



March 1st, 2022

Michael S. Regan, Administrator
Office of the Administrator (1101A)
United States Environmental Protection Agency
William Jefferson Clinton Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Requesting an Extension to Respond to Request for Information (Agency/Docket Number

EPA-HQ-OEJECR-2023-0023-0002), Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grant Program

The Environmental Justice Leadership Forum is a national network of 50 community-based organizations representing 22 states that work to ensure a diverse grassroots perspective is active in federal, state and local policy decisions. Our members are based in red, blue and swing states, including those in the Appalachia, Deep South, Northwest, Midwest, Northeast and Southwest regions and represent Black, Latinx/Latine, and Indigenous communities in large, midsize and small cities.

We look forward to providing substantive comments in response to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Request for Information (RFI) on the Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grant and providing community specific feedback on the design of the program. We are concerned that the 40-day comment period will not be enough time to gather meaningful input from our constituents. **As such we respectfully request that the EPA extend the deadline for the RFI to May 8th, 2023.**

A well-designed program that reflects the needs of EJ communities who will be the main applicants to the grant program is essential to the effectiveness of the program.

We urge you to extend the deadline to respond to the RFI to a full 90-day comment period, to allow us to conduct robust engagement with environmental justice communities we work with.

Please contact naadiya.hutchinson@weact.org if you have questions regarding the request. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Arbor Hill Environmental Justice
Ayika Solutions Inc
CleanAirNow_Environmental Justice
Coalition of Community Organizations (COCO)
Duwamish River Community Coalition
Flint Rising
Green Door Initiative
GreenLatinos
South Bronx Unite
T.e.j.a.s (Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services)
WE ACT for Environmental Justice
West Atlanta Watershed Alliance
Wisconsin Green Muslims

Allied Organizations:

1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations
350 Bay Area Action
350 Montana
350 New Orleans
350.org
350Brooklyn
412 Justice
7 Directions of Service
A Community Voice
Action for the Climate Emergency
Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc, MA
Black Millennials 4 Flint
Building Electrification Institute
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Coalfield Justice
Clean Air Council
CleanEarth4Kids.org
Climate Reality Project, NOLA Chapter
Coalition Against Death Alley
Color Brighton Green, Brighton, NY
Community Collaboration On Climate Change
Concerned Citizens of St. John
Concerned Health Professionals of Pennsylvania (Physicians for Social Responsibility)

Conservation Voters of PA
Creation Collaborative
Defend Our Future
Earth Ethics, Inc.
EarthJustice
Earthworks
EcoMadres
Elevate
Environmental Defense Fund
Equitable Resilience & Sustainability LLC
Forth
Fran Aguirre, President, Unite North Metro Denver
Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition
Greece Baptist Church Sustainability Team, Rochester, NY
Greenbank Associates
GRID Alternatives
Gullah/Geechee Nation
Healthy Ocean Coalition
Hispanic Access Foundation
Hispanic federation
Inclusive Louisiana
Joy Southfield CDC
Just Solutions Collective
Kinetic Communities Consulting (MWBE) Brooklyn, New York
League of Women Voters Pennsylvania
Los Padres ForestWatch
Louisiana League of Conscious Voters
Midwest Building Decarbonization Coalition
Moms Clean Air Force
Nassau Hiking & Outdoor Club
National Housing Law Project
National Housing Trust
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Urban Mobility alliance
Nuclear Information and Resource Service (“for a nuclear-free, carbon-free world”), Takoma Park, MD
Occupy Bergen County
Our Revolution Ocean County, NJ
Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project

Pittsburghers for Public Transit
Public Health Law Center
Puvunga Wetlands Protectors
Rachel Carson Council, Bethesda, MD
Rethinking Power Management, LLC
Rewiring America
Rise Up WV
River Valley Organizing
RMI
Slipstream Inc.
Social Eco Education (SEE), Los Angeles, CA
The Greenlining Institute
The Wilderness Society
Tishman Environment & Design Center at The New School
Toxic Free NC
tUrn Climate Crisis Awareness & Action
Union of Concerned Scientists
Vote Solar
Waterspirit
Working for Justice Ministry, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Allison Park, PA
Zero Hour