

NAACP

San Luis Obispo County Branch

 **INDIVISIBLE**
RAPID RESPONSE TEAM SLO COUNTY

Open Letter to Congress

Contributor: Denise Yaffe, *NAACP SLO Environmental Justice Chair*,

Treatise Topic: Environment, Climate Justice

The Environmental and Climate Justice Committee of the NAACP SLO Branch shall:

- Seek to address environmental inequities at the local level and advocate for civil rights issues.
- Develop a comprehensive and holistic agenda to reduce pollution.
- Advance energy efficiency and clean energy.
- Build disaster-resilient infrastructure policies and practices.

We are asking community leaders and representatives to address environmental and climate injustice by:

- Addressing unsustainable development patterns that increase the exposure to climate hazards and pollution to ecosystems and people.

The Dana Reserve Project will negatively impact the whole Nipomo Community. The Environmental Impact Report identified nineteen unmitigable and significant issues. The project impacts air quality, increases greenhouse gas emissions, and destroys special habitats, through the removal of 3,948 mature oak trees, and federally endangered species. It does not address issues of affordable housing. A few multifamily units will be built within the commercial area and five hundred feet of the 101 Freeway. Community concerns are being ignored as this development project is being framed to increase housing.

- Seeking meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. This includes listening and acknowledging community concerns.
- Halt and reverse deforestation, reduce methane emissions, and speed up the process of switching to electric vehicles. This requires the support and increase the infrastructure and cost to switch to electric vehicles.
- To set aggressive targets to transition the economy away from fossil fuels, in alignment with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's designated pathway to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, keeping global warming below the 1.5 C preferred limits of the Paris Agreement, and end all new fossil fuel exploration and extraction immediately.
- Oppose false geo-technologies like carbon capture sequestration and
- To ensure a just transition for communities and workers to a carbon free economy.

Contact your Congressman. Share your thoughts.

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