



Our Pollution Prevention Agenda

Communities that have historically borne the worst effects of pollution due to redlining and institutional racism shouldn't continue to bear the ongoing harm being inflicted on their health, well-being, and even life expectancy today. Yet under laws today, permits that allow businesses to pollute do not consider the effects of our history of environmental racism and the cumulative health risk and burden the most impacted communities face. We all suffer when we allow these environmental injustices to continue, but we can do something about it:

The CURB (CUMulative Risk Burden) Pollution Act



Requires monitoring pollutants affecting health that currently go unaddressed



Specifies communities that have been disproportionately harmed by pollution for specific protections



Requires the Washington State Department of Ecology to deny or condition permit applications and permit renewals that add cumulative pollution effects, with the goal to reduce pollution over time



Elevates voices of community members through frontline community participation in permit evaluations process

Applying the Principles of HEAL in Permitting

Washington State recently passed the Healthy Environmental for All (HEAL) Act which embeds Environmental Justice into state agency policies, budgets, and plans. The law would take HEAL a step further by requiring that environmental justice be directly applied in pollution permitting.

Multiple states have begun adopting legislation that adds stringency to and enhances public participation in the pollution permitting process, all with the express acknowledgment that cumulative impacts must be dealt with. **Washington now has a chance not only to join these states, but to help lead the path going forward for the nation.**

Front and Centered is a diverse and powerful coalition of communities of color-led groups across Washington State, whose missions and work come together at the intersection of equity, environmental and climate justice. Together and with key partners, our coalition actively works towards the vision for a Just Transition. We are the largest and most powerful statewide coalition of frontline communities which supports and builds a more environmentally just future for our families, and in doing so, a better future for all. Visit FrontAndCentered.Org to learn more about our work.