

EJ in California Climate Policy

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JUSTICE ALLIANCE



CEJA ACTION
A PROJECT OF TIDES ADVOCACY



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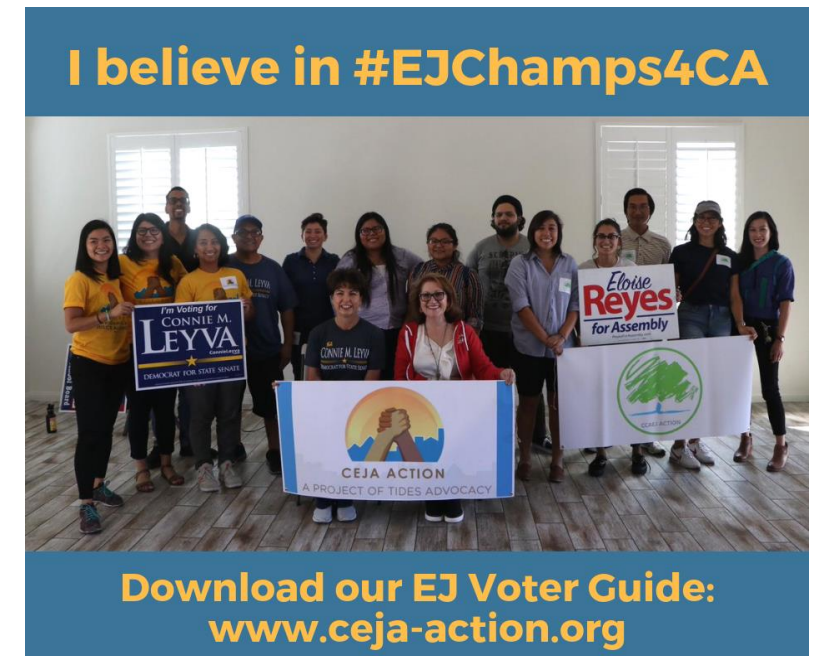
Our Mission

The California Environmental Justice Alliance is a statewide, community-led alliance that works to achieve environmental justice by advancing policy solutions.

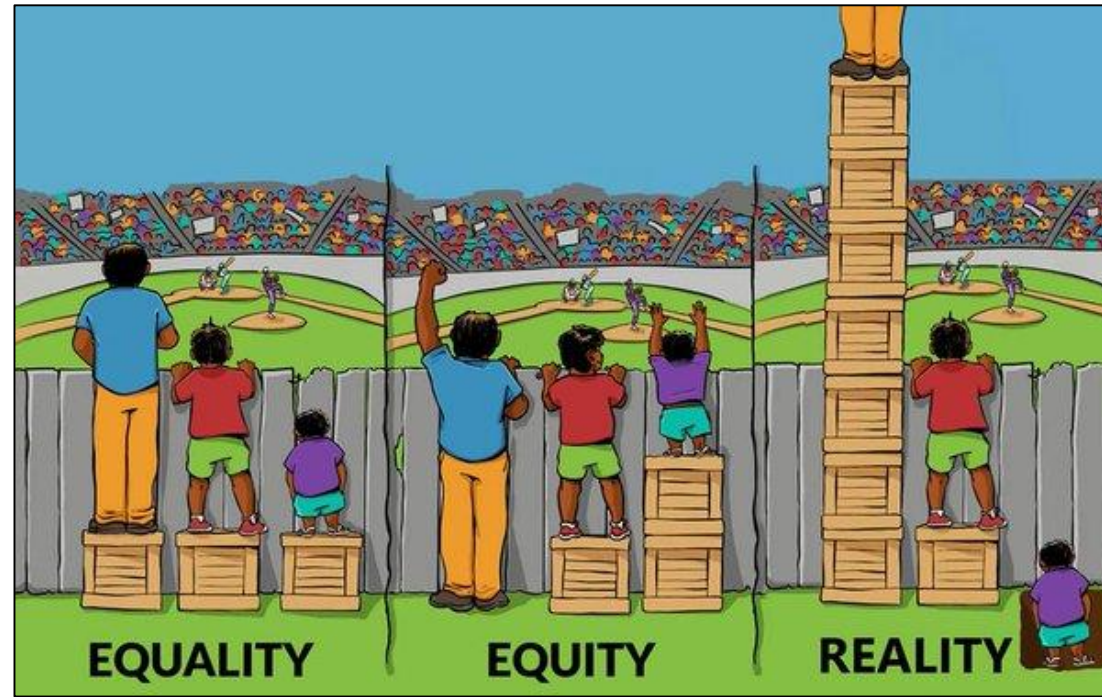


CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE





Principles of Environmental Justice



- People speak for themselves; bottom-up organizing
- Stop doing harm
- Ensure intentional, community-defined benefit
- Intersectional policy/implementation
- <https://www.ejnet.org/ej/>



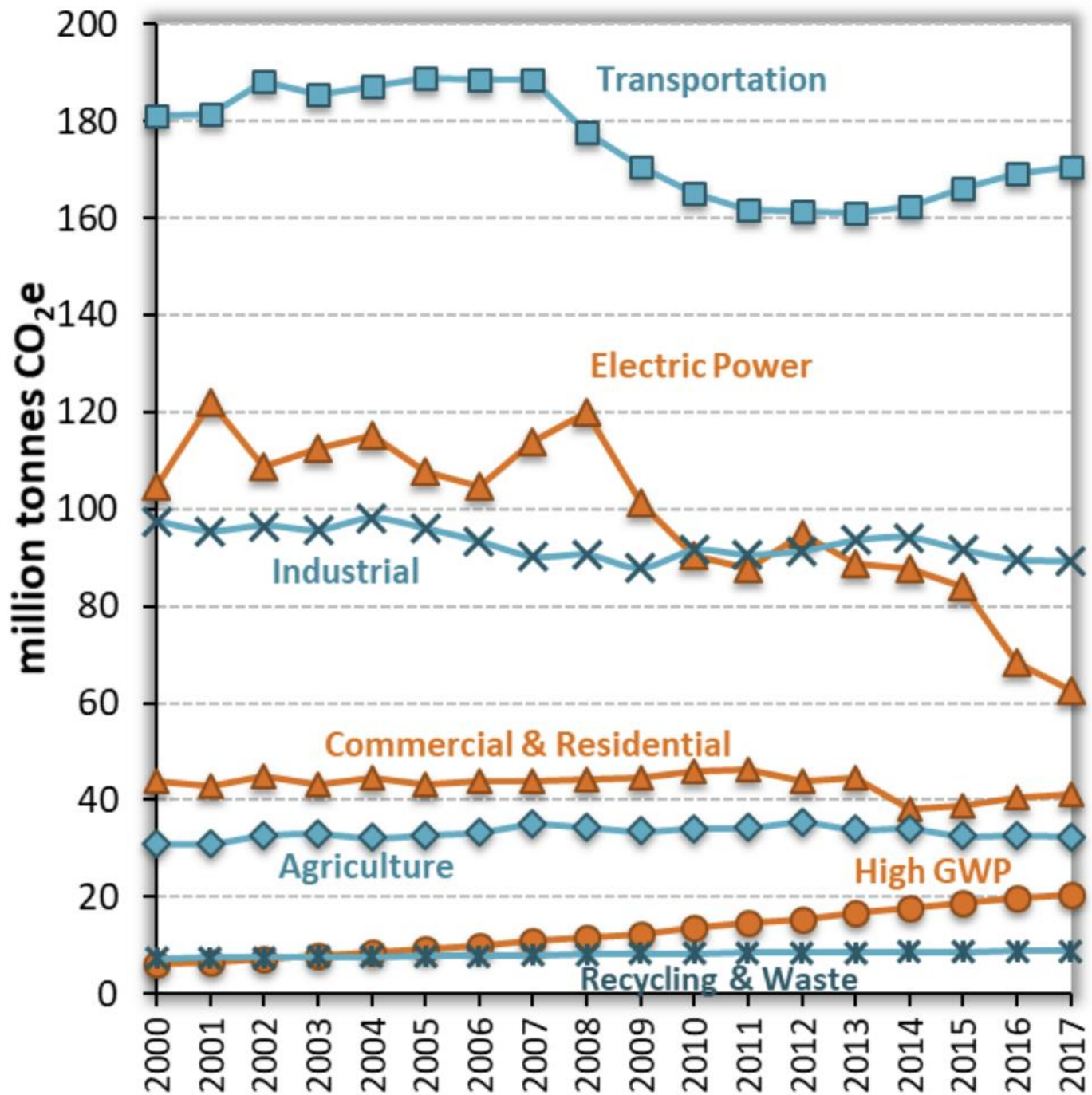


AB 32 (Núñez)

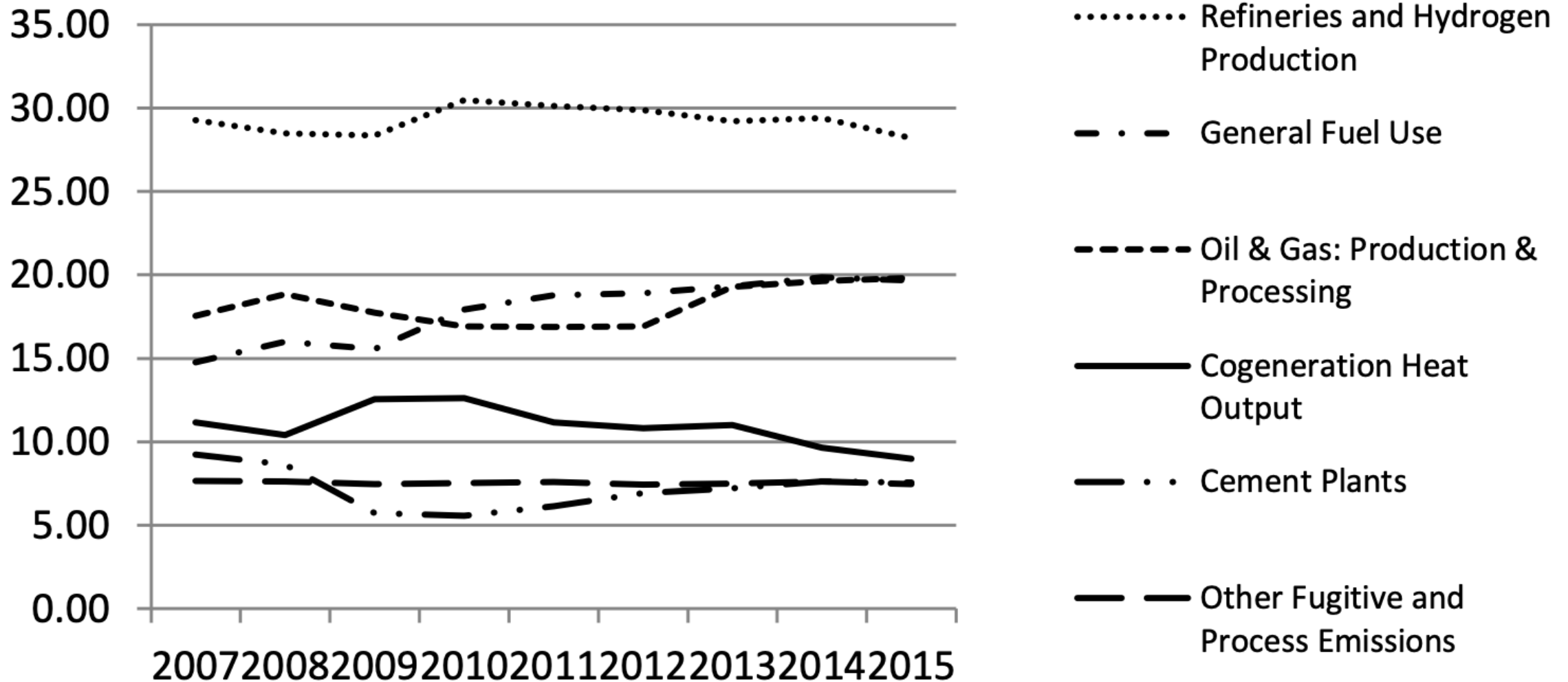
- **California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006**
- Established the 2020 target
- Identified that low-income communities and communities of color need special attention:
 - Required ARB to establish the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee
 - Required outreach in EJ communities before adopting plans and regulations
 - Required ARB to ensure the regulations do not disproportionately impact those communities

Excerpts from AB 32

- “The state board shall ensure that the greenhouse gas emission reduction rules, regulations, programs, mechanisms, and incentives under its jurisdiction, where applicable and to the extent feasible, **direct public and private investment toward the most disadvantaged communities in California** and provide an opportunity for small businesses, schools, affordable housing associations, and other community institutions to participate in and benefit from statewide efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.” (emphasis added)
- “Prior to the inclusion of any market-based compliance mechanism in the regulations, to the extent feasible and in furtherance of achieving the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit, the state board shall do all of the following:
 - “(1) Consider the potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative emission impacts from these mechanisms, including localized impacts in communities that are already adversely impacted by air pollution.
 - “(2) Design any market-based compliance mechanism to prevent any increase in the emissions of toxic air contaminants or criteria air pollutants.”



California GHG Inventory, 2000-2015: Industry



"We now know that we are not on a line that's going to meet the 2030 target, much less the 2045 goal of carbon neutrality. And so we're going to have to step back and take a serious look at the role that Cap-and-Trade, and other measures, play in getting us to that point."

- Chair Nichols, Dec. 13 2018 ARB hearing



Enter: Geoengineering

Executive Department

State of California

EXECUTIVE ORDER B-55-18 TO ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRALITY

WHEREAS climate change is causing historic droughts, devastating wildfires, torrential storms, extreme heat, the death of millions of trees, billions of dollars in property damage, and threats to human health and food supplies; and

WHEREAS California's forests, agricultural and ranch lands, wetlands, oceans, and other natural and working landscapes define the beauty and well-being of our state, but tragically are suffering increasing degradation caused by changing climate; and

WHEREAS California has established ambitious targets to reduce carbon emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS nations came together to adopt the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which calls for preventing average global temperatures from rising more than 2°C (3.6°F) above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to keep warming below 1.5°C (2.7°F); and

WHEREAS California has strong partnerships through the Under2Coalition with more than 200 jurisdictions around the world, representing 1.3 billion people, committing themselves to meeting the Paris Agreement goals and going beyond them wherever possible; and

WHEREAS scientists agree that worldwide carbon pollution must start trending downward by 2020, and carbon neutrality—the point at which the removal of carbon pollution from the atmosphere meets or exceeds emissions—must be achieved by midcentury; and

WHEREAS the achievement of carbon neutrality will require both significant reductions in carbon pollution and removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, including sequestration in forests, soils, and other natural landscapes; and

WHEREAS California's 2017 Climate Scoping Plan charts the steps to achieve the state's greenhouse gas emissions goals, presenting a balanced set of economically viable and technologically feasible actions for carbon reduction; and

WHEREAS California has taken the following specific steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

- Requiring significant reductions of destructive super pollutants including black carbon and methane;
- Supporting clean transportation to reduce petroleum use 45 percent by 2030;
- Setting a goal of 5 million zero emission vehicles by 2030;
- Proposing to double the reduction in the carbon intensity of fuels through the Low Carbon Fuel Standard by 2030;
- Moving the state to 100 percent clean energy by 2045;
- Requiring the state to double the rate of energy efficiency savings in buildings;
- Extending and improving the state's cap-and-trade program;
- Directing cap-and-trade funds to greenhouse gas reducing programs which benefit disadvantaged communities;
- Developing a Forest Carbon Plan to better manage California's forest land.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this Executive Order, effective immediately:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. A new statewide goal is established to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible, and no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative emissions thereafter. This goal is in addition to the existing statewide targets of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
2. The California Air Resources Board shall work with relevant state agencies to develop a framework for implementation and accounting that tracks progress toward this goal.
3. The California Air Resources Board shall work with relevant state agencies to ensure future Scoping Plans identify and recommend measures to achieve the carbon neutrality goal.
4. The California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the California Air Resources Board, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture shall include sequestration targets in the Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan consistent with the carbon neutrality goal.
5. All policies and programs undertaken to achieve carbon neutrality shall seek to improve air quality and support the health and economic resiliency of urban and rural communities, particularly low-income and disadvantaged communities.
6. All policies and programs undertaken to achieve carbon neutrality shall be implemented in a manner that supports climate adaptation and biodiversity, including protection of the state's water supply, water quality and native plants and animals.
7. State agencies will engage the support, participation, and partnership of universities, businesses, investors, and communities, as appropriate, to achieve the goals contained in this order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 10th day of September 2018.

EDMUND G. BROWN, JR.
Governor of California

ATTEST:

ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State



100% Clean: How Do We Actually Get There?

By [Steve Capanna](#) / [Bio](#) / Published: October 22, 2019

For the U.S. to do its part to help avoid the worst impacts of climate change, we must achieve a 100% clean economy by 2050 at the latest – removing at least as much climate pollution from the atmosphere as we put into it each year. (Read [this](#) for more on what we mean by “100% clean” or why this should be the goal.) But what does a 100% clean economy actually look like and how do we get there?

- **Removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.** Protecting and increasing natural carbon “sinks” like forests or by deploying technologies that suck CO₂ directly out of the air can help lower concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, helping us reach 100% clean as quickly as possible. Also, because it will be very challenging to completely eliminate emissions from all parts of the economy, especially industry and transportation, carbon dioxide removal (CDR) can help ensure we’re taking as much carbon out of the atmosphere as we’re putting into it. There is disagreement over how big the potential carbon sink is from natural sources (the Evolved study, for instance, assumes the potential for natural CDR is large relative to other estimates). To the extent less natural CDR is available, we will need more technological CDR or more carbon mitigation.

Concerns with Carbon Neutrality







nature
sustainability

PERSPECTIVE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-020-0497-6>

 Check for updates

Evaluating the efficacy and equity of environmental stopgap measures

Holly Jean Buck ¹✉, Laura Jane Martin², Oliver Geden ³, Peter Kareiva¹, Liz Koslov ^{1,4},
Will Krantz ¹, Ben Kravitz ^{5,6}, John Noël⁷, Edward A. Parson ⁸, Christopher J. Preston⁹,
Daniel L. Sanchez¹⁰, Lynn Scarlett¹¹ and Shuchi Talati¹²

- Extends polluting actions, delays deployment of cleaner technology or stronger policies to reduce emissions at the source
- Fails to address co-pollutants
- Relies heavily on market mechanisms, which often assume a false equivalency between a pound of carbon emitted and a “credit” for a pound of carbon reduced.

Carbon vs. Co-Pollutants



- Criteria Pollutants and Toxic Air Contaminants
 - Examples: Particulate Matter, Ozone, Benzene, etc.
- Similar sources, various levels of correlation



Recommendations for Moving Forward

Fighting Climate Change and Improving Public Health



- Prioritize direct emissions reductions.
- Avoid sector-wide or economy-wide caps that don't include tools for addressing spike at specific facilities.
- **Let communities lead – statewide EJ Advisory Committee, agency leads on EJ**



Thank you!

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<https://caleja.org/>

<http://ceja-action.org/>