

POWER FOR PURPOSE STRATEGY WORKSHEET

BASED ON D.C. DAY OF ACTION BREAKOUT SESSION

MAY 10, 2023

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Glossary

- *Action*: Something that produces a reaction. Both our meetings with Members of Congress and work we do locally to generate comments can be actions, as long as there is a clear reaction we want.
- *Community*: your community; this could be your congregation or any other group you'd like to organize around the Power for Purpose Campaign.
- *Local power player*: a leader such as a clergy member, local business leader or local elected official who holds power and influence.
- *Pollution Standards*: Standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency limiting how much of a given pollutant (such as soot, smog, carbon, or mercury) can be put in the air/water. The EPA is required to update these standards periodically and Congress does not need to vote on them.
- *Proposed Standard*: A "draft" standard the Environmental Protection Agency shares to collect feedback on via public comments before finalizing it (which can take many months).
- *Final Standard*: This is the standard that power plants, automakers, and whomever is emitting pollutants must follow until the next time it is updated.
- *Comments*: The Environmental Protection Agency collects comments from the public on proposed standards. They collect these comments for a specific time period (usually 60 days) from individuals and from local power players. We collect comments to show broad support for strong standards during this process, and so that we can show the strength of our numbers when engaging directly with White House officials.

Creating Shared Agreements

When it comes to forming a team dedicated to implementing Racial Equity, diversity, and inclusion (REDI), it is important to have cohesion within the group. Although not everyone has to (or should) think the same way, a set of shared agreements allows us to hear *everyone* in the room and avoid *only* hearing those with louder, more culturally dominant communication styles.

Shared agreements are a *brit*, a covenant, used to create sacred partnerships and build and nurture relationships that make our work holy. Shared agreements also create safety and understanding within a group to foster transformation. They can be used in any situation where a team discusses challenging material and can easily become a normative part of your community's culture.

The following are some common useful examples of shared agreements that you can use in your group discussions. These can serve as a launchpad to creating new shared agreements that you and your group might find beneficial.

Please note: Members from various backgrounds and lived experiences likely will appreciate some of the specific agreements in different ways. What might seem silly, obvious, or even tedious to one might be *incredibly* useful to others.

Shared Agreements

1. We assume positive intent while acknowledging that intent is different than impact.
2. We acknowledge that people come from different experiences, multiple identities and cultural frameworks as they enter into this work together.
3. Pass/Participate: We are welcome to participate or pass, though we encourage people to challenge themselves to participate in conversation.
4. Take Space/Make Space: We are aware of how much we are participating. If some of us generally speak a lot, we consider making space for others to speak. If some of us generally participate less, we consider taking space and sharing with the group.
5. We use "I" statements and speak from personal experience.
6. "Ouch, Oops." We call in, and we do not call out. We understand it is okay to let people know if they said something that hurts and, in return, apologize for causing hurt.

7. We have not formed a safe space, but rather a “brave space.” We understand that growth requires us to be brave rather than safe; it requires us to share experiences, to be vulnerable, and to face feelings of guilt or discomfort.
8. We are conscious of who is in the room and any positions of power.
9. We listen to understand (rather than listening with the intent of forming a response).
10. We do not ask others to teach us about their identities and we are mindful of the impact of our curiosity.

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

Introduction Breakout Prompts

Instructions: Please answer the two questions below. Each person in your group has one minute to share. A member of the group can serve as timekeeper to ensure everyone has time to share.

1. Please share your name, pronouns, congregation, city / state.
2. Reflecting on what you heard during our plenary session, can you think of a time that you've seen a local action within your own community? What made the action memorable? What was the outcome of the action? Or if you haven't seen a local action in your community, can you imagine a local action? What would it take to make it?

Local Action Guided Discussion Questions

Instructions: Review the questions below. This is a self-facilitated exercise, feel free to answer as few or as many questions as your group would like.

As we heard earlier today, we can help win strong regulations to reduce climate pollution if we do two things: (1) Mobilize individuals to submit comments, and (2) Collect comments from local green business owners and local elected officials.

1. Who are local elected officials and green business owners in your community who you want to speak up for strong limits on climate pollution?
2. How are we going to get local elected officials or businesses to submit comments?
3. What are we going to do to get individuals to submit comments in our community?
4. What would people in your community be excited to do?
5. What are the obstacles to getting your community to take action?
6. What steps are you planning to take to bring local actions back to your community?
7. Who in your community do you need to talk with in order to move this forward?
8. What questions do you have about the local actions?

Local Actions Planning Worksheet

We are working in partnership with the Solutions for Pollution campaign, which includes dozens of environment, environmental justice, and public health groups all working to make sure the White House adopts strong standards limiting soot, smog, carbon, and mercury. As part of that effort, we are working to collect 3,600 comments by the end of the summer.

We can help win strong regulations to reduce climate pollution if we do two things: (1) Mobilize individuals to submit comments, and (2) Collect comments from local green business owners and local elected officials. The purpose of this worksheet is to guide your planning to collect comments from local green business owners or local elected officials. Please fill it out as much as you are able. It is ok to not have everything figured out now: any unanswered question is one you can answer as you continue planning in your own community.

Name, Congregation/Community, City, State:

I want to talk with the following three people in my community about building local support for strong climate regulations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

A local elected official or green business owner I want to speak up in favor of strong climate

regulations is _____ because...

OR

A step I want to take to research elected officials or local green business owners is

I want to mobilize this many people in my community in support of strong climate regulations:

I plan to use the following tactics to mobilize people:

- Individually reaching out to people and encouraging them to make comments
- Holding an educational event in my own community where we will make comments on regulations
- Recruiting people to participate in RAC events where we will make comments on regulations
- Recruiting people to a meeting with a local elected official/green business owner to talk with them about making comments

The following forms of support will help me be successful:

The first thing I will do after the Day of Action to move this forward is:

I will do this by:

Taking Next Steps

- Send the most timely message directly to the White House at www.rac.org/P4PAction.
- Visit the Power for Purpose Campaign Website at www.rac.org/P4P.