

“Embracing Environmental Justice Initiatives to Advance Corporate Objectives,” Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance

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Earth Week 2023 was highlighted by significant environmental justice developments at the state and federal levels, including commitments by New Jersey’s Governor to address pollution in disproportionately impacted communities and by the White House to further embed environmental justice goals in federal programs.

In this article, published by the Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance, our lawyers discuss the increased focus on environmental justice and related initiatives by federal, state, and local governments. Authors Partner Steven Siros, Special Counsel Tatjana Vujic, and Associates Arie Feltman-Frank and Daniel Robertson emphasize that integrating environmental justice considerations and stakeholder engagement into corporate practices can hasten the achievement of sustainability goals, strengthen companies’ reputations in their communities, and improve their bottom lines. They suggest that by taking steps to understand the environmental justice factors associated with existing and proposed facilities or expansions, build constructive relationships with external stakeholders, and address environmental justice during permitting, companies can be more successful at avoiding potential project delays and litigation risk while meeting increasingly prevalent environmental justice requirements.

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