Justice in Power Plant Permitting Act

Toxic and life-threatening air pollution continues to raise global temperatures to catastrophic levels and pose a grave threat to human health, causing stroke, asthma, heart disease, and lung cancer. Communities of color, low-income communities, and Tribal and Indigenous communities have been forced to bear higher burdens of these adverse health effects due to the concentration of power plants and other sources of air pollution where they live, work, and play, creating grave and longstanding environmental justice concerns.

To help address these concerns, Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney’s Justice in Power Plant Permitting Act advances the equitable transition to a clean energy economy by:

- **Preventing the permitting of major sources of air pollution** like fossil fuel-fired power plants, as well as other fossil fuel-fired sources within one mile of a large emitter, if the cumulative impact of the pollution would harm local communities. This would be accomplished by requiring a cumulative impacts analysis to determine the impact of the pollution on the health and well-being of local communities.

- **Establishing a $10 billion Just Energy Transition Fund to support clean energy projects** to replace plants that cannot be re-permitted under the new law. Projects would be eligible for funding if they support displaced workers, have the support of impacted communities, and improve the health and well-being of those communities. An Advisory Council, to include representatives from community-based environmental justice and just transition organizations, labor unions, and other entities, would help ensure that the grants advance progress toward a clean economy that maximizes benefits for communities hit hardest by pollution.

- **Ensuring that the federal government is a partner** in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and hazardous air pollutants by requiring it to use 100% renewable, air pollution-free energy by 2030. Progress toward this goal would prioritize federal facilities located near the dirtiest, most inefficient power plants, reducing the operation of these plants faster.