Justice40:
A Historic Opportunity for Transformation

Shalanda H. Baker
Deputy Director for Energy Justice
September 29, 2021
I Matter!
POLLUTION EXPOSURE BY POPULATION (2003–2015)

Exposed to 63% more pollution than they produce

Exposed to 17% less pollution than they produce

Latinx Americans

Black Americans

Non-Hispanic White Americans

Source: Christopher W. Tessum et al., “Inequity in consumption of goods and services adds to racial–ethnic disparities in air pollution exposure,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (March 2019).
PM$_{2.5}$ polluters disproportionately and systemically affect people of color in the United States

Christopher W. Tessum$^{1,*}$, David A. Paolella$^{2,†}$, Sarah E. Chambliss$^3$, Joshua S. Apte$^{4,5}$, Jason D. Hill$^6$ and Julian D. ...
Energy Burden and Energy Insecurity

**Energy Burden:** Percentage of household income that goes toward energy costs.

The lower your income, the more of your income you spend on energy.

**Energy Insecurity:** Lacking reliable access to uninterrupted energy sources at an affordable price.

https://www.iea.org/topics/energy-security
Households experiencing household energy insecure situations, 2015

- **Report any household energy insecurity**: 30%
- **Reduce or forgo basic necessities to pay energy bill**: 20%
- **Receive disconnect notice**: 15%
- **Keep home at unhealthy or unsafe temperature**: 10%

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Residential Energy Consumption Survey 2015
Shares of Households Experiencing Energy Insecurity by Race, 2015

- Hispanic or Latino: 45.0%
- White Non-Hispanic or Latino: 25.4%
- Black or African American: 52.2%
- Asian: 20.4%
- American Indian or Alaska Native: 61.5%
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander: 50.0%

Energy insecurity is the inability to adequately meet household energy needs, and includes physical, economic, and behavioral dimensions that lead to or exacerbate adverse health issues (Hernandez, 2016).
A tale of two cities - on the right is downtown Austin - to the left East Austin. Look who has power. @KVUE
How do we simultaneously transform our energy system and ensure it is more equitable and just?
National Energy Conservation Policy Act of 1978 (*Public Law 95-619, Title 6, Part 3*) created the **Office of Minority Economic Impact** within DOE (now the **Office of Economic Impact and Diversity**).

The statute outlines **5 key** areas of focus

1. Advise the Secretary of Energy on the effect of energy policies, regulations and other actions on people and communities of color, and minority-owned businesses.
2. Work with Energy Information Administration (EIA) on research and data collection to determine the effects of programs, policies and regulations on people and communities of color.
3. Develop and recommend energy relevant programs, policies and regulations for people and communities of color.
4. Assess energy burdens on people and communities of color.
5. Provide energy-related technical assistance and job creation opportunities for people and communities of color.
Justice40 Initiative

40% of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments—including investments in clean energy and energy efficiency; clean transit; affordable and sustainable housing; training and workforce development; the remediation and reduction of legacy pollution; and the development of clean water infrastructure—must flow to disadvantaged communities.
Justice40 provides a pathway for **equitable** deep decarbonization that **transforms** and **builds wealth** in underserved/overburdened communities.
A Just Energy System

A Just Energy System— an energy system that fairly disseminates both the benefits and costs of energy services, and one that has representative and impartial energy decision-making (Sovacool & Dworkin, 2014)
DOE Justice40 Priorities

(1) Decrease energy burden in DACs.

(2) Increase clean energy technology (e.g., solar, storage) parity and access in DACs.

(3) Increase access to low-cost capital in DACs.

(4) Increase enterprise creation (MBE/DBE) in the clean energy sector in DACs.

(5) Increase clean energy job pipeline and job training for individuals from DACs.

(6) Increase energy resiliency in DACs.

(7) Increase energy democracy in DACs.
Thank you.