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Contact: Pavan Vangipuram, Communications Director, Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition, pavan@michiganej.org

MEJC Condemns Governor Whitmer's Passage of Dirty Climate Bill

SB271 is 'a disaster' for environmental justice communities

Today, Governor Gretchen Whitmer will sign a new energy bill package into law. The package includes SB271, which concerns the means by which Michigan utilities generate energy.

For months, environmental justice communities have expressed severe concerns with this bill, which will fail to adequately reduce greenhouse gas emissions while bringing more pollution to Black, Brown, Indigenous and poor communities by promoting dirty energy sources such as fracked gas, carbon capture and storage, factory farm and landfill gas, waste incineration, and more nuclear energy.

Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition and allies issued [numerous documents](#) and [press releases](#) with clear demands and a consistent warning that **there is no climate win without environmental justice**.

**Statement from Juan Jhong-Chung, Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition
Co-Executive Director:**

“Governor Whitmer and her allies will try to spin the passage of SB271 as a victory for climate and environmental justice. In reality, it is a disaster for everyone but DTE and Consumers Energy. There can be no climate win without environmental justice, and environmental justice communities who will bear the brunt of this dirty law were systematically excluded, dismissed and ignored during its drafting.

“As Michigan’s largest coalition dedicated to environmental justice, we emphatically reject any notion that this bill is a victory for our communities. SB271 prioritizes corporate polluters like DTE and Consumers over our voices, and the result will be more pollution and fewer benefits for Michigan’s Black, brown, and Indigenous communities. Shame on the Governor and on every legislator who allowed this to happen.”

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The Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition (MEJC) works to achieve a clean, healthy, and safe environment for Michigan residents most affected by inadequate policies. We build power and unity within our community, so we all can thrive. www.michiganej.org