

**Resolved:** Shareholders request the board of directors to commission a third-party environmental justice audit (within reasonable time and cost) which assesses the heightened racial impacts of Honeywell's operations and produces recommendations for improving them above and beyond legal and regulatory matters. Input from stakeholders, including civil rights organizations and affected community members, should be considered in determining the specific matters for assessment. A report on the audit, prepared at reasonable cost and omitting proprietary information, should be published on the company's website.

**Whereas:** Environmental racism is a systemic risk that exacerbates the climate crisis and racial inequities.<sup>1</sup> Failure to adequately assess, mitigate, and remediate impacts on communities often results in litigation, project delays, and significant fines. For instance, Honeywell has reportedly incurred over \$443 million in fines since 2000, the majority of which are related to environmental offenses.<sup>2</sup> A 2022 report found that 46% of Honeywell's water pollution is located in environmental justice communities.<sup>3</sup> Recent controversies include:

- \$2 million in cleanup costs in 2022 related to lead- and arsenic-contaminated soil in South Bend, Indiana. Residents allege Honeywell has contributed to environmental racism that has "destroyed the quality of life for many, many families generationally";<sup>4</sup>
- A \$65 million settlement against Honeywell and peers in 2022 for contaminating New York's water supply with PFOA, a long-lasting chemical associated with developmental and reproductive issues, cancer, and immunological effects;<sup>5</sup>
- A 2022 lawsuit in Georgia alleging insufficient cleanup for PCB contamination affecting a majority-Black community that houses multiple hazardous sites. This is in addition to an \$18 million settlement in 2006 and a \$4 million settlement in 2020 for the same site;<sup>6</sup>
- Allegations from a watchdog in October 2023 that Honeywell failed to disclose "super-pollutant" emissions to the EIA in an environmental justice community where air toxics cancer risk is in the 95th percentile nationally;<sup>7</sup> and
- A 2020 New Jersey lawsuit alleging Honeywell knowingly polluted the environment with PCBs, a probable human carcinogen.<sup>8</sup> The community surrounding the Superfund site is

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<sup>1</sup> <https://time.com/6017907/climate-emergency-racial-justice/> ; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2021/10/confronting-climate-crisis-requires-confronting-systemic-racism-say-un>

<sup>2</sup> <https://violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org/parent/honeywell-international>

<sup>3</sup> <https://peri.umass.edu/toxic-100-water-polluters-index-current>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.southbendtribune.com/story/news/local/2022/04/04/south-bend-racism-honeywell-remediate-lasalle-park-black-community-environment-landfill/7216689001/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://topclassactions.com/lawsuit-settlements/medical-problems/cancer-medical-problems/residents-reach-65m-with-saint-gobain-3m-honeywell-over-tainted-water-supply/> ;

<https://www.twincities.com/2022/02/05/judge-approves-65m-settlement-in-polluted-water-lawsuit/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://prismreports.org/2020/07/03/the-georgia-town-that-was-home-to-ahmaud-arbery-has-an-environmental-racism-problem/> ; <https://thecurrentga.org/2022/12/06/city-of-brunswick-sues-over-pollution-from-honeywell-lcp-site/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/16102023/watchdog-us-chemical-plant-isnt-reporting-climate-super-pollutants/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.northjersey.com/story/news/environment/2020/11/10/honeywell-superfund-lawsuit-nj-over-edgewater-nj-and-hudson-river-contamination/6224306002/>

qualified as an “overburdened community” under the New Jersey Environmental Justice Law.<sup>9</sup>

Additionally, fence-line communities have criticized Honeywell for lack of effective community consultation surrounding pollution incidents, and for insufficient cleanup.<sup>10</sup> A legacy Honeywell pollution coke smoke stack in Tonawanda, NY is linked to decades of health impacts, including elevated cancer risks, cardiopulmonary disease, and birth defects.<sup>11</sup> Community members allege they have not been adequately consulted in cleanup efforts, and Honeywell is lobbying to reclassify the site, which may result in less comprehensive remediations.<sup>12</sup>

Honeywell faces increasing regulatory risk as the Biden administration has made unprecedented commitments around environmental justice,<sup>13</sup> and numerous states where Honeywell operates have adopted environmental justice legislation.<sup>14</sup> An audit would help Honeywell avoid adverse impacts on environmental justice communities while reducing reputational risk and liabilities.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.nj.gov/dep/ej/docs/communities/bergen-edgewater-boro-maps-obc.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> <https://indiancountrytoday.com/archive/onondaga-seek-voice-in-lake-cleanup-nation-wants-principled-negotiations>

<sup>11</sup> [https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/usao-wdny/legacy/2013/09/25/Coke\\_49.pdf](https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/usao-wdny/legacy/2013/09/25/Coke_49.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.cacwny.org/2019/07/honeywell-responsible-for-tonawanda-coke-site-remediation/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/27/executive-order-on-tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad/>

<sup>14</sup> <https://dep.nj.gov/ej/law/>