NYC-EJA’s Statement on WVv. EPA

July 1, 2022

The New York City Environmental Justice Alliance is outraged by the Supreme Court’s decision on West Virginia et al vs. Environmental Protection Agency et al. This dangerous ruling limiting EPA’s power to clean the air pursuant to the Clean Air Act implies that the Supreme Court has the sole power to interpret and implement federal laws, and strips expert agencies of their mandate to implement policies without explicit authorization from Congress.

It is even more critical now for New York to take aggressive climate action and eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels on or before 2040, as mandated by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. New York’s state and local governments must pursue all policies that can accelerate our just transition process.

The harmful impacts of the Supreme Court’s willful ignorance of expert climate science will be most strongly felt in low-income and communities of color at the forefront of environmental burdens. NYC-EJA and our allies will continue to fight against the unjust and inhumane consequences emissions have in environmental justice communities in New York and beyond.