



ALABAMA

Interfaith Power & Light

Occupy Alabama Public Service Commission

February 3, 2020

WWW.ALABAMA IPL.ORG

ENERGY EQUITY

According to Interfaith Power & Light, “energy equity” is when all people can access safe and affordable energy, and the health and well-being of all communities are protected—equitably—throughout the energy production and use process.

Unfortunately, the most vulnerable members of our communities are being hurt first and worst by our energy choices. The poorest members of our communities often have the highest “energy burden,” that is, they pay the largest amount of their budget for energy and suffer the most negative health effects from energy-related pollution. Our faith traditions call to us to reduce the burden on our neighbors by reducing our own use of energy that causes pollution and by transitioning to safe, clean, and affordable energy. The good news is, there are equitable pathways forward, and our faith communities can lead the way to a brighter future.

INTERFAITH STATEMENT ON ENERGY & EQUITY

- 1.** We believe that it is immoral for anyone to bear a disproportionate burden of toxic health effects from waste and pollution.
- 2.** We believe that clean, affordable, renewable energy is a holy goal worthy of pursuit by people of all faiths.
- 3.** We believe that our individual and societal energy choices – renewable versus non-renewable, equitable versus non-equitable – should be an expression of our individual faiths.

OVER 30,000 SIGNATURES

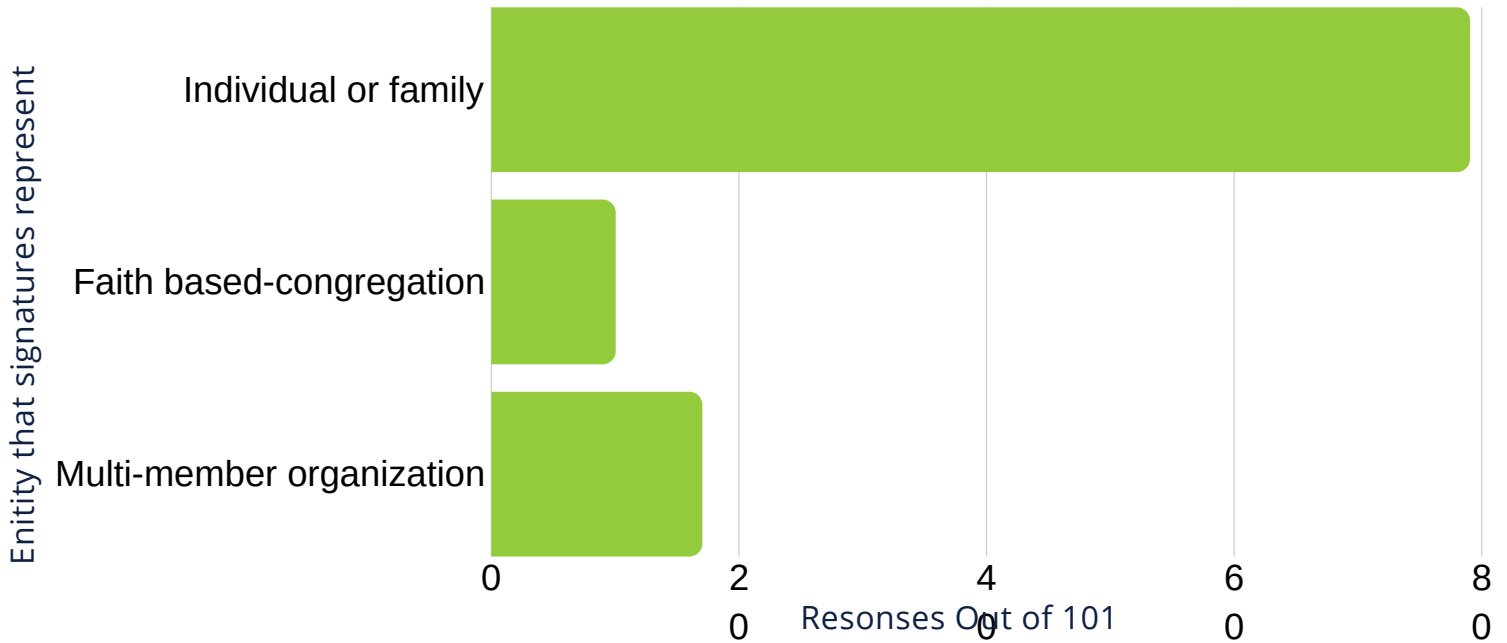
As of Feb. 3, 2020, Alabama Interfaith Power & Light has collected 101 signatures representing 31,928 concerned citizens, that are in agreement with our Interfaith Statement On Energy & Equity.

These signatures represent such diverse institutions as:

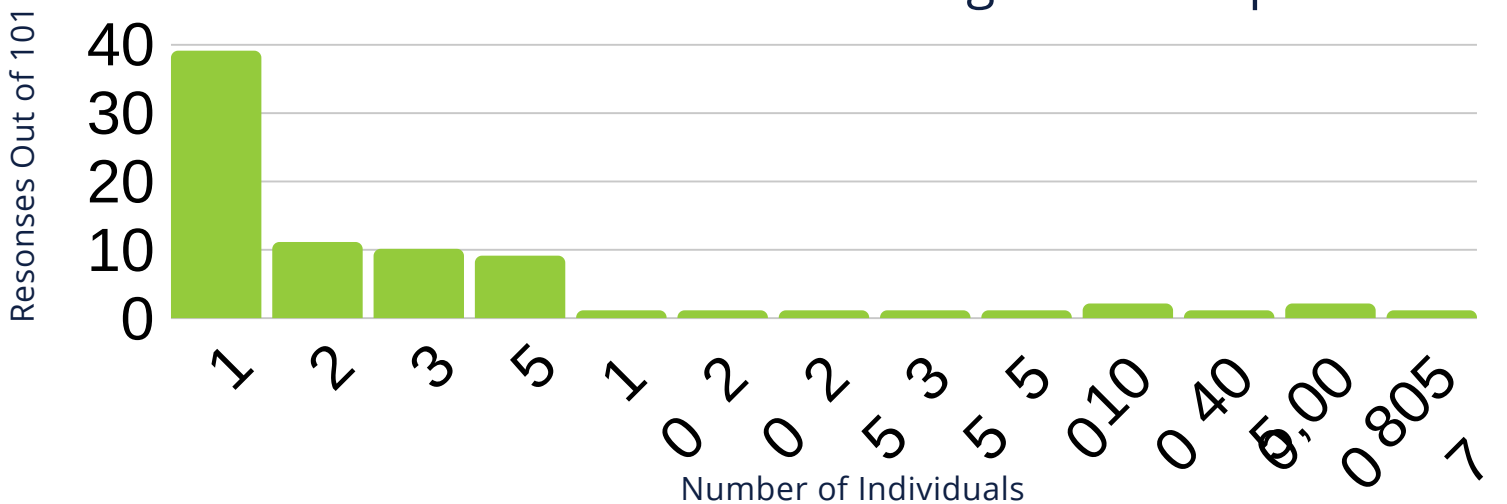
- Southeast Conference, United Church of Christ
- Task Force for Stewardship of Creation, Episcopal Diocese of Alabama
- Hometown Action
- Black Warrior Riverkeeper
- Numerous congregations of all faiths, including Episcopal, Presbyterian, United Methodist...

BY THE NUMBERS

Entity That Signatures Represent



Number of Individuals Each Signature Represents



ALABAMA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT



Originally organized in 2005, Alabama Interfaith Power and Light (AL IPL) was an active statewide presence until 2011. AL IPL has now been reorganized and re-energized by the new executive director, Rev. Michael Malcom, and a dedicated steering committee representing a cross-section of business, nonprofit, and faith-based communities from across the state. As the outreach and engagement arm to The People's Justice Council, AL IPL will focus on engaging the entire state of Alabama in combating climate change. We work in coalition with North Carolina IPL, South Carolina IPL, and Georgia IPL to address climate change and other environmental issues that affect the greater Southeast region.

Our overall goal is to engage all congregations of all faiths in the state of Alabama as AL IPL members and active voices in the fight for environmental justice. We also aim for every house of worship in the state to take steps towards increasing their energy efficiency, beginning with completing an AL IPL assisted energy efficiency audit. And, to make a commitment to the stewardship of Creation.

As grassroots organizers we believe that the voice of Faith Communities' must be brought to the forefront of the fight against the Climate Crisis. We exist to mobilize and provide the Faith Communities' presence in this discussion. We work with Houses of Worship from all faith perspectives to raise awareness around clean air, clean water, and clean energy. We equip clergy with resources to proclaim a message of hope around the stewardship of Creation. We empower communities of faith to fight against Environmental Injustices with an emphasis on black, brown, indigenous, and poor communities.

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



REV. MICHAEL MALCOM

Executive Director
The People's Justice Council

"Our goal at Alabama Interfaith Power & Light is to be the state's moral voice for Climate Change. Our faith demands that we are good stewards of the Earth. So far, the Alabama state government's efforts to sustain our environment have been insufficient, leaving black, brown, indigenous, and poor communities to bear the brunt.

We're hand-delivering these signatures to show that the citizens of Alabama not only believe in Energy Equity, but they also want our state government to care as well. Through a partnership with the Alabama Public Service Commission, we can apply our Interfaith Statement on Energy Equity to every aspect of policy.

Simply put, we believe that it is immoral to put profit over people and planet, and we urge the Alabama Public Service Commission to do what's in the best interest of our citizens."