Yale SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH Center on Climate Change and Health

Energy System Transformation in Puerto Rico: Enviro/Racial Justice and Public Health Implications



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Ruth Santiago is an environmental and community lawyer who lives in Salinas, Puerto Rico, where she has worked with community and environmental groups, fisher's associations, and other organizations for over thirty years on projects ranging from a community newspaper to ecotourism projects to a rooftop solar energy pilot project. Ms. Santiago has helped establish broad alliances to protect communities from water pollution from landfills, emissions and discharges from power plants, and residual waste from coal combustion. She is part of a civil society initiative to promote solar communities and energy democracy called We Want Sun (queremossolpr.com). Most recently, Ms. Santiago has worked on cases related to energy projects and integrated resource plans. She earned degrees from Lehigh University and Columbia Law School and has published articles on energy issues in Puerto Rico. She is the recipient of the Sierra Club's 2018 Robert Bullard Environmental Justice Award.

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