



CBCF EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKER

Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements

Executive Order #14162

Date Issued: January 20, 2025

Topic: Environmental Justice

WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?

- This order directs the immediate withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement and any related international climate agreements under the United Nations (UN) Framework Convention on Climate Change. The order halts all financial commitments tied to these agreements, including funding for international climate finance initiatives.
- Additionally, the order revokes the U.S. International Climate Finance Plan and requires federal agencies to reassess and rescind policies that were implemented to support international climate efforts.
- Moving forward, the order mandates that U.S. engagement in international energy agreements must prioritize economic efficiency, American prosperity, consumer choice, and fiscal restraint.



HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- The U.S. Ambassador to the UN is required to immediately submit formal withdrawal notifications from the Paris Agreement and any similar agreements under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Ambassador, in collaboration with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury, must immediately cease all financial commitments made under these agreements:
 - Within 10 days, the Office of Management and Budget must issue guidance to rescind any frozen funds tied to international climate finance.
 - Within 30 days, multiple federal agencies—including the Departments of State, Treasury, Commerce, Energy, Agriculture, and Health and Human Services, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency and other relevant agencies—must submit reports detailing their actions to revoke or rescind policies related to international climate finance.
 - The Secretary of State, Secretary of Commerce, and other agency heads involved in international energy agreements must ensure that all future engagements prioritize economic efficiency, American economic interests, and fiscal responsibility.





HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- The impact of this order on Black communities will largely depend on how shifts in environmental and economic policies affect issues such as pollution, public health, and job opportunities. Reducing international climate commitments could redirect financial resources toward domestic economic priorities, potentially leading to job growth in energy sectors such as oil, gas, and manufacturing. However, the decision to withdraw from global climate initiatives may also weaken environmental regulations, which would disproportionately impact Black communities that are already vulnerable to environmental hazards such as air pollution, water contamination, and climate-related disasters. Without international climate commitments, there may be less pressure to invest in clean energy and sustainable infrastructure, which could exacerbate existing health disparities.
- **Black communities** are more likely to live in areas vulnerable to climate-related disasters such as hurricanes, flooding, and extreme heat. Federal inaction on climate change intensifies these risks, leading to displacement, property loss, and financial hardship. The rollback of environmental protections results in higher greenhouse gas emissions and increased pollution. Black communities, which are already disproportionately affected by poor air quality due to redlining and industrial zoning, will experience worsened respiratory illnesses and higher mortality rates.
- The shift away from clean energy investments undermines economic opportunities in the renewable energy sector, where job growth has been expanding. Since Black workers have been increasingly represented in emerging green industries, reducing federal support threatens economic mobility. The withdrawal will dismantle environmental justice efforts, such as Biden-era policies aimed at addressing the disproportionate pollution burden on marginalized communities.
- Without federal leadership, initiatives to reduce environmental racism and ensure equitable climate policies will be weakened. The absence of U.S. leadership in global climate efforts and reduced financial commitments to climate resilience programs mean that frontline communities, including many Black neighborhoods, will have fewer resources to adapt to worsening environmental conditions.



HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

- The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) has fought for environmental justice for decades, including advocacy that created the Clean Air Act in 1963.
- On January 24, 2025, **Rep. Yvette D. Clarke**, Chair of the CBC, and 29 other CBC Members signed a resolution urging President Trump to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement and demanding that Congress to “prioritize the United States global leadership on addressing climate change.” [Full Statement](#)
- To read more about the CBC’s legacy on environmental justice issues, visit [Avoice](#), our virtual library.