

### PLAN Environmental Justice History

Addressing our dependence as a nation, and especially in Nevada, on an extractive economy, is central to our Environmental Justice campaign.

Now, more than ever, we are highlighting the need for a change in priorities in our state and rejection of the long-held, corporate driven idea that without hard-rock mining, oil and gas drilling and other extractive development, Nevada's economy will fail. To do this, we must engage low- and moderate- income people and communities of color on the "myth of development" of the extractive economy, focusing on who wins and loses from this arrangement.

### Climate Justice Vision

PLAN works to put People and Planet First because we believe that in order to achieve climate justice we must address the root problems driving the climate crisis: economic inequality, structural racism and unbridled capitalism. This crisis is a reflection of a model of development that depends both on the exploitation of natural resources and of millions of people across the globe. Because this crisis impacts poor and marginalized communities first and worst, our priority is building power in immigrant and low-income communities to lead the just transition away from dirty fossil fuels toward a 100% clean energy revolution. We believe this transition is inevitable, but it's our job to make sure it's just.

### Organizational Goals

PLAN will deepen the fight for climate justice by building a diverse base of informed and active Nevadans including low-wage workers and coalition partners from non-conservation backgrounds. We will use our unique position within the progressive movement to frame climate change as a racial and economic justice issue, building on 20 years of collaboration with Tribes, communities of color and other marginalized constituencies in Nevada. These relationships will allow us to generate messaging and promote dialogue that reflect the root causes driving the climate crisis, tailoring our strategies to match. PLAN will carry these initiatives to the door of our constituents by organizers from those communities.

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### An Environmental Justice Case Study

PLAN worked with the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and others to build a broad environmental justice campaign to stop a proposed mine bordering the colony.

Medical experts testified that health effects of dust pollutants from the mine would disproportionately hurt elders and children at the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony. The Washoe County Commission agreed and it was the first-ever denial of a county special use permit of a mine in Nevada.

### Related case study articles

- [Chicago Tribune](#)
- [Arizona Daily Sun](#)

### Organizational Background

Environmental justice is one of PLAN's core founding principles. Our campaigns seek to enact concrete local and state policy changes that put **People and Planet First**.

Since 1994, we have led successful organizing fights against nuclear waste disposal at Yucca Mountain, urban water grabs, fracking, and oversight for transnational gold mining companies. PLAN seeded new environmental organizations in Nevada and has always prioritized collaboration with Washoe, Paiute and Western Shoshone people to protect water and stand up against harmful mining projects. For decades, PLAN has fought against corporate attacks on the public sector be it public lands, public workers or public education. We engage in this work using a racial and gender justice lens that lifts the voices of immigrants, communities of color, low-income families, women, and the LGBTQ community.

### Related EJ Media Coverage

- Mining - [NV Lawmakers Push Tax Break Lithium Development](#)
- Climate - [Hundreds in Reno Rally](#)
- Women's March - [Draws Massive Crowd in Reno](#)