



June 21, 2022

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL, PEOPLE'S PORT AUTHORITY, AND SOUTH SIDE COMMUNITY RALLY AT THE STATE HOUSE TO STOP TOXIC, PLASTIC-BURNING BILLS**

PROVIDENCE— The Environment Council of RI (ECRI), People's Port Authority, and environmental justice organizations, and community members jointly express strong opposition to toxic, plastic burning or so-called "advanced recycling" bills (S2788/H8089) which undermine efforts to protect environmental justice communities and meet Act on Climate goals. The Senate passed S2788 (sponsored by Senator Lombardo)—which contradicts the proposed [Environmental Justice Act](#), also passed by the Senate. The House companion bill 8089 (sponsored by Representative Casey) would exempt "advanced recycling" facilities from solid waste laws and regulations. High-heat plastics-burning technologies, including pyrolysis and "advanced recycling," are toxic and climate-damaging, and often sited on the backs of frontline communities who are already burdened by pollution and experiencing deep inequities.

**What:** Join allies who want to stop plastic burning and environmental injustice!

**When:** Tomorrow, Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

**Where:** RI State House, 82 Smith Street, Providence (outside on capital grounds, facing Smith St.)

**Who:** Speakers include—Angel Ramos, People's Port Authority; Terri Wright, Direct Action for Rights & Equality; Linda Perri, Washington Park Neighborhood Association; Dwayne Keys, South Providence Neighborhood Association; Kevin Budris, Conservation Law Foundation; Priscilla De La Cruz, Environment Council of RI; David Veliz (tentative), RI Sierra Club; and Southside Community Land Trust (invited).

**Why:** We have a short amount of time to stop a proposal to allow facilities that burn plastic to be exempt from oversight by the RI DEM and environmental regulations, and likely be placed in communities who are already struggling with a legacy of environmental injustice. Read the [signatory environmental factsheet](#) and [environmental regulations infographic](#).

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**About the Environment Council of Rhode Island:** The Environment Council of Rhode Island is a coalition of organizations and individuals whose mission is to serve as an effective voice for developing and advocating policies and laws that protect and enhance the environment. [www.environmentcouncilri.org](http://www.environmentcouncilri.org)