



CBCF EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKER

Unleashing American Energy.

Executive Order #14154

Date Issued: January 20, 2025

Topic: Environmental Justice, Transportation

WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?

- This order prioritizes fossil fuel production by expediting oil, gas, and natural resource development on federal lands and waters, revoking environmental regulations, and eliminating clean energy mandates such as the electric vehicle (EV) requirement.
- The order directs federal agencies to streamline permitting for energy projects, restart liquefied natural gas export application reviews, and rescind climate policies that previously limited fossil fuel expansion.
- The order dismantles the American Climate Corps and removes key environmental justice provisions, including Biden-era executive orders focused on addressing the disproportionate impact of pollution on marginalized communities. The order shifts the national energy strategy toward fossil fuel dominance, reducing federal support for renewable energy and climate action.



HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- Enforcement will occur through federal agencies, which must review, revise, or eliminate regulations that impede fossil fuel development. Within 30 days, in consultation with the director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the National Economic Council submit action plans for implementing deregulation measures, ensuring that permitting processes are accelerated. The Department of Energy will restart liquefied natural gas export application reviews, and the Environmental Protection Agency is expected to roll back emissions standards and other climate-related policies.
- The Attorney General is instructed to intervene in legal challenges against environmental policies targeted for reversal. Federal departments are also expected to deprioritize climate considerations in decision-making, favoring policies that expand oil, gas, and coal production while limiting federal investment in renewable energy infrastructure.





HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- This order has complex implications for Black communities. While increased energy production could create jobs in fossil fuel industries, these economic benefits will not outweigh the environmental and health risks associated with deregulation. Historically, Black communities have been disproportionately affected by industrial pollution, with many located near power plants, refineries, and other hazardous sites. The elimination of environmental safeguards and expedited permitting for fossil fuel projects could increase exposure to air and water contamination, exacerbating existing health disparities such as respiratory diseases and cardiovascular conditions.
- [The American Association of Blacks in Energy \(AABE\) acknowledges](#) the Trump Administration's focus on energy affordability, national security, and increased domestic production. The order accelerates oil, gas, and natural resource development by easing permitting and regulatory barriers, while the national energy emergency declaration aims to secure domestic supply during global instability. While AABE supports energy independence, it is deeply concerned about the rollback of environmental justice protections, including the revocation of key Biden-era executive orders on climate and equity. These changes remove critical safeguards for vulnerable communities disproportionately affected by pollution and environmental degradation.
- The order reinforces systemic disparities by prioritizing fossil fuel corporations over frontline communities, neglecting the need for equitable energy policies. Without targeted efforts to balance energy security with environmental justice, Black communities are at risk of bearing the greatest burden from increased pollution, climate-related disasters, and the long-term economic consequences of a fossil fuel-reliant energy strategy. AABE urges a balanced approach that ensures energy security without compromising environmental justice, advocating for policies that provide clean, affordable, and sustainable energy while protecting public health.
- Moreover, [the rollback of clean energy initiatives](#) including the EV mandate and climate finance programs—limits opportunities for Black workers in the growing renewable energy sector, which has been a pathway to economic mobility.
- The removal of [environmental justice measures](#) weakens protections for communities already facing the brunt of climate change, extreme weather, and pollution-related health risks.



HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

- The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) has advocated for energy efficiency but also emphasizes the importance of interventions that reduce pollution in marginalized communities. The CBC endorsed both the IIJA and the IRA, and former CBC Chair **Rep. Steven Horsford** issued this statement after discussing the legislation with Biden Administration officials in 2023: “The historic infrastructure package is investing billions across the country to create good union jobs, grow our small businesses, and protect our communities from climate change. Our discussion with Mitch Landrieu focused on how the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will create a more equitable and just future for all families, especially Black Americans. We want to ensure that every part of the Administration involved with the deployment of these funds is keeping a focus on the local impact, the local job creation, and the local investment. Working together we can make sure this historic investment also means that transformational change for the American people is on the way.” [Full Statement](#)
- On January 10, 2025, **Rep. Troy A. Carter, Sr.**, 1st Vice Chair of the CBC, announced \$30 million in grants for his district that will support [over 100](#) electric vehicle chargers and a non-profit that works to build [climate resilience](#) in New Orleans, a city that has been ravaged by natural disasters. The projects were funded through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), but this executive order suspended funding for many [infrastructure projects](#) in communities of color that were allocated through those pieces of legislation.
- On January 27, 2025, more than 15 CBC members signed onto a [letter](#) asking President Trump and the Director of the OMB to disclose which projects were halted by this executive order.
- To read more about the CBC’s legacy on environmental justice issues, visit [Avoice](#), our virtual library.