



## **AABE Energy and Environmental Justice Principles**

The American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) recognizes the need for increased participation in the discussion on energy and environmental justice by members of the energy industry. To that end, AABE supports the following energy and environmental justice principles.<sup>1</sup>

- AABE believes all people are entitled to a clean and healthy environment in which to live, work, and play. To be good neighbors, the energy industry should seek to utilize the most feasible, energy efficient and environmentally protective practices in its operations to protect human health and the environment. It should seek to avoid, reduce, and eliminate potential cumulative and disproportionate impacts on communities that could result from energy operations.
- AABE believe facilities associated with energy production should be compliant with all regulations and industry representatives should work with regulators and community stakeholders to develop effective and economically feasible best management practices that are protective of the health and safety of nearby communities.
- AABE believes the energy industry should support non-residential land use near its facilities.
- AABE believes regulatory actions should be based on recognized scientific principles to support informed policy and decision making.
- AABE believes the sustainable production of energy requires the deliberative management of our air and water resources throughout the energy life cycle and a conscious effort to reduce air emissions, effluent discharges, and other wastes from all activities associated with energy production.
- AABE believes energy policy initiatives should strategically and cooperatively engage low income and disadvantaged communities to address their energy needs while also protecting the environment.
- AABE believes socioeconomic vulnerability is correlated to environmental injustice and sufficient public investment should be made to reduce vulnerability to improve public health outcomes for members of disadvantaged communities.

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by the AABE Board of Directors (November 2012)



- AABE believes underserved communities that host energy resources and facilities should directly benefit from the presence of these facilities with jobs and supplier opportunities because public health outcomes are influenced by personal income levels.