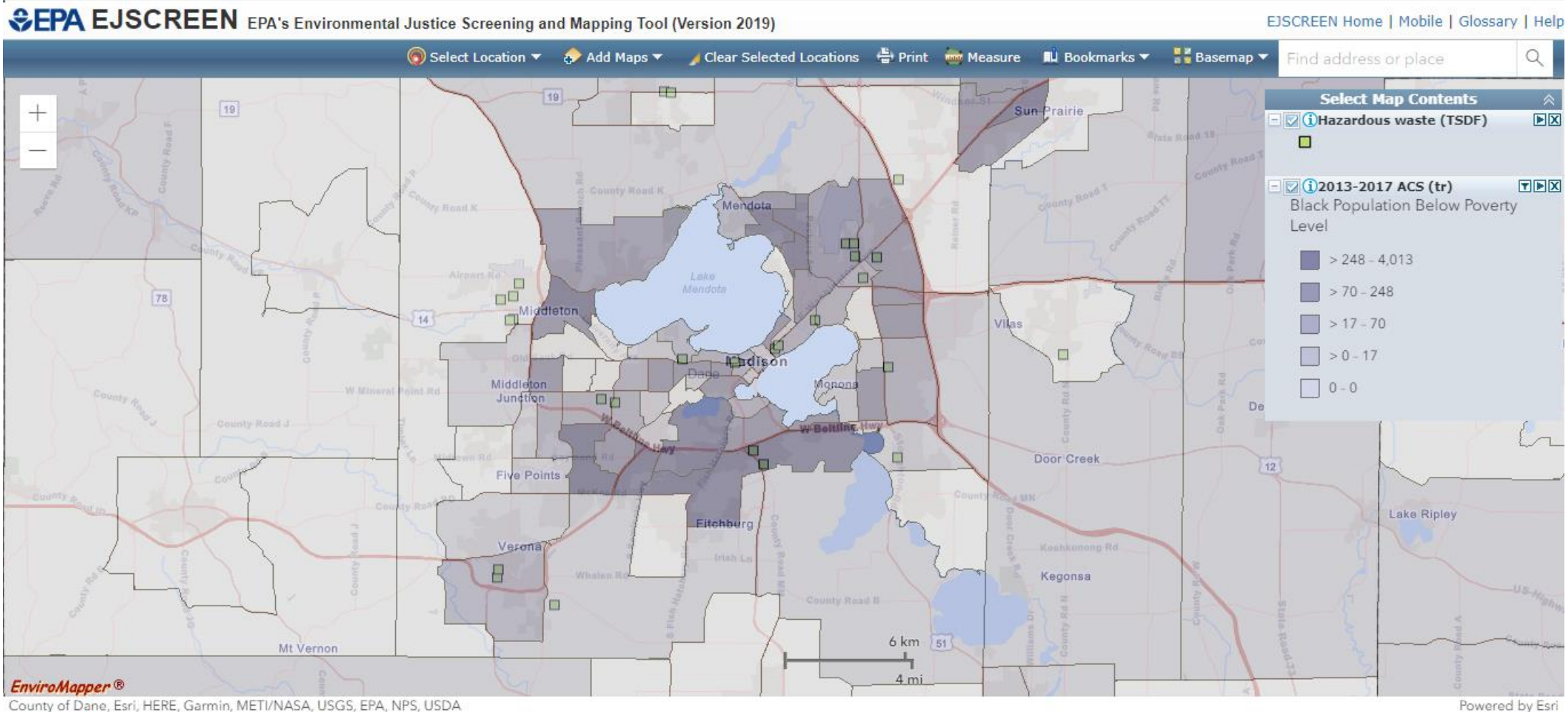
- West Harlem Environmental Action
- Indigenous Environmental Network
- Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice
- National Environmental Justice Advisory Council





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<https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>





What is Environmental Justice?

"**Environmental racism**" is a term used to describe how communities of color are unfairly impacted by pollution and environmental disasters. It refers to "the disproportionate exposure of Blacks to polluted air, water and soil," writes [New York Times](#) reporter John Eligon. "It is considered the result of poverty and segregation that has relegated many Blacks and other racial minorities to some of the most industrialized or dilapidated environments."





Other Related Terminology:

A **fenceline community** is a neighborhood that is immediately adjacent to a company and is directly affected by the noise, odors, chemical emissions, traffic, parking, and operations of the company. Fenceline communities in the United States that are next to plants that emit hazardous waste are disproportionately inhabited by people of color and the working poor

Frontline communities are those that experience “first and worst” the consequences of climate change. These are communities of color and low-income, whose neighborhoods often lack basic infrastructure to support them and who will be increasingly vulnerable as our climate deteriorates. These are Native communities, whose resources have been exploited, and laborers whose daily work or living environments are polluted or toxic.



Climate Justice

Climate justice is a term used for framing global warming as an ethical and political issue, rather than one that is purely environmental or physical in nature.



Jobs / EJ Nexus

DEEP DIVE

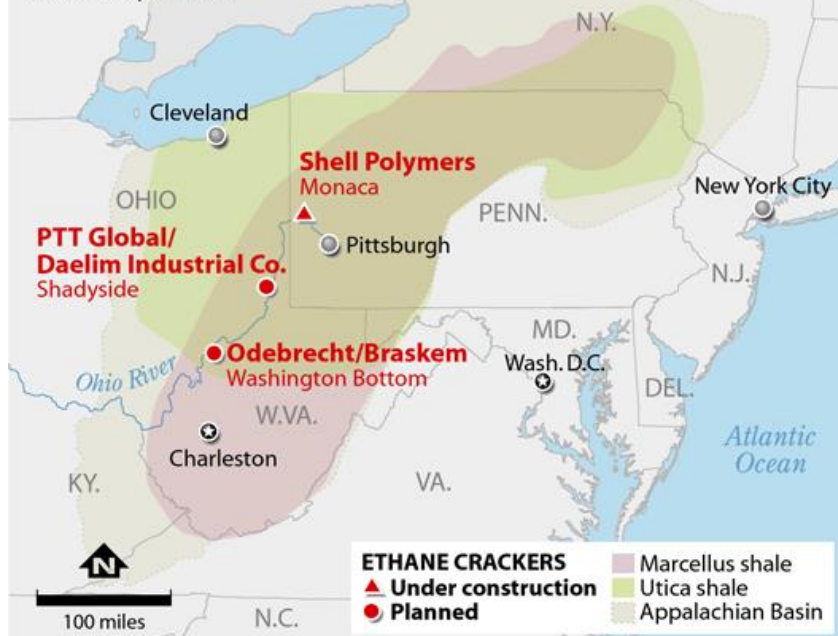
New Jersey governor signs landmark environmental justice bill with big permit implications

The long-anticipated legislation had key backing from community groups. Despite some business opposition and industry trepidation, waste and recycling stakeholders also expressed support.

<https://www.wastedive.com/news/new-jersey-environmental-justice-bill-covanta-frontline-communities-waste-facilities-health/582940/>

Ethane Cracker Plants on the Ohio River

Cracker plants take ethane, a liquid natural gas byproduct, and “crack” the molecules to produce ethylene, a root chemical used to manufacture a variety of plastics products. One sprawling cracker plant is under construction along the upper Ohio River and two more are planned.



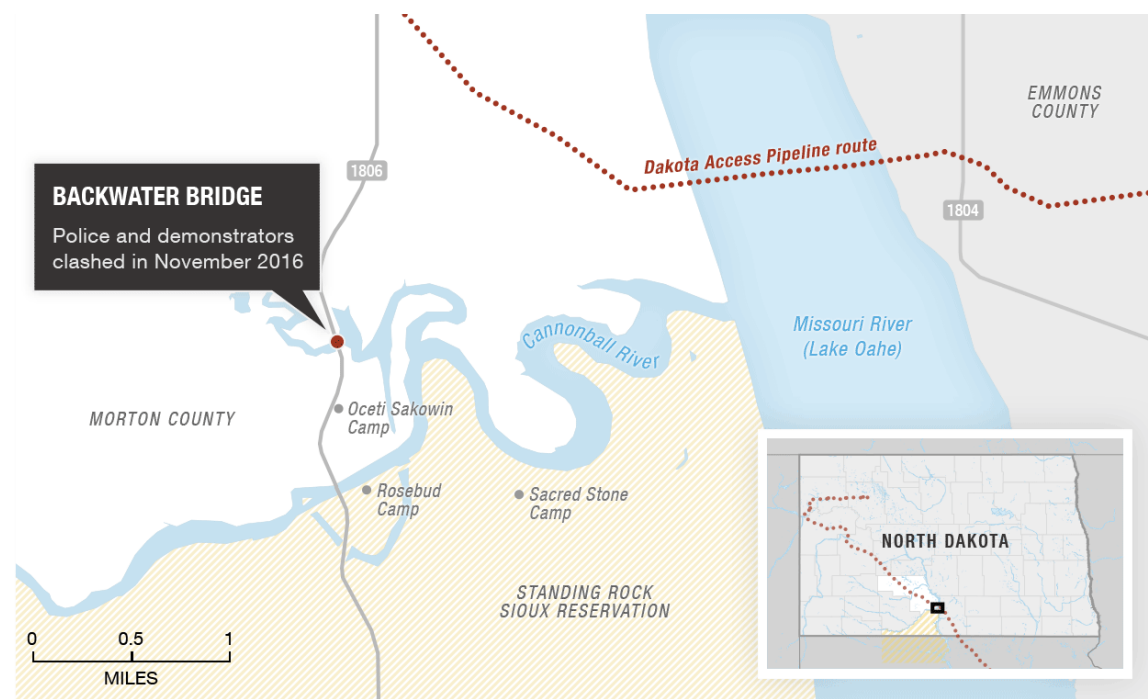
SOURCE: U.S. Energy Information Agency

PAUL HORN / InsideClimate News

<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/25022019/plastics-hub-appalachian-fracking-ethane-cracker-climate-change-health-ohio-river>



#DAPL – Dakota Access Pipeline

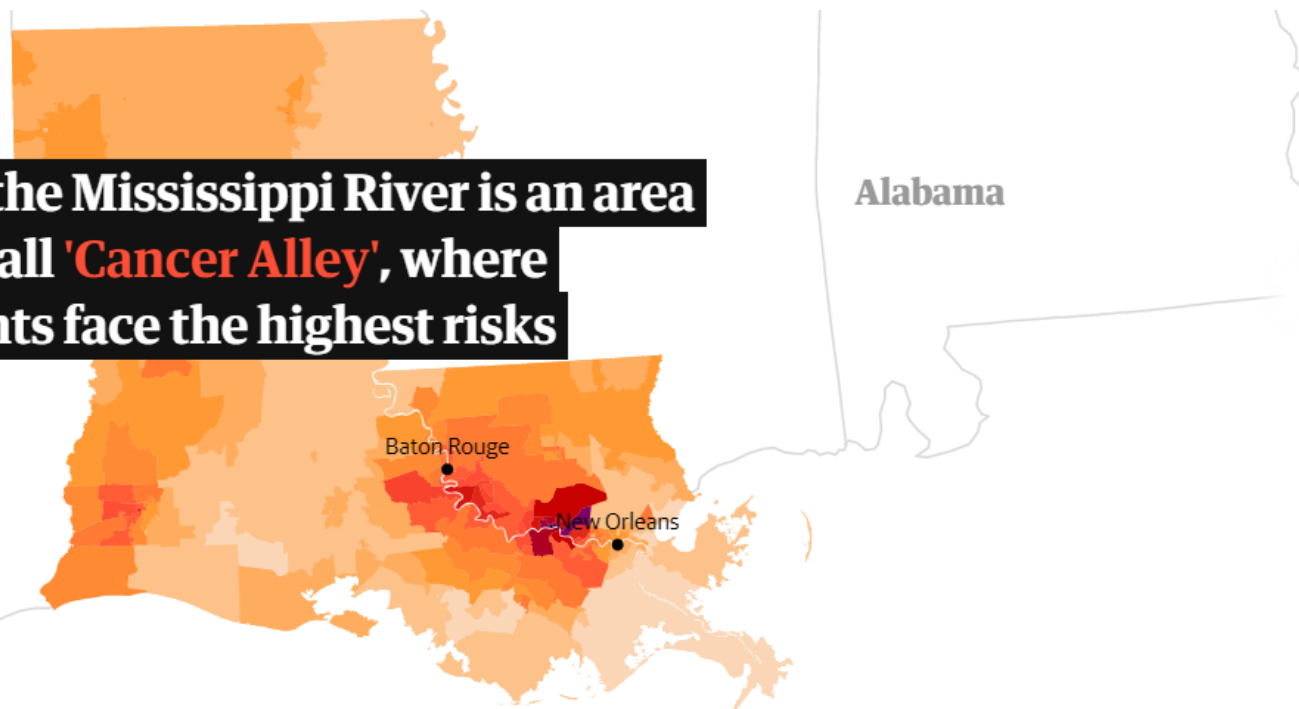




<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2019/may/06/cancertown-louisiana-reserve-special-report>



Along the Mississippi River is an area some call '**Cancer Alley**', where residents face the highest risks



Source: EPA's National Air Toxics Assessment 2014



The New York Times



As Floods Spread in Mississippi, Officials Say the Worst Is Still Ahead



'Are You Sick?' For Asian-Americans, a Sneeze Brings Suspicion



An Old and Contested Solution to Boost Reading Scores: Phonics

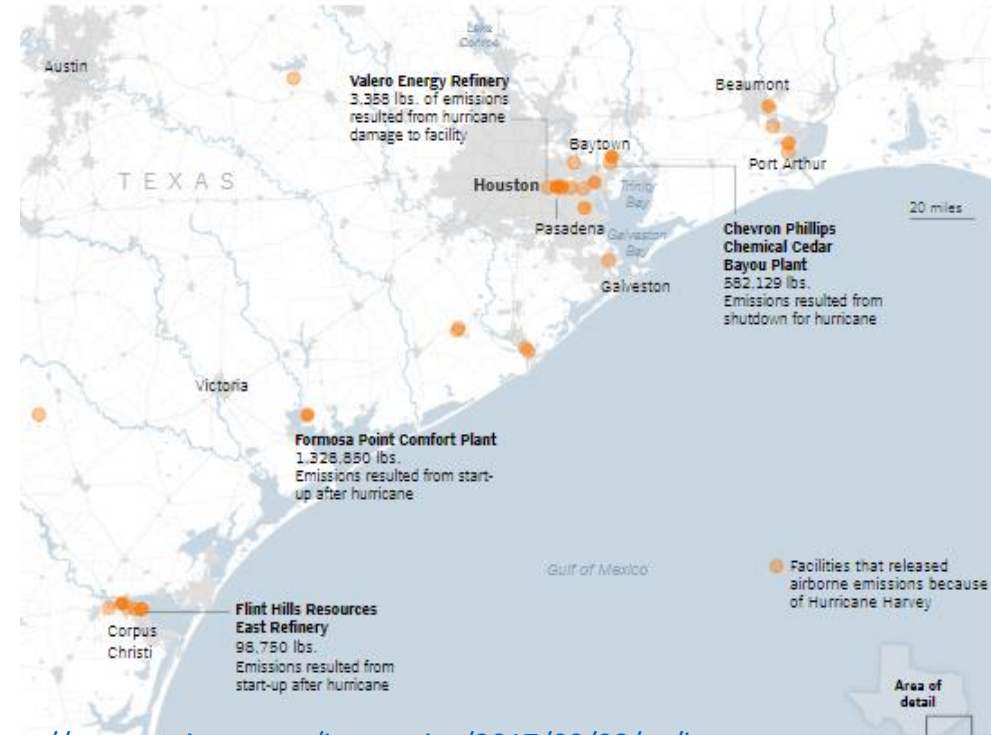
More Than 40 Sites Released Hazardous Pollutants Because of Hurricane Harvey

By TROY GRIGGS, ANDREW W. LEHREN, NADJA POPOVICH, ANJALI SINGHVI and HIROKO TABUCHI SEPT. 8, 2017

Houston's sprawling network of petrochemical plants and refineries released millions of pounds of pollutants in the days after Hurricane Harvey began barreling toward Texas.

Even under normal operations, the hundreds of industrial facilities in the area can emit harmful chemicals. But from Aug. 23 to Aug. 30, 46 facilities in 13 counties reported an estimated 4.6 million pounds of airborne emissions that

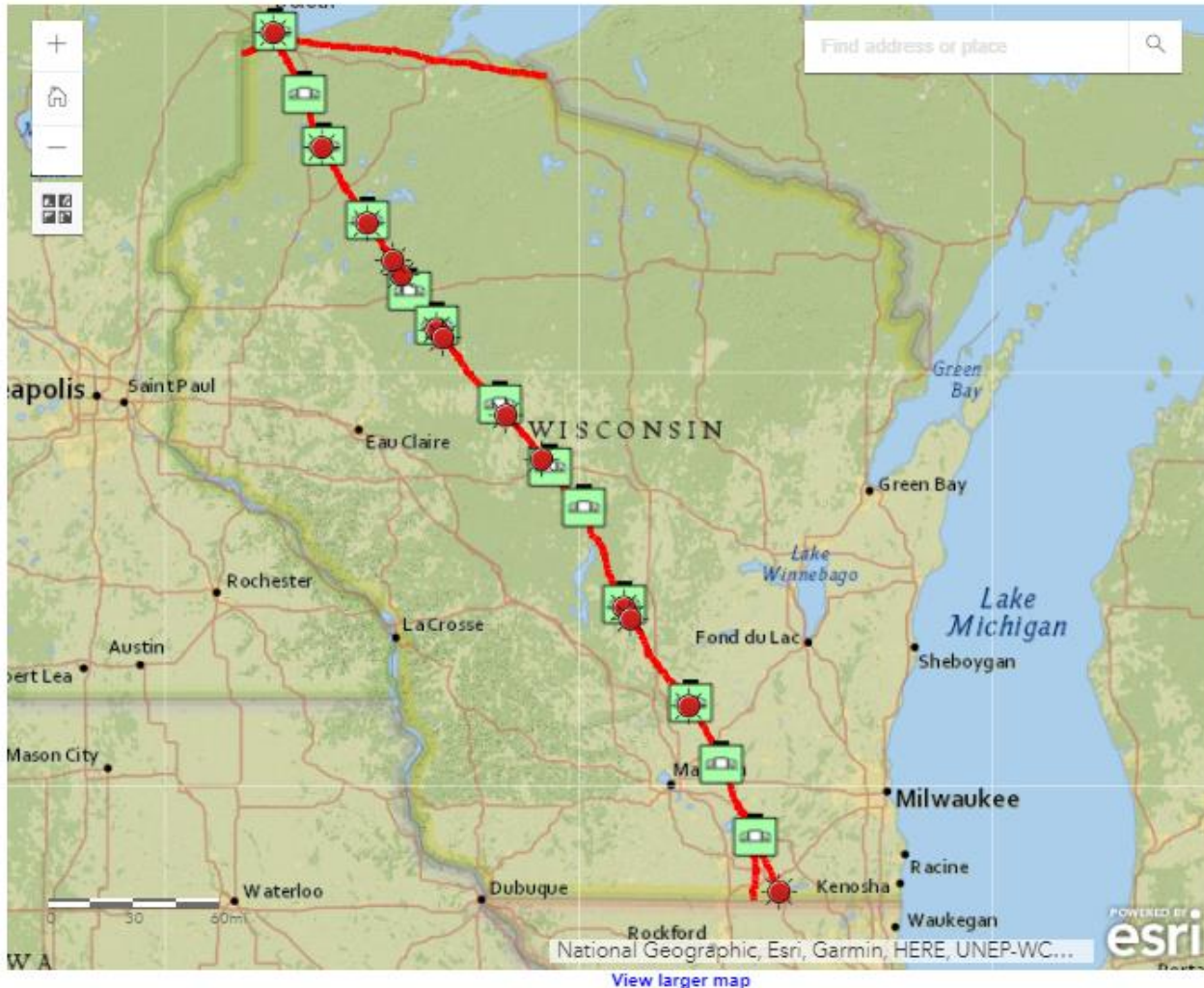
Air Pollutants Were Released Across the Region



<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/09/08/us/houston-hurricane-harvey-hazardous-chemicals.html>



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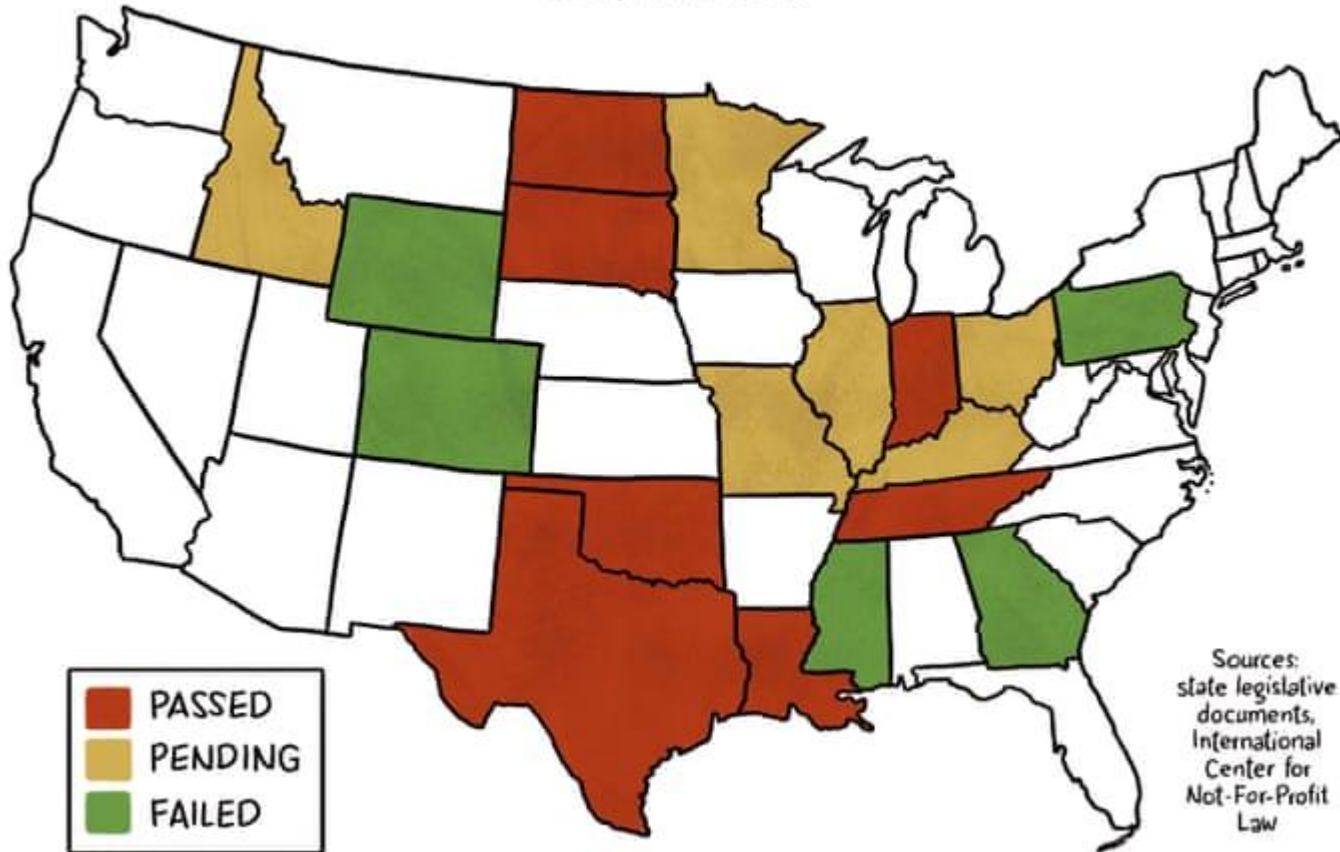
Enbridge, a Canadian company, wants to expand its pipeline network throughout the Midwest to transport tar sands from the Canadian boreal forests to the Gulf Coast, primarily for export. With aggressive campaigns on the East and West Coasts opposing export plans, **Enbridge is seeking to make the Midwest a tar sands freeway to get the oil south.**

Enbridge's Line 61 travels through Wisconsin from Superior to Delavan, then crosses the Illinois state line and continues south to refineries. **Enbridge is close to tripling Line 61's capacity** from the original 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) to **1.2 million bpd—45% more than the Keystone XL and 155% more than the Dakota Access Pipeline.**

<https://350madison.org/tar-sands-2/>



ANTI- PIPELINE PROTEST LAWS as of June 2019



Sources:
state legislative
documents,
International
Center for
Not-For-Profit
Law



2019 WISCONSIN ACT 33

AN ACT to amend 943.01 (2k) (a) 1. a., 943.01 (2k) (a) 3., 943.143 (1) (a) 1. a., 943.143 (1) (a) 3. and 943.143 (1) (b); and to create 943.01 (2k) (a) 6., 943.01 (2k) (c), 943.143 (1) (a) 6. and 943.143 (3) of the statutes, relating to: trespassing on the property of an energy provider and providing a penalty.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 943.01 (2k) (a) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

943.01 (2k) (a) 1. a. The production, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of heat, power, or light, or water.

SECTION 2. 943.01 (2k) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

943.01 (2k) (a) 3. A cooperative association organized under ch. 185 for the purpose of producing or furnishing heat, light, or power, or water for its members.

SECTION 3. 943.01 (2k) (a) 6. of the statutes is created to read:

943.01 (2k) (a) 6. A company that operates a gas, oil, petroleum, refined petroleum product, renewable fuel, water, or chemical generation, storage transportation, or delivery system that is not a service station, garage, or other place where gasoline or diesel fuel is sold at retail or offered for sale at retail.

SECTION 4. 943.01 (2k) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

943.01 (2k) (c) Paragraph (b) does not apply to any of the following:

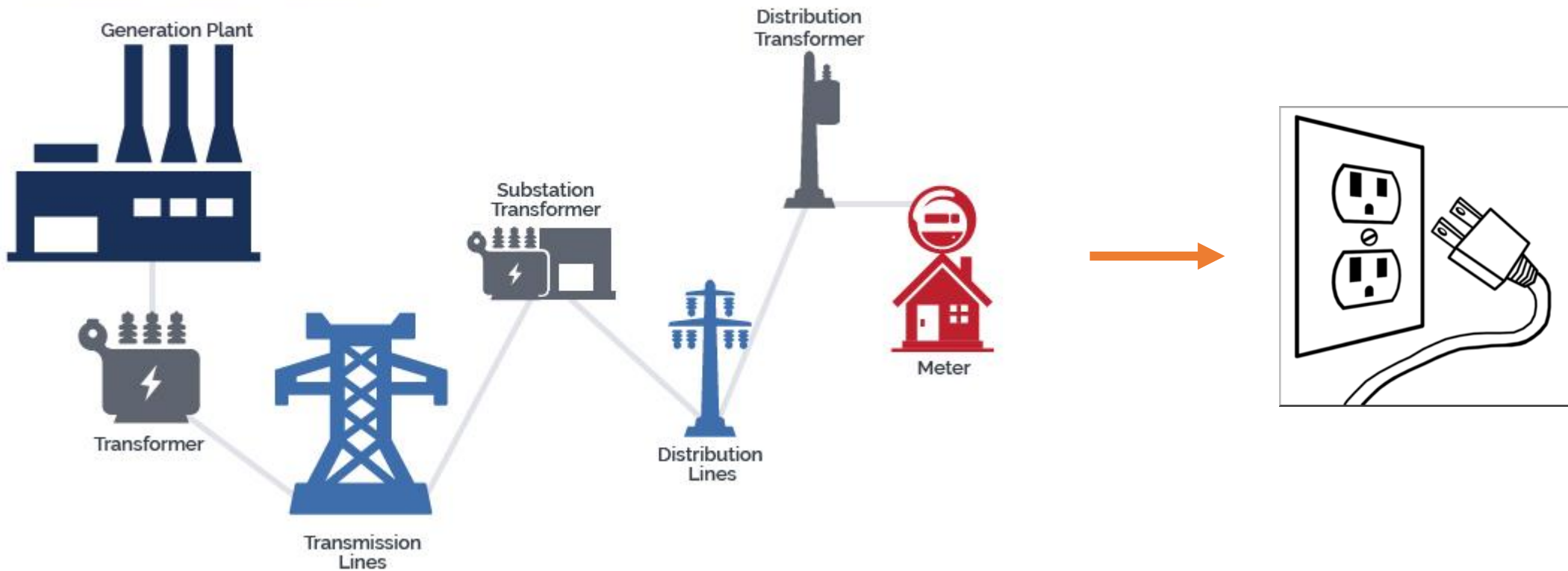
1. Any person who is:
 - a. Monitoring compliance with public or worker safety laws, wage and hour requirements, or other statutory requirements.
 - b. Engaging in picketing occurring at the workplace that is otherwise lawful and arises out of a bona fide labor dispute including any controversy concerning any of the following: wages or salaries; hours; working conditions; benefits, including welfare, sick leave, insurance, pension or retirement provisions; or the managing or maintenance of collective bargaining agreements and the terms to be included in those agreements.
 - c. Engaging in union organizing or recruitment activities that are otherwise lawful including attempting to reach workers verbally, in writing, and in the investigation of non-union working conditions.
2. An exercise of a person's right of free speech or assembly that is otherwise lawful.

SECTION 5. 943.143 (1) (a) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/related/acts/33>



The Electric Utility Network

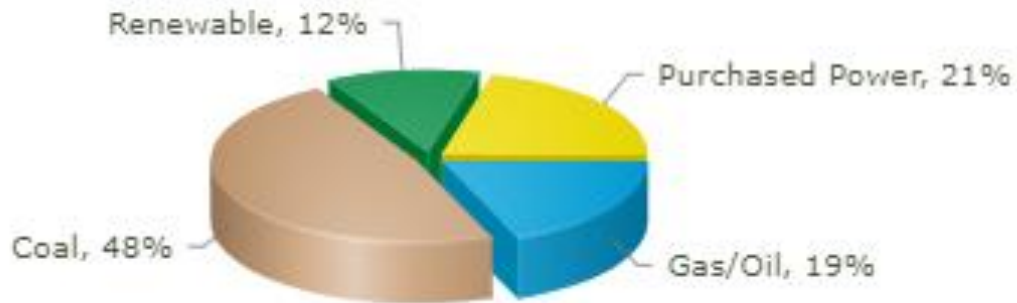




Energy Consumption – Electricity



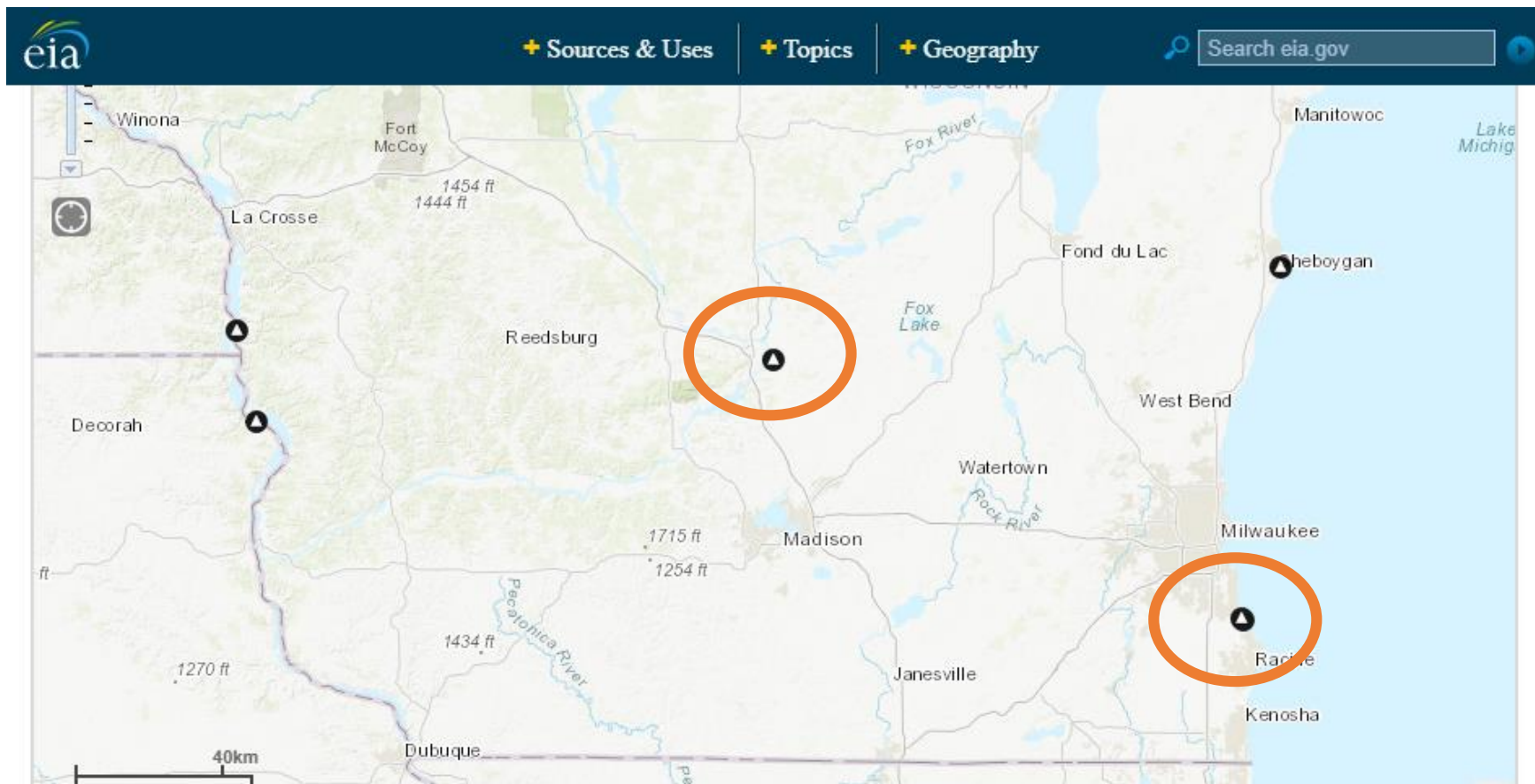
2016



- MGE owns 8.3% of the Elm Road Generating Station in Oak Creek that has state-of-the-art emission controls.
- MGE owns 20.4% of the Columbia Energy Center, which has ongoing major projects to update its emission control technology. MGE is in the process of reducing its ownership share in the Columbia Energy Center in Portage.



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<https://www.eia.gov/state/maps.php>



Oak Creek Neighbors Renew Coal Dust Concerns After Fence Falls

by Scott Anderson January 24, 2020



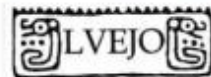
The fence, officials said, was put in place to slow winds down. (Scott Anderson, Patch Staff)





Coal Blooded

Putting Profits Before People

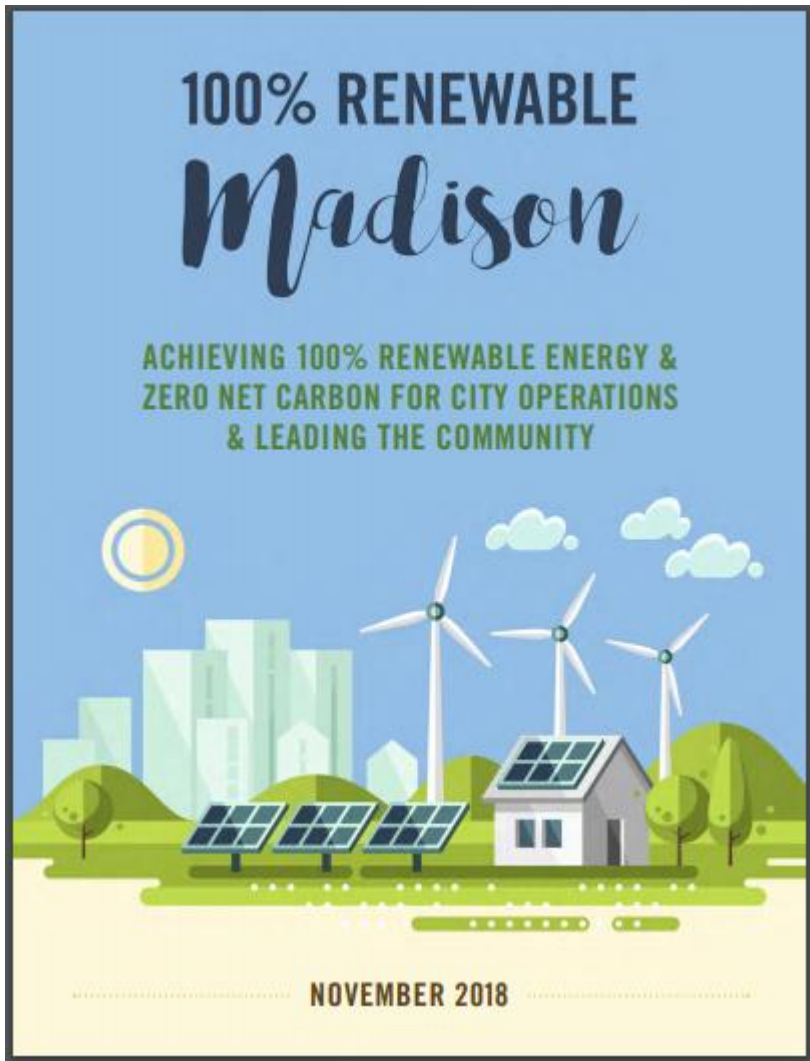


<https://www.naacp.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/CoalBlooded.pdf>

#4Valley Power Plant Milwaukee, WI



Parent Company: Wisconsin Energy (WE Energies)
Subsidiary Owner: Wisconsin Electric Power Co.
Built: 1968-69
Capacity: 272 MW
2007-10average SO2 emissions: 5,999 tons 2007-10average NOX emissions: 2,407 tons
Residents within 3 Miles: 209,421
Average income within 3 miles: \$12,852 (60% of Wisconsin average)
People of color within 3 miles: 66% (29% African-American, 27% Latino, and 10% Other)



4.2.9 Develop Green Zones and Energy Investment Districts Policy Framework

Green zones or energy investment districts provide a framework for equitable energy policies by infusing impacted communities with the financial and technical assistance needed for development of local renewable energy resources.

There are five aspects to this model:

1. Identifying overburdened and impacted communities.
2. Prioritizing identified communities for public investment.
3. Advancing on-the-ground models.
4. Providing resources and assistance to impacted communities.
5. Establishing community governance and democratic decision-making processes



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Midwest Environmental Justice Organization

Home Testing Starkweather EJ Project News Resources Gallery Con

Placing homemade fish advisory signs on Monona Bay, Madison, Wis. MEJO successfully campaigned to have permanent signs installed along shorelines where subsistence anglers often fished.

Environmental Justice News

PFAS Testing Don't kill the messenger: City water utility spokesperson falsely accuses media of bias

<https://mejo.us/>

Midwest Environmental Advocates

Midwest Environmental Advocates is a nonprofit environmental law center that works for healthy water, air, land and government for this generation and the next. We believe that every citizen has the potential to make a difference.


ENHANCED BY Google

About Us Ways to Give Issues & Actions Resources News & Events PFAS and the Great Lakes Region: A Tasteless Threat


Leading by Example

Midwest Environmental Advocates is pleased to honor Philomena Kebec of Ashland and Rafael Smith of Milwaukee with the 2020 Bill Iwen Environmental Justice Award. Philomena and Rafael are bringing about positive change in their communities by advocating for the rights of all people—regardless of race, income or zip code—to live in a clean and healthy environment.

The 2020 Bill Iwen Environmental Justice Award



Philomena Kebec



Rafael Smith

Congratulations!

<https://midwestadvocates.org/>



What is Environmental Justice?

Discussion Questions:

- What are some of the key take-aways from today's presentation?
- How concerned are you with environmental justice issues happening in the United States? In the Madison Region?
- What environmental justice issues you feel are the most pressing in the US? In the Madison Region?
- What should environmental justice look like in our own community?

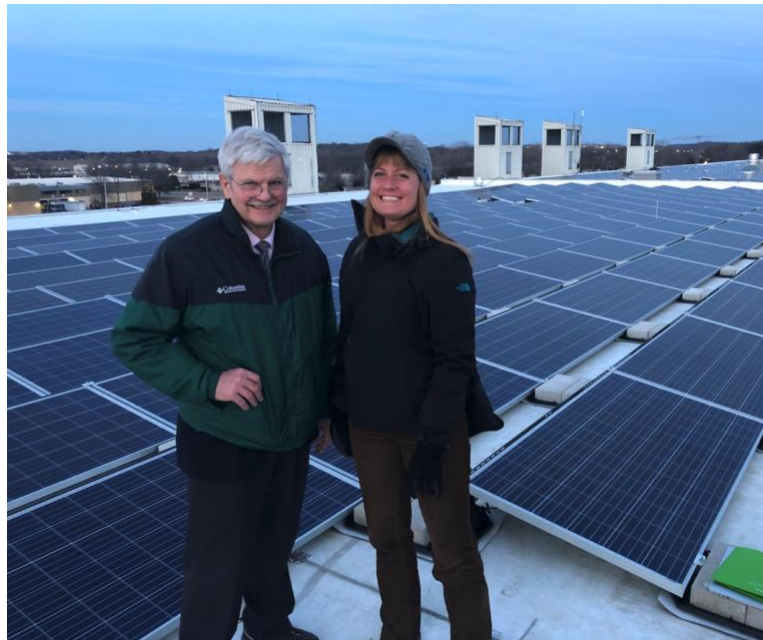


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Sustainability

THANK YOU! – Q & A



Source: Jeanne Hoffman



Source: RENEW Wisconsin

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