



Clean Energy Superfund Toolkit

Across New Jersey, Latino and working-class communities are on the front lines of the climate and environmental crisis. From Elizabeth and Newark to Camden and Perth Amboy, families live near highways, industrial corridors, and flood-prone areas that expose them to unsafe air, polluted water, and rising heat. These are not isolated environmental problems — they are public health, equity, and human rights issues that demand immediate action.

New Jersey has taken major steps toward sustainability through laws like the **Environmental Justice Law (A2212/S232)**, the **Clean Energy Act of 2024 (S2371/A1480)**, and the proposed **Climate Superfund Act (S3545/A4696)**. But passing legislation is only the first step — communities must stay engaged to ensure these policies are implemented equitably and effectively.

That's where this toolkit comes in. It's designed to help advocates, residents, and organizations understand the key environmental challenges facing New Jersey, connect with legislators, and take coordinated, data-driven action. By using the letters, facts, and resources included here, community members can influence decisions that shape clean energy access, public health, and climate resilience for generations to come.

How to Use This Toolkit

1. Review the background information on current NJ policies.
2. Identify your district's legislators using the contact roster.
3. Personalize a letter template and send it to your representatives.
4. Share toolkit materials within your networks, community meetings, or social media.
5. Follow up with legislators and stay engaged on upcoming environmental bills.

Key Statistics/Facts

Air Pollution & Public Health

- 4M+ NJ residents live in areas failing federal ozone standards ([American Lung Association, 2024](#)).
- Latino and Black residents are 1.5–2× more likely to be exposed to PM2.5; asthma rates among Latino children are twice those of white children ([NJDEP, 2023](#)).
- Diesel emissions from the Ports of Newark and Elizabeth contribute to high asthma hospitalizations.
- **Why it matters:** Cleaner air saves lives and reduces health disparities.



Clean Water & Flooding

- 350,000+ NJ households still get water via lead service lines; 10% of water systems exceed PFAS limits ([NJDEP, 2023](#)).
- Latino and low-income communities are disproportionately in flood-prone areas. Coastal flooding could increase 10× by 2050; sea levels may rise 3–4 ft by 2100 ([Rutgers Climate Institute, 2023](#), [Econsult Solutions](#)).
- **Why it matters:** Everyone deserves safe water; investment in stormwater management and lead replacement is crucial.

Clean Energy & Climate Policy

- NJ Clean Energy Act of 2024 (S2371/A1480) commits NJ to 100% clean electricity by 2035 ([NJ Legislature S2371](#)).
- Community Solar serves 15,000+ low-income households, saving ~\$300/year per household ([NJBPU, 2024](#)); energy burden is 2–3× higher in Latino-majority neighborhoods.
- **Why it matters:** Expanding clean energy reduces emissions, cuts energy costs, and creates equitable green jobs.

Climate Change & Preparedness

- NJ temperatures have risen 3°F since 1900 ([NOAA, 2023](#)); urban heat islands in cities like Newark and Camden reach 10°F hotter than suburbs.
- Sea-level rise and flooding threaten ~250,000 homes and businesses by 2050 ([NJDEP, Rutgers NJ Climate Dashboard](#)).
- NJ Climate Superfund Act (S3545/A4696) would hold fossil fuel companies accountable and fund climate resilience projects ([NJ Legislature S3545](#)).
- **Why it matters:** Building climate resilience protects all communities from extreme weather and flooding.

Equity & Environmental Justice

- 310+ overburdened NJ communities house nearly 4M people, 60% Latino ([NJ Legislature A2212/S232](#)).
- These communities face cumulative pollution risks; EJ zones in Elizabeth, Perth Amboy, and Camden rank in the top 10% nationally ([EPA EJSCREEN, 2024](#)).
- Community involvement improves compliance and transparency by up to 40% ([Harvard EJ Policy Review, 2023](#)).
- **Why it matters:** Centering equity ensures environmental progress benefits the communities most affected by pollution.



Organizations to Uplift

Make the Road New Jersey – Focus: Immigrant justice, housing, labor, and environmental equity. *Why to uplift:* Organizes Latino and immigrant communities in Elizabeth and Passaic to fight climate justice and fair housing. maketheroadnj.org

Groundwork Elizabeth – Focus: Urban greening, flooding resilience, and youth leadership. *Why to uplift:* Partners with schools and residents along the Elizabeth River to restore green infrastructure and train youth ambassadors. groundworkelizabeth.org

Clean Water Action – NJ Chapter – Focus: Water quality, energy policy, and environmental health. *Why to uplift:* Advocates for PFAS regulation, clean water infrastructure, and equitable clean energy laws. cleanwater.org/states/new-jersey

Ironbound Community Corporation (ICC) – Focus: Air quality, zoning justice, and anti-pollution campaigns in Newark. *Why to uplift:* Champions residents near incinerators and industrial zones for cleaner air and climate accountability. ironboundcc.org

NJ Environmental Justice Alliance (NJEJA) – Focus: Environmental justice and policy reform. *Why to uplift:* Unites grassroots leaders to push for the NJ Environmental Justice Law and equitable energy policies. njeja.org

NJ Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) – Focus: Renewable energy access and affordability. *Why to uplift:* Offers rebates, grants, and community solar programs for low-income and Spanish-speaking households. njcleanenergy.com

Isles, Inc. (Trenton) – Focus: Healthy housing, lead remediation, and environmental education. *Why to uplift:* Works with urban residents to improve air quality, weatherize homes, and advocate for housing-energy-health justice. isles.org

NJ League of Conservation Voters (NJ LCV) – Focus: Legislative advocacy and voter education. *Why to uplift:* Tracks environmental legislation and mobilizes support for bills like the Clean Energy Act and Climate Superfund Act. njlcw.org

GreenLatinos – Focus: National coalition of Latino environmental leaders. *Why to uplift:* Connects Latino advocates nationwide working on clean air, renewable energy, water protection, and climate policy. greenlatinos.org

Hispanic Access Foundation (HAF) – Focus: Leadership development, conservation, and climate justice. *Why to uplift:* Expands Latino representation in environmental fields through fellowships, advocacy, and public lands programs. hispanicaccess.org

Mothers Out Front – NJ – Focus: Women-led climate and clean energy organizing. *Why to uplift:* Mobilizes caregivers to advocate for renewable energy, electrified schools, and stronger air quality standards. mothersoutfront.org/newjersey

How to find your state & federal legislators

1. **Find your state legislator (NJ):** Use the New Jersey Legislature website “FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR” search — enter your home address to get your State Senator and Assembly members and their contact info. NewJerseyLegislature+1

Google Sheets Roster: [x 2024-2025 Legislative Roster Public Copy.xlsx](#)

2. **Find your U.S. Representative:** Use the U.S. House “Find Your Representative” tool — enter your ZIP or full address to pull your member of Congress and contact page. HouseofRepresentatives+1



3. **Local tips:** Ask for both the state-level office (Sen/Assembly) and the district office phone number; request meetings in person or short virtual meetings with staff to discuss the bill and EJ priorities. Always follow up with an emailed version of your ask and attach local photos/data.

Letter Template

Subject: Support the NJ Climate Superfund Act to Hold Polluters Accountable

Dear [Assembly Member/Senator ____],

I'm writing to voice my support for the **NJ Climate Superfund Act (S3545/A4696)**, a critical piece of legislation that would hold fossil fuel corporations financially responsible for the damages caused by climate change.

Communities like mine have long faced the consequences of pollution, flooding, and extreme heat without the resources to rebuild. This bill would create a dedicated fund for **climate adaptation and resilience**, helping municipalities invest in **flood protection, cooling infrastructure**, and **public health protections** in neighborhoods most affected by environmental hazards.

Climate justice means ensuring that those who profit from pollution help pay for the recovery. I urge you to vote yes on this legislation and make New Jersey a national model for climate accountability and community resilience.

Thank you for standing up for environmental justice and for all the residents who call this state home.

Sincerely,
[Your Full Name]
[City, NJ]

Download & Share Graphics

Use our ready-to-post visuals to help spread the word about the NJ Climate Superfund Act and environmental justice in New Jersey.

These graphics are optimized for Instagram, Facebook, and X (Twitter) — perfect for sharing with your community or organization.

👉 Download the full graphics folder here: [Canva Graphics](#)

Instagram / Facebook / LinkedIn Captions

 Climate change impacts communities differently. Some neighborhoods face higher flooding, heat, and pollution. Explore the facts and think about what this means for your community.

#ClimateEducation #EnvironmentalJustice #CommunityResilience



 Did you know communities near industrial areas, like Newark's Ironbound, face higher asthma rates and flood risks? Learn the facts, share knowledge, and start conversations.

#EnvironmentalAwareness #ClimateFacts #StudentLearning

 Environmental challenges don't affect everyone equally. Discover how climate change and pollution impact neighborhoods and what students can learn from the data.

#ClimateLearning #CommunityHealth #EnvironmentalJustice

 Some communities are hit hardest by pollution and floods. Learn how climate policies aim to reduce risks and share what you learn with others.

#ClimateEducation #EnvironmentalJustice #CommunityResilience

X (Twitter)

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