

James Little

Dear Ms. Erin Torrone, I appreciate the opportunity to provide public comment on the proposed process to identify overburdened communities highly impacted by air pollution. The Climate Commitment Act's directive to improve air quality in overburdened communities is critical to ensuring that the law functions as intended to reduce environmental health disparities. I appreciate Ecology's ongoing commitment to incorporating public input and developing a comprehensive framework. Identifying specific communities is a necessary step to ensure the focused and strategic allocation of resources. However, the proposed process narrows eligibility in ways that may unintentionally and arbitrarily screen out vulnerable communities. The application of indicators in the proposed process also treats some similarly impacted communities very differently. I urge Ecology to refine both the approach and the process to ensure the equitable treatment of overburdened communities highly impacted by air pollution, specifically: Thank you for your consideration. Regards, James Little 5208 Latona Ave NE Seattle, WA 98105