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**The Threat of Rising Sea Levels to Coastal Communities**

**Introduction**:  
Rising sea levels, driven by the melting of polar ice caps and thermal expansion of oceans, are one of the most pressing threats posed by climate change. Coastal regions are at particular risk, with millions of people living in areas that may soon be submerged. This essay examines the causes and effects of rising sea levels and the urgent need for solutions to protect vulnerable communities.

**Body**:  
The primary drivers of rising sea levels are the melting of glaciers and ice sheets in polar regions and the thermal expansion of seawater as it warms. As these factors contribute to higher ocean levels, low-lying coastal cities, islands, and communities face the threat of flooding. In many regions, this results in the loss of land, which threatens infrastructure, agriculture, and biodiversity. Coastal ecosystems like mangroves and coral reefs, which protect against storms and support marine life, are also being eroded by rising waters. The displacement of millions of people is an inevitable consequence of this trend, creating new challenges for global migration and security.

**Conclusion**:  
Rising sea levels present a critical challenge that requires global action. It is essential to focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing coastal protection infrastructure, and planning for managed relocation of communities at risk. Only through coordinated efforts can we mitigate the damage and protect vulnerable coastal areas.