

WNDC PUBLIC POLICY AND POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE
Positions on Environment

WNDC believes that all human beings have a right to clean air, clean water, and healthy surroundings. Racial minorities experience unequally severe impacts on their health and economic well-being from air and water pollution and from natural disasters resulting from climate instability. We believe that the climate emergency is a human-caused threat to all life on Earth, and that climate-related disasters are causing the disproportionate suffering of poorer nations and communities.

WNDC calls for policymakers to:

- Combat the racial injustice inherent in the industrial and agricultural practices feeding climate change and the pollution of air, water, and soil that most severely affects communities of color.
- Provide full funding for the Environmental Protection Agency and other environmental agencies at all levels of government, including funding for research and development in clean energy, ensuring that these agencies are sufficiently staffed with peer-recognized scientists and other experts in the field.
- Support international cooperative efforts to reduce air and water pollution, increase sustainable farming methods, increase water conservation, protect biodiversity, and assist poorer countries in mitigating the harmful effects of climate destabilization.
- Enforce strong standards for reducing carbon emissions.
- Continue to provide funds for transitions to renewable sources for meeting all energy needs.
- Support the goal of transitioning to 100% renewable energy sources by 2040 or sooner for electric power and transportation.
- Fund training for an expanded and diverse green energy workforce, including programs that enable workers in fossil fuel industries to transition to well-paying jobs in the new green industries.
- Collaborate with communities of color in the fight for a healthy environment and for robust measures to counter toxins from polluting industries and forms of transportation.
- Improve energy efficiency in private and public buildings and appliances and support the transformation of American manufacturing to be the cleanest and most efficient in the world.
- Enact and support regulatory frameworks that include strong safeguards on hydraulic fracturing, strengthened safe drinking water and clean air standards and regulations, and updated fuel economy standards for all vehicles. Support transitioning to electrically powered public transit, trucks, and private vehicles, including funding and widespread installation of charging facilities available to everyone.

- Promote growth in energy-producing communities and distributed energy grids.