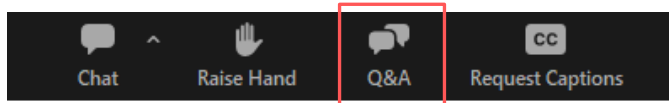# FROM 20BY20 TO 20BY26

February 26, 2024 | Gina McCarthy Auditorium

HOUSEKEEPIING

1. This meeting is being recorded. A link to the recording and a copy of this presentation will be posted on the Intranet.

2. Please mute/disable your microphones and webcams.

3. You can submit questions to the moderator via the Q&A button at the bottom of your screen.

Visit the 20BY26 WEBPAGE

- Read DEEP's kickoff report: _20BY26, Setting the Target: CT DEEP 2026 Goals_ (Feb. 2024)

- Questions & Comments? Email: DEEP.20by26@ct.gov

- Sign up for email updates HERE

Note: _Slide deck was updated 2/29/24_

TODAY'S PRESENTATION

I. Introduction

II. 20BY20: What We Achieved
- Recap
- Highlights of what DEEP staff accomplished

III. 20BY26
- What's New, What's the Same
- Overview of Goals
- Walk through of Goals

IV. Next steps
- Stakeholder Goal Suggestions
- Implementation
- Quarterly progress reports

INTRODUCTION

A clean and healthy environment is the foundation for a thriving economy. Successfully delivering on our mission starts with effective process.
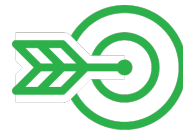
20BY20 RECAP

20 GOALS
16 by DEEP, 4 by our Stakeholders

18 MONTHS
June 2019 to Dec 2020

16 TARGETS
Met or Exceeded
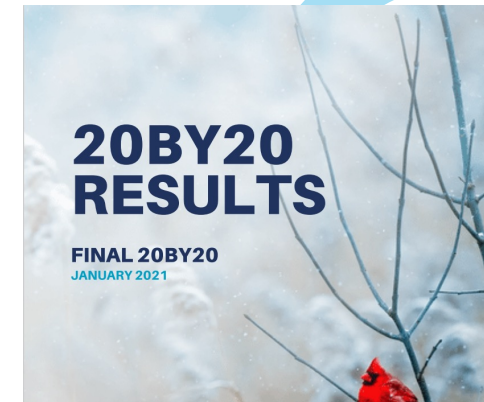
20 TEAMS
Goal Owners

100s STAFF
Supporting Contributors

20BY20 RECAP

BIG THEMES

- Improving permit processing transparency and predictability
- Amplifying permit assistance services for predictability and efficiency
- Increasing regulatory efficiency and predictability
- Upgrading IT for transparency, predictability, and efficiency
- Seeking opportunities for stakeholder outreach for transparency
- Ensuring staffing resources for predictability

20BY20 RESULTS

FINAL 20BY20
JANUARY 2021

Read the Jan 2021 Final Report

20BY20 ACHIEVEMENTS

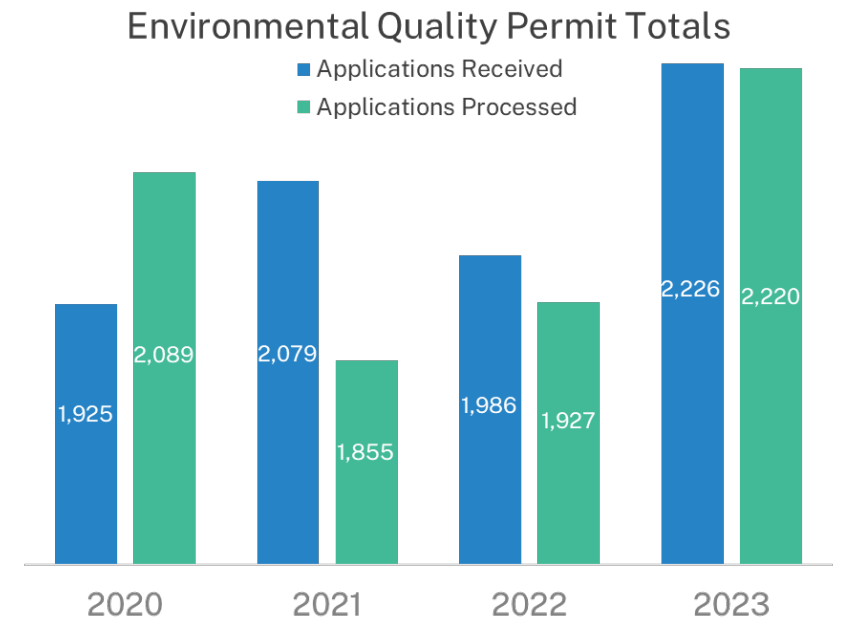## 🎯 *Improving permit processing transparency and predictability:*

✓ **MAKE PERMITTING TIMEFRAMES MORE TRANSPARENT (GOAL 1) AND REDUCE NUMBER OF LEGACY PERMITS PENDING (GOAL 3)**

- [Online Permitting Timeframes Dashboard](#) / [Pending Legacy Permit Applications Dashboard](#)

✓ **FAST TRACK SAME-TO SAME RENEWAL TIME (GOAL 6)**

✓ **CHANGE INDIVIDUAL PERMITS TO GENERAL PERMITS (GOAL 7)**

✓ **ELIMINATE SOME PERMITS AND MOVE TO "PERMIT BY RULE" (GOAL 8)**

Environmental Quality Permit Totals

- ■ Applications Received
- ■ Applications Processed

Year	Applications Received	Applications Processed
2020	1,925	2,089
2021	2,079	1,855
2022	1,986	1,927
2023	2,226	2,220

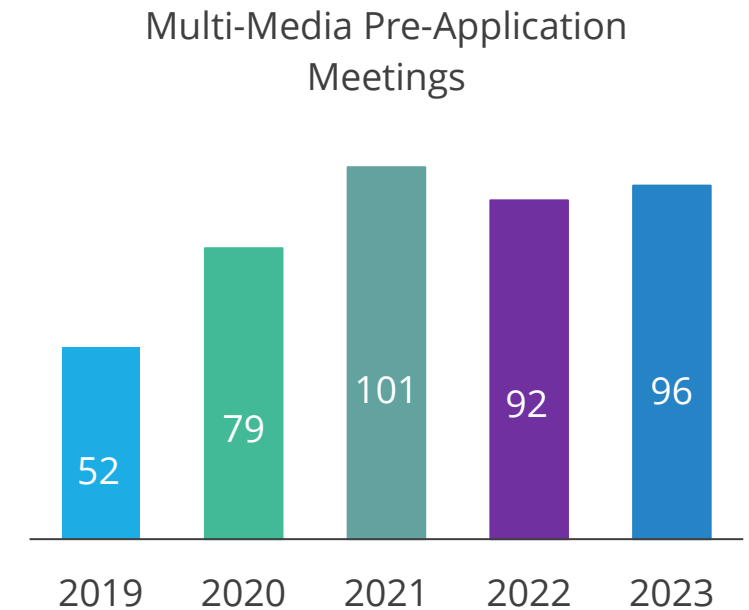**125+**
Permits

50
Permit Writers

20BY20 ACHIEVEMENTS

🎯 *Amplifying Permit Assistance Services for predictability and efficiency:*

✓ **ENHANCE PRE-APPLICATION ASSISTANCE (GOAL 2)**

✓ **ESTABLISH PERMITTING CONCIERGE FUNCTION (GOAL 12)**
  - Client Concierge Service / Concierge Video

Multi-Media Pre-Application Meetings

Year	Value
2019	52
2020	79
2021	101
2022	92
2023	96

20BY20 ACHIEVEMENTS

Increasing Regulatory Efficiency and Predictability:

✓ **REDUCE TIME FOR TRANSFER ACT AUDITS (GOAL 4)**

✓ **FINALIZE REMEDIATION STANDARDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL USE REGULATIONS (GOAL 5)**

- Feb 2021

✓ **DEVELOP PREDICTABLE REGULATION ADOPTION TIMELINE (GOAL 15)**

- Regulation Transparency dashboard /
  Public Participation webpage

✓ **UPDATE SPILL-REPORTING REGULATIONS (GOAL 20)**

- March 2022

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7	STEP 8	STEP 9
Scoping	Drafting	Internal Review	OPM/OTG Review	Notice/ Comment	Attorney General's Review	Draft Finalization	Regulation Review Committee Agenda	Approval

20BY20 ACHIEVEMENTS

🎯 *IT upgrades for transparency, predictability, and efficiency:*

✓ SIMPLIFY NATURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE DETERMINATIONS (GOAL 9)

🎯 *Seeking Opportunities for Stakeholder Outreach for transparency:*

✓ SEEK OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO ENHANCE SERVICES (GOAL 18)

20BY20 ACHIEVEMENTS

🎯 *IT upgrades for transparency, predictability, and efficiency:*

✓ **INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF GRANT ADMINISTRATION (GOAL 10)**

✓ **ACCELERATE E-GOVERNANCE INTEGRATION (GOAL 13)**

✓ **ENHANCE DATA TRANSPARENCY (GOAL 14)**

✓ **INCREASE THE TRANSPARENCY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES (GOAL 17)**

20BY20 ACHIEVEMENTS

Seeking Opportunities for Stakeholder Outreach for transparency:

✓ **INCREASE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN PROCESS IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS (GOAL 16)**

- Connecticut Coalition for Sustainable Materials Management (CCSMM)
- Governor's Council on Climate Change (CG3)
- CT Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council (CEEJAC)
- … and many more advisory groups

20BY20 KEY CONTRIBUTORS

Dean Applefield, Tracy Babbidge, Robin Blum, Yvonne Bolton, Jeff Caiola, Ken Collette, Jan Czeczotka, Melinda Decker, Stuart DeLand, Peggy Diaz, Jenny Dickson, Zachary Donais, Katie Dykes, Paul Farrell, Lou Fazzino, Camille Fontanella, Rebecca French, Gabrielle Frigon, Ray Frigon, Frank Gagliardo, Irene Garcia, Carl Gruszczak, Bob Hannon, Michael Hart, Kim Hudak, Ozzie Inglese, Robert Isner, Rick Jacobson, David Johnson, Diane Jorsey, Shannon Kearney, Tina Lazzaris, Nicole Lugli, Brent Madho, David Madsen, Bea Milne, Kevin Neary, Nisha Patel, Claire Quinn, Amy Richardson, Rob Robinson, Lori Saliby, Brendan Schain, Jaimeson Sinclair, Graham Stevens, Dennis Thibodeau, Brian Thompson, Moises Torrent, Mike Trahiotis, Tom Tyler, Betsey Wingfield, Pete Zack, Karen Zyko

Apologies to those not named but who contributed—we value all your work! Please let us know for any future updates to this presentation.

E-BASED REGULATIONS

EXPAND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE

ACHIEVE 90% ON-TIME CO

REDUCE THE "LEGACY" PERMIT BACKLOG BY 6

COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP REGULATIONS TO MUNICIPALITIES

ORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

ANCED FINANCIAL ASSURANCE

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

EXPAND DEEP CONCIERGE SERVICES

ENHANCED PUBLIC RECORDS TRANSPARENCY

STRENGTHENING COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION WITH DEEP

SPEED UP GRANT AND CONTRACTING

PATION FOR EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL

SERVICES

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN STATE PARKS

EXPAND TOOLS FOR ONLINE SERVICES

2026 BY

20 GOALS TO ACHIEVE BY THE END OF 2026

20BY26: WHAT'S NEW, WHAT'S THE SAME

- 20BY26 builds off the success of 20BY20 to keep making our work transparent, predictable, and efficient.

- Our new goals cut across all three branches of the agency – Environmental Quality, Environmental Conservation, and Energy – as well as the Office of the Commissioner.

- The goals focus on improving partnerships and environmental and energy outcomes for the people of CT.

- 20BY26 launches 16 new **DEEP-identified goals**.

- We are looking for 4 additional **stakeholder-identified goals**.

20BY26 OVERVIEW

GOAL 1: **Adopt Release-Based Regulations to Modernize Connecticut's Cleanup Framework**

GOAL 2: **Achieve 90% On-Time Completion Rate for Critical Permit Applications**

GOAL 3: **Reduce the "Legacy" Permit Application Backlog by 65% by 2026**

GOAL 4: **Strengthen Enforcement Resources**

GOAL 5: **Expand Compliance Assurance**

GOAL 6: **Enhanced Financial Assurance Tracking and Management**

GOAL 7: **Collaboratively Develop Regulations that Implement Recent Environmental Justice Reforms**

GOAL 8: **Effective Participation for Equity and Environmental Justice**

GOAL 9: **Enhanced Public Records Transparency**

20BY26 OVERVIEW

GOAL 10: **Expand Tools for Online Resources**

GOAL 11: **Speed Up Grant and Contracting Processes by 50% for Key Grant Programs**

GOAL 12: **Expand DEEP Concierge Services to Municipalities and Small Businesses**

GOAL 13: **Strengthening Communication and Collaboration with DEEP**

GOAL 14: **Permitting for Decarbonization**

GOAL 15: **Tools for Navigating Available Federal and State Funding**

GOAL 16: **Expand Public-Private Partnerships in State Parks**

GOALS 17–20: **Stakeholder Goals**

20BY26 GOAL 1

ADOPT RELEASE-BASED REGULATIONS TO MODERNIZE CONNECTICUT'S RELEASE-BASED FRAMEWORK

WHY

Match regulatory framework of 48 other states, safeguard environmental protection while reducing regulatory burden for lower-impact releases, expedited cleanup

STRATEGY

In partnership with DECD, co-chair working group and collaborate with stakeholders to finalize new regulations and secure formal adoption
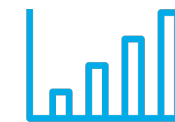
METRICS

- About the Release-Based Approach to Cleanup
- Interactive Graphic displaying "First Year Roadmap"
- Timetable for regs process and adoption

20BY26 GOAL 1

ADOPT RELEASE-BASED REGULATIONS TO MODERNIZE CONNECTICUT'S RELEASE-BASED FRAMEWORK

MONTH HIGHLIGHTS	DRAFT REGULATIONS	COMMENTS BY WG	REVISED DRAFT		NOTICE OF INTENT		COMMENTS	COMMENTS		
MONTH, YEAR	DECEMBER 2023	JANUARY 2024	FEBRUARY 24	MARCH 2024	APRIL 2024	MAY 2024	JUNE 2024	JULY 2024	AUGUST 2024	SEPTEMBER 2024
EARLY MONTH MILESTONES								Hearing		
MID-MONTH MILESTONES		Meeting with WG			Notice of Intent *(Approximate time to produce revised draft and allow for OTG/OPM review)*		Formal comment period continues	Comment period ends		
MONTH-END MILESTONES	• Share package with WG • Review by WG, OTG and OPM starts	• WG comments due • OTG and OPM comments due *(if 30 days)*	• Revised draft to WG • OTG and OPM comments due *(if 60 days)*				Hearing			
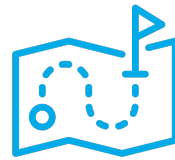
20BY26 GOAL 2

ACHIEVE 90% ON-TIME COMPLETION RATE FOR CRITICAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS

WHY

Continued tracking of permit processing time will provide more predictability for applicants and provide insight on staff resources

STRATEGY

Provide additional permit application assistance, continued reporting through Permitting Timeframes Dashboard, identify challenges, develop solutions
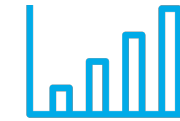
METRICS

Achieve 90% on-time completion for applications in the 3-month category (55 permits covered); regain 80% for others

20BY26 GOAL 3

REDUCE THE "LEGACY" PERMIT APPLICATION BACKLOG

WHY

Further enhancement of regulatory certainty
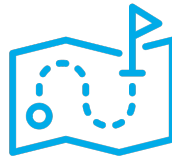
STRATEGY

Continue to reduce backlog of permits older than 5 yrs, to track reduction through the Legacy Permit Dashboard, to assess and manage staff resources
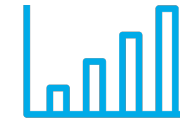
METRICS

65% reduction in backlog by 2026

20BY26 GOAL 4

STRENGTHEN ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES

WHY

Increase transparency on noncompliant facilities, especially in communities overburdened with environmental stressors
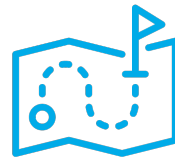
STRATEGY

Ensure consistency across enforcement programs, inclusion of equity and environmental justice in decision-making

ACTIONS

- Key policy updates
- Enforcement mapping and screening
- Increase enforcement staffing

20BY26 GOAL 5

EXPAND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE

WHY

Provide greater compliance assistance in sectors with higher noncompliance
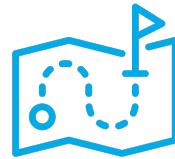
STRATEGY

Assess sectors of noncompliance, create additional tools to assist in complying

ACTIONS

- Central hub for compliance assistance info
- FAQs for common violations and solutions
- Updated guidance on stormwater and waste organics
- Online complaint intake system to make it easier to report potential concerns

20BY26 GOAL 6

ENHANCED FINANCIAL ASSURANCE TRACKING AND MANAGEMENT

WHY

Provide predictability and consistency in financial assurance mechanisms used across various DEEP programs

STRATEGY

Standardize the menu of instruments available and provide centralized information for users

ACTIONS

- Standardize the menu of financial assurance tools
- Develop a new financial assurance webpage hub
- Provide regulatory clarity on which tools are appropriate for each program

20BY26 GOAL 7 (NEW)

COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP REGULATIONS THAT IMPLEMENT RECENT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

WHY

Successful implementation of landmark environmental justice reforms requires a predictable timetable and transparent process

STRATEGY

Work with communities and regulated entities to design and adopt regulations that assess the cumulative environmental and health impacts of affecting facilities in EJ communities
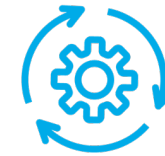
ACTIONS

- Public listening sessions and stakeholder workshops
- Request for Proposals in early 2024 to develop the "cumulative impacts tool"
- Dedicated website for rule-making process
- Draft rules for public comment in late 2025

20BY26 GOAL 8 (NEW)

EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION FOR EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

WHY

Expanded public participation and access to permitting processes keeps communities informed and facilitates more equitable outcomes
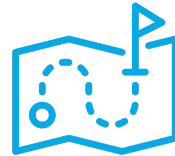
STRATEGY

Provide guidance for public participation requirements and make EJ plans and community benefit agreements easily available to the public

Our Commitment to Environmental Justice

ACTIONS

- Publish new webpage with guidance on participation in permitting process

- Make EJ documents available on CT Open Data Portal for easy access

- Create tools to facilitate engagement and highlight opportunities for public participation in DEEP's programs

20BY26 GOAL 9

ENHANCED PUBLIC RECORDS TRANSPARENCY

WHY

To prioritize the IT needs of the agency for records management and increase public records transparency

STRATEGY

Complete document digitization and integrate records management with e-filing and data management functions

ACTIONS

- Digitize other large records sets (Remediation, USTS, PCBs) for the Document Online Search Portal
- Create additional map viewers for data transparency
- Create seamless Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Digital Records Center that directs FOIA requests through GovQA and the CT Open Data Portal

20BY26 GOAL 10

ENHANCED PUBLIC RECORDS TRANSPARENCY

WHY

To prioritize the IT needs of the agency for e-filing and data management, and to realize big customer benefits through modern systems

STRATEGY

Integrate e-filing and data management systems with records management
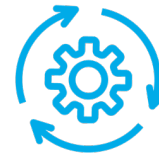
ACTIONS

- Adopt an industry-leading platform on which to build solutions for cleanup-based data management and payment, permit, and document submittal

- Install a streamlined docket system for adjudications work

20BY26 GOAL 11

SPEED UP GRANT AND CONTRACTING PROCESSES BY 50% FOR KEY GRANT PROGRAMS

WHY

To support potential applicants in understanding available opportunities and improve DEEP's grant application process
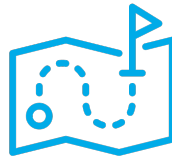
STRATEGY

Implement new contracting process with integrated and streamlined workflows, new templates, revised application content, and step-by-step guidance
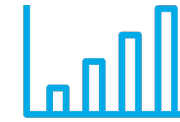
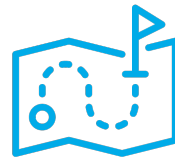## METRICS

Reduce time to execute by 50% for key grant programs

20BY26 GOAL 12

EXPAND DEEP CONCIERGE SERVICES TO MUNICIPALITIES AND SMALL BUSINESSES
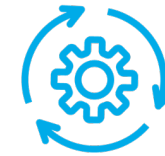
WHY

To support economic development, provide greater understanding of DEEP's processes, and support applicants and programs in achieving successful environmental outcomes

STRATEGY

Expand Client Concierge Services to municipalities and small businesses

Client Concierge Service
Concierge Video

ACTIONS

- Launch a new strategic initiative to serve as a "front door" for municipalities seeking permitting, grants, and other DEEP services
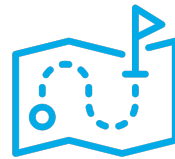- Enhance assistance to small businesses

20BY26 GOAL 13

STRENGTHENING COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION WITH DEEP

WHY

Stronger communication and collaboration leads to better relationships, greater outcomes, equitable access, and heightened awareness of our agency's impactful work

STRATEGY

Deepen stakeholder engagement by making resources easier to access and joining in collaborative and inclusive and partnerships

ACTIONS

- Improve online resources and news– user-friendly website landing page, organized newsletters

- Seek to talk more effectively with CT's stakeholders and communities – improved public notices, Limited English Proficiency tools, connections with underserved communities

- Encourage stakeholder participation in engagement opportunities, such as workgroups and DEEP-related boards and commissions
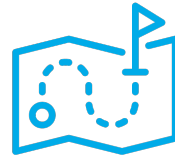
20BY26 GOAL 14 (NEW)

PERMITTING FOR DECARBONIZATION

WHY

Achieving a net-zero grid by 2040 requires deployment of new resources – making better information available and providing better predictability helps suitable projects succeed

STRATEGY

Develop a broader programmatic approach for siting projects - building on progress already made by STEPs and CES – while protecting or natural resources and environment

ACTIONS

- Following through on best permitting practices for renewable energy – solar, wind, battery storage

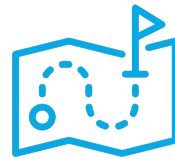- Creating a renewable energy siting suitability mapping tool

20BY26 GOAL 15 (NEW)
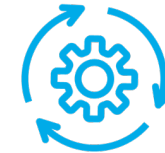
TOOLS FOR NAVIGATING AVAILABLE FEDERAL & STATE FUNDING

WHY

Provide easy access for residents, businesses, and other organizations to take advantage of available incentives, grants, and other offerings

STRATEGY

Create tools to improve equity and accessibility of energy programs and help guide our stakeholders to the information they need

ACTIONS

- New Grant Liaison function for applicant support

- Incentive navigator and grants hub

- Public input through beta testing and comment opportunities

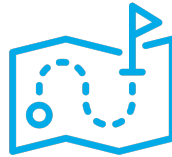- Online transparency dashboard on federal funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act

20BY26 GOAL 16

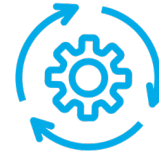# DEEP PARTNERSHIPS WITH PRIVATE ENTITIES IN STATE PARKS

WHY

CT State Parks are a public treasure and important contributor to our state's quality of life and thriving outdoor recreation economy

STRATEGY

Establish innovative partnerships through our new Partnership in Parks initiative

ACTIONS

- Launching Office of Outdoor Industry & Experiences
- Seeking input from the public and strategic partners in a Request for Information
- Review of submitted info and concepts intended to result in Request for Proposals or Special Use Licenses

20BY26 KEY CONTRIBUTORS TO DATE

Pete Aarrestad, Karen Allen, Brenda Antuna, Tracy Babbidge, Peter Babich, Ashley BenitezOu, Jessica Bilyard, Rickey Bouffard, Kimberly Bradley, Linda Brunza, Joanna Burnham, Jeff Caiola, Emma Cimino, Paul Copleman, Maria Cotto, Joe Cunningham, Michael Davis, Annie Decker, Melinda Decker, Stuart DeLand, Peggy Diaz, Joseph Dickerson, Jenny Dickson, Audra Dickson, Danica Doroski, Katie Dykes, Paul Farrell, Jacob Felton, Camille Fontanella, James Fowler, Rebecca French, Gabrielle Frigon, Ray Frigon, John Gallalee, Irene Garcia, Nick Giannetti, Stephanie Gibbons, Robert Girard, Michelle Gore, Jeremy Hall, Caleb Hamel, Eric Hammerling, Will Healey, Eliza Heins, Brian Hess, Akiebia Hicks, Andrew Hoskins, Sarah Huang, Doris Johnson, Lauren Jones, Mary Lou Kramer, Michael Lambert, Tina Lazzaris, Brent Madho, David Madsen, Brenda Marquez, Ashley Marshall, Diego Merizalde, Monica Meschiatti, Bea Milne, Andrew Minikowski, Harrison Nantz, Kevin Neary, Chris Nelson, Jennifer Perry, Edith Pestana, Kevin Pisacich, Lori Saliby, Lauren Savidge, Brendan Schain, Meghan Seremet, Christopher Shepard, Claire Sickinger, Jaimeson Sinclair, Graham Stevens, Lindsay Suhr, Angela Taetz, Dennis Thibodeau, Brian Thompson, Selena Thornhill-Moody, Jacquelyn Torres, Amber Trahan, Becca Trietch, Gary Trombly, Mason Trumble, Emily Tully, Tom Tyler, Ethan Van Ness, Sarah Watson, Hank Webster, Nancy Weinberg, Kimberly Williams, Julie Wilson, Nancy Wollenberg, Darren Wright, Peter Zaidel

We also want to collectively thank Enforcement and Permitting Staff and the Remediation Team. Apologies to those not named but who have contributed—we value all your work!

20BY26 STAKEHOLDER GOALS 17–20

What are your goals, stakeholders?

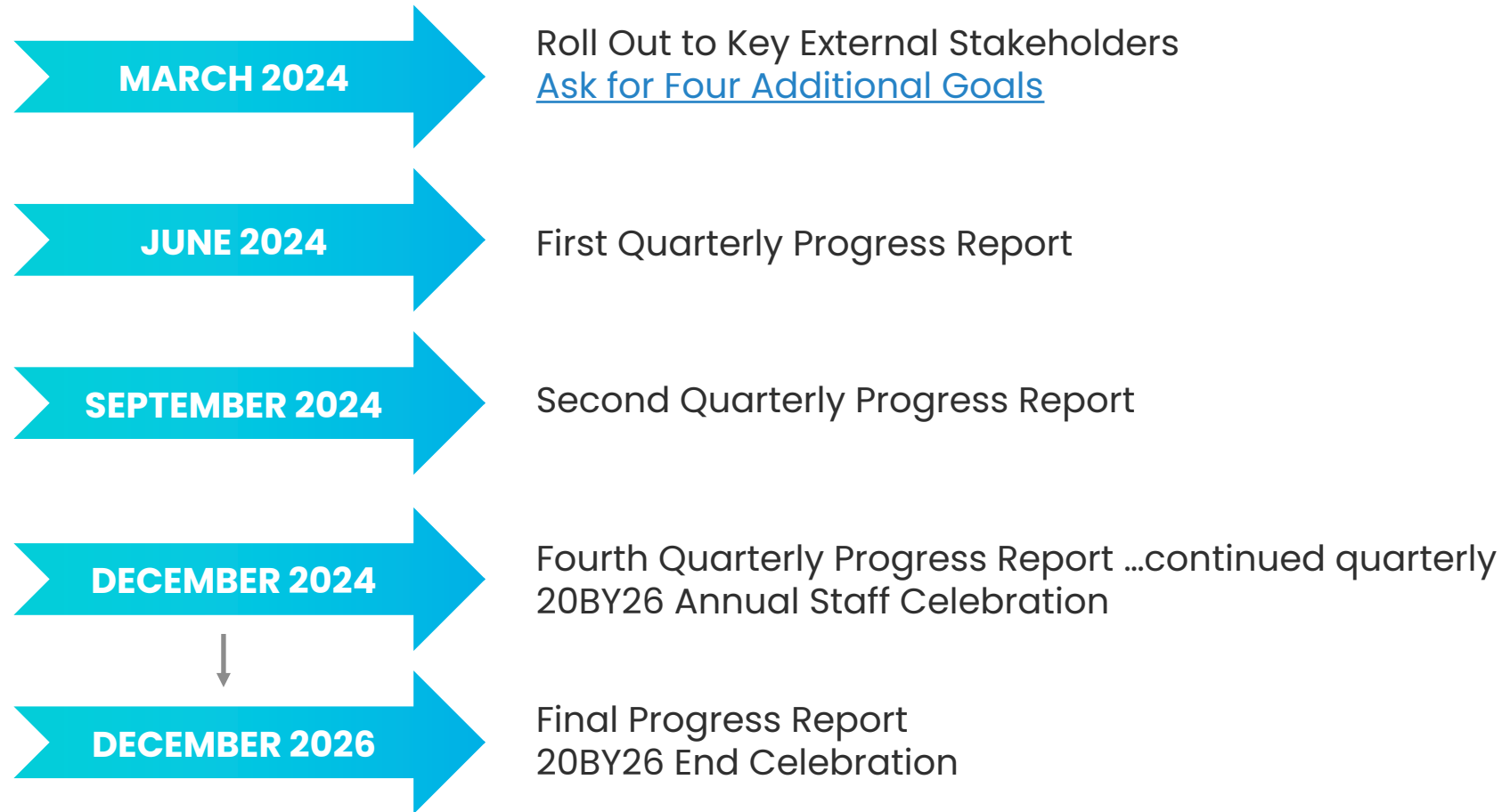**?**　　**?**　　**?**　　**?**

GOAL 17　　**GOAL 18**　　**GOAL 19**　　**GOAL 20**

Stakeholders may submit questions or suggestions for goals to DEEP.20by26@ct.gov.
Sign up to receive email updates HERE.

NEXT STEPS: 20BY26 SCHEDULE AND REPORTING

MARCH 2024
Roll Out to Key External Stakeholders
Ask for Four Additional Goals

JUNE 2024
First Quarterly Progress Report

SEPTEMBER 2024
Second Quarterly Progress Report

DECEMBER 2024
Fourth Quarterly Progress Report ...continued quarterly
20BY26 Annual Staff Celebration

DECEMBER 2026
Final Progress Report
20BY26 End Celebration

THANK YOU

Q&A