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# *Marcus Hook Area Neighbors for Public Health*



**Cumulative Impacts Roundtable**  
**Tuesday 2/25/25**

# WHAT IS “CUMULATIVE IMPACTS”?



## Multiple Co-located Polluting Facilities

Southern Delaware County is home to multiple co-located industrial facilities, from trash and sewer incinerators to petrochemical plants, refineries, and factories. No permitting agency is looking at the cumulative impact of so many facilities in the same area, and how all of these facilities together overburden frontline environmental justice communities.



## Multiple Burdens and Community Stressors

In addition to all of the chemical stressors in the area, residents face a myriad of non-chemical stressors; from financial insecurity and food insecurity, to violence and crime. All of these stressors together, on top of the chemical stressors from many polluting facilities may lead to harmful cumulative burdens that have not been studied or assessed until now.

# *Cumulative Impact Legislation*

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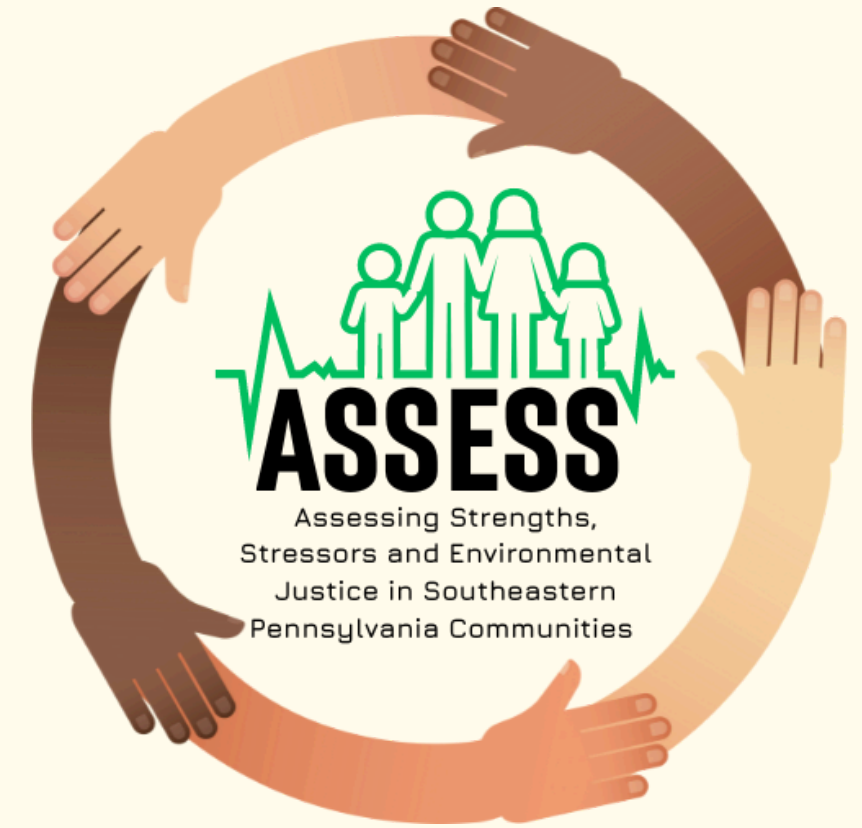


- Cumulative impact bills are one way states can **protect environmental justice communities**.
- These bills consider the combined impact of **pollution exposure over time, in addition to other social stressors** that disproportionately affect EJ communities.
- **More and more states are taking action** through Cumulative Impacts legislation including New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Connecticut, California, and others.
- Cumulative Impacts legislation could **prevent additional pollution sources** from being permitted in already overburdened communities

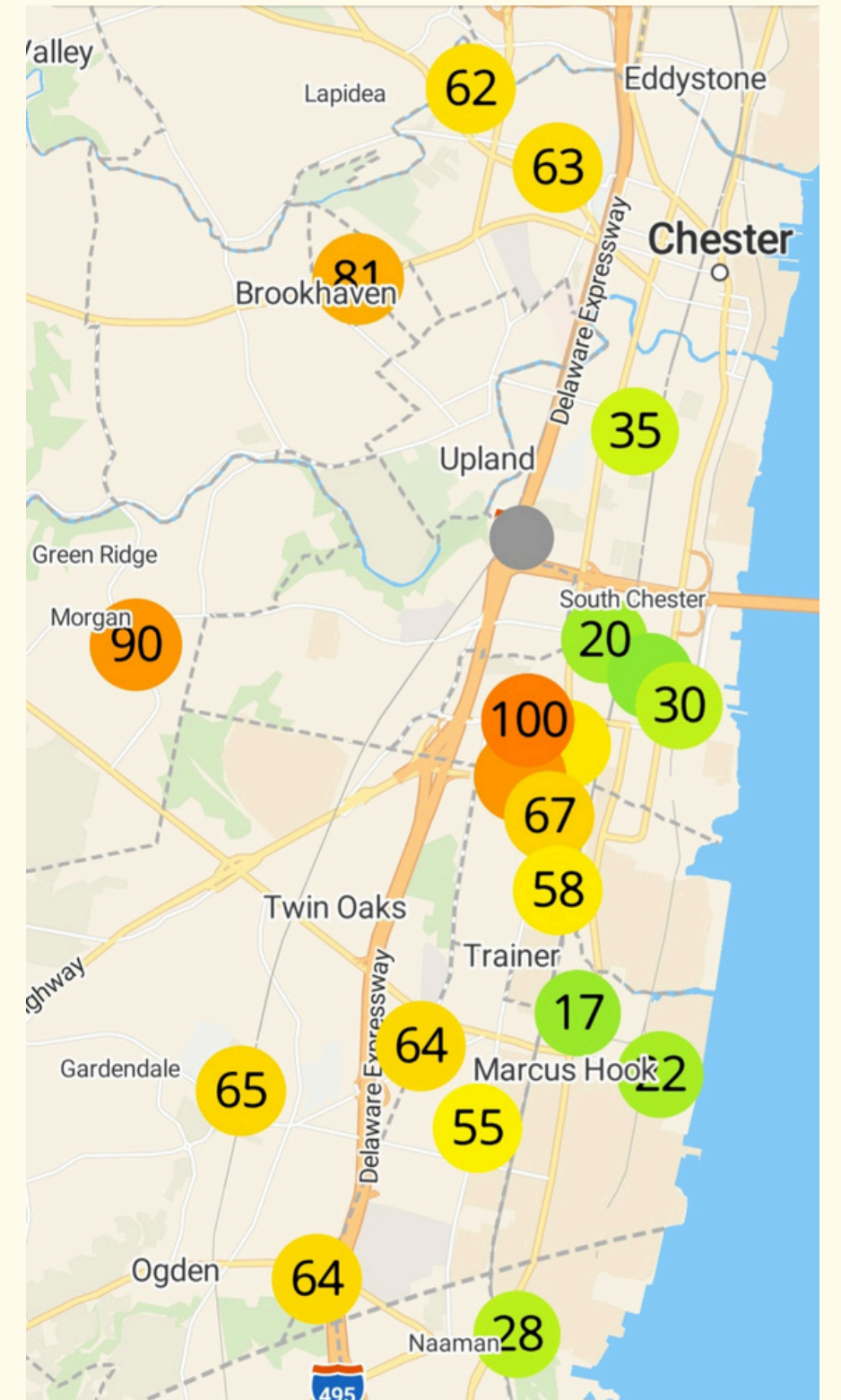
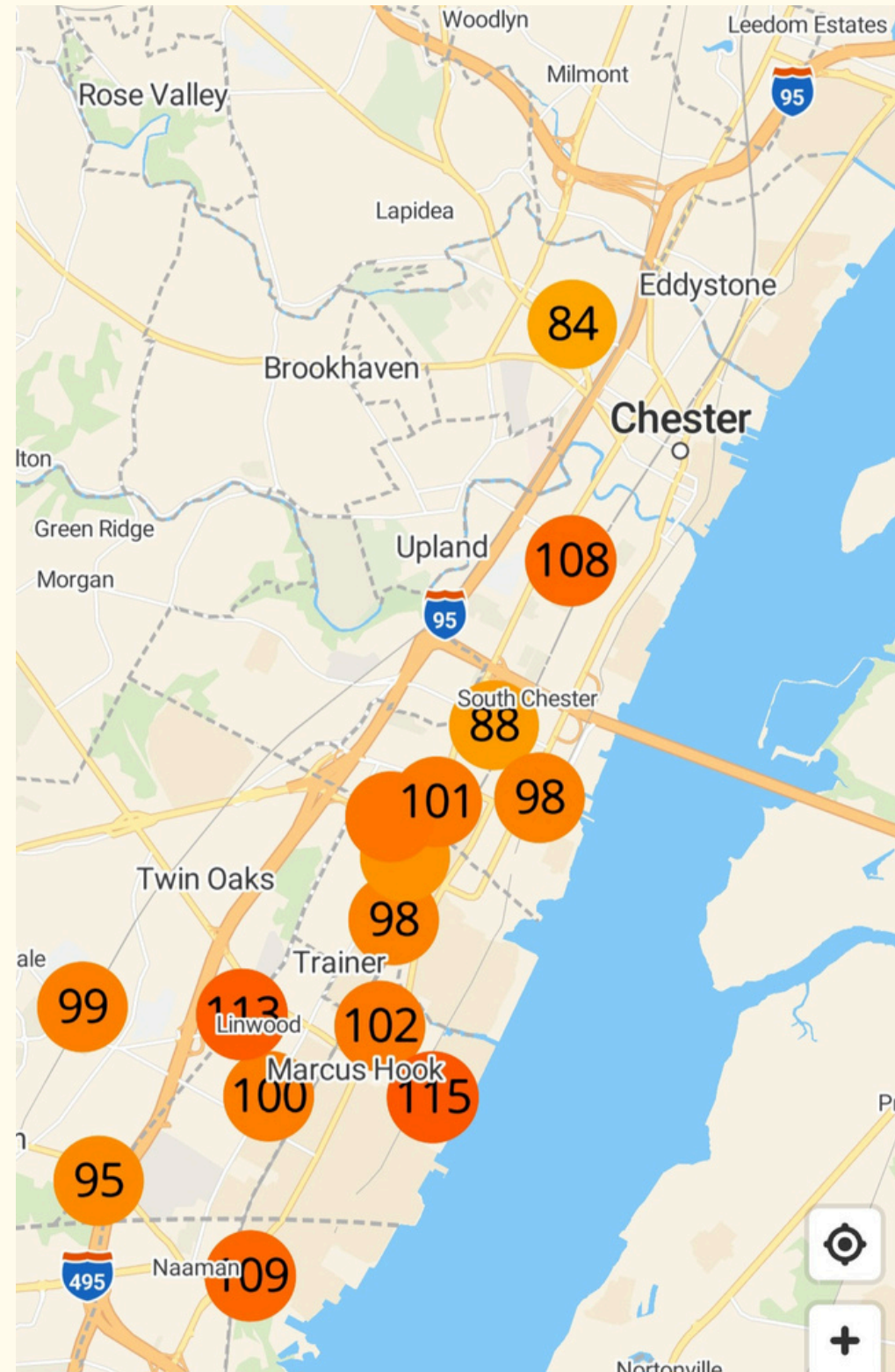
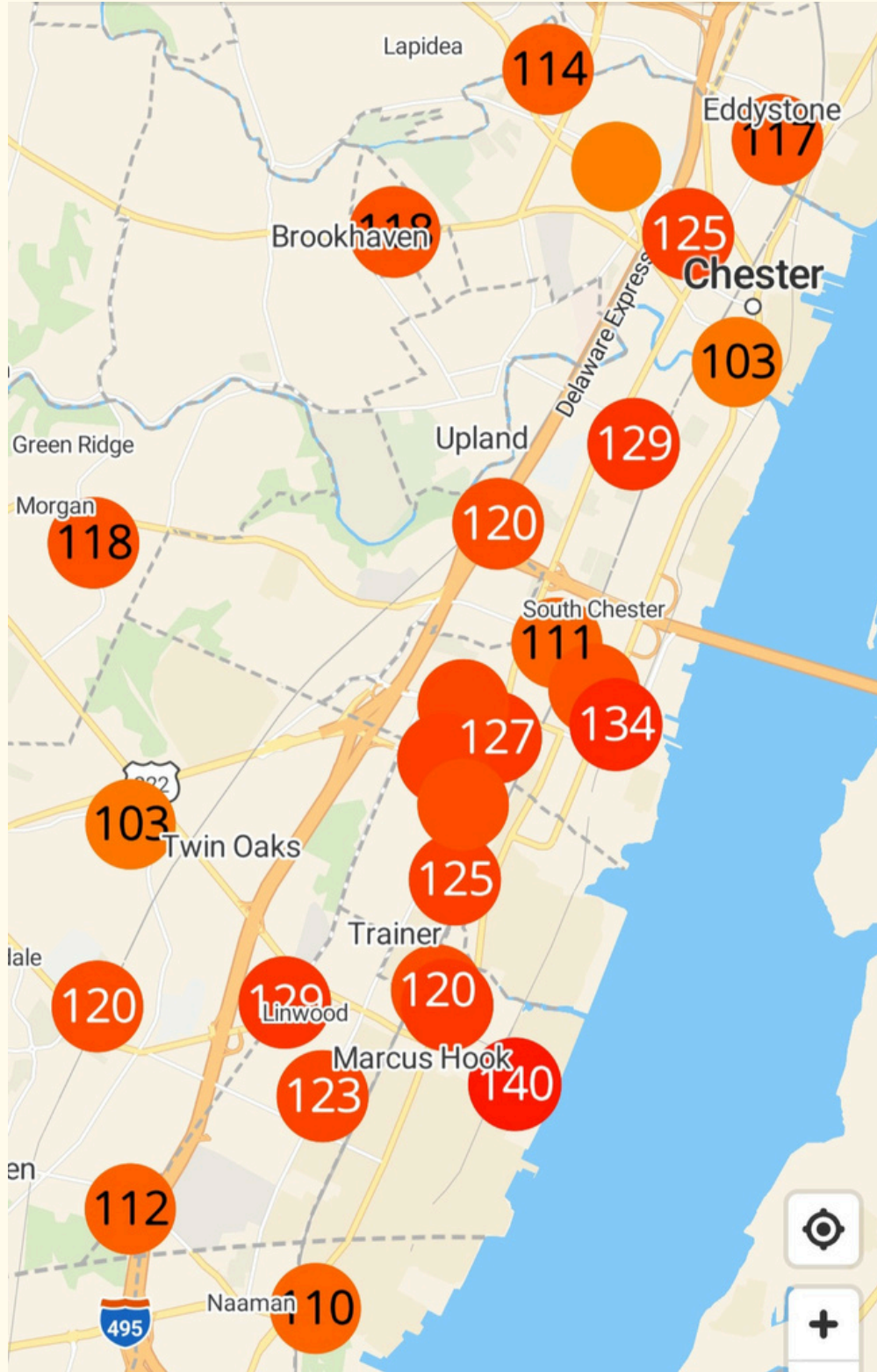
# *MHANPH Work on Cumulative Impacts*

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- **2023** - worked with community members and JHU to develop the ASSESS Community and Environmental Health Study
- **Fall 2023** - initiated EPA Air Monitoring Project to better understand pollution burden in our community
- **July 2024**- presented the study's key findings & recommendations
  - our community is overburdened by pollution impacts and multiple non-pollution stressors
  - cumulative impact legislation is needed to protect our community
- **August 2024** began Cumulative Impact advocacy campaign to get legislation reintroduced in the PA State House; met with DEP and others
- **January 2025** Rep Vitali introduces HB 109
- **February 2025** Marcus Hook Neighbors expanded efforts to form a statewide coalition to support this bill along with Clean Air Council, Clean Water Action, Food and Water Watch, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, Center for Coalfield Justice and others.



# *Purple Air Maps of Our Community*



# *Pennsylvania House Bill 109*

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- Would require permit applicants for new or existing facilities in an EJ area to submit a “cumulative environmental impact report” to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- The impact report should assess the environmental impacts of the facility, the cumulative impacts on the environmental justice area, and its negative environmental impacts that cannot be avoided.

# *Pennsylvania House Bill 109*

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- **Public participation.** The bill would require a public hearing during which the permit applicant must provide the affected community with information on the facility and its potential environmental and health impacts, as well as an opportunity for meaningful community participation.
- **Meaningful consideration.** DEP must consider the testimony presented in evaluating any revisions that may be made to the permit. Further, affected municipalities would also have the opportunity to provide recommendations and revisions to the permit.
- **Agency discretion.** The bills would empower DEP to deny a permit application on the basis of its cumulative environmental impacts, or require additional conditions or mitigation measures be put in place when necessary.



# *Save the Date:*

## *PA House Environment Hearing: HB 109*

### *Cumulative Impacts Bill*

Tuesday March 4, 2025, 10am  
Latham Hall, 1 University Place  
Widener University  
Potter St. & East 13th St.  
Chester, PA



Speakers include:  
Ms. Zulene Mayfield  
Mayor Stefan Roots  
Dr. Sara Lupolt, JHU  
Dr. Kristin Motely Chester Health Dept.  
Dr. Marilyn Howard, UPenn

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# *Discussion*