



JULY 2024

20BY26 PROGRESS REPORT: GOALS 1-10

July 23, 2024 | Gina McCarthy Auditorium and Zoom

TODAY'S PRESENTATION

I. Introduction

- 20BY26 Initiative recap

II. 20BY26

- Progress on Goals 1-10
- Celebration of Achievements
- Four New Goals

III. Next steps

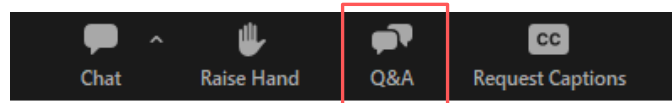
- All Hands September: Goals 11-20
- Quarterly progress report

IV. Q&A



HOUSEKEEPING

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)
- Read DEEP's first progress report – coming soon! (July 2024)
- Questions & Comments? Email: DEEP.20by26@ct.gov
- Sign up for email updates [HERE](#)



2026

20 GOALS TO ACHIEVE BY THE END OF 2026



20 GOALS

16 by DEEP, 4 New
Stakeholder Goals



**PROGRESS
REPORTS**

1



**GOAL
MEETINGS**

96 in 2024



16 TEAMS

87 Goal
Owners



100s of STAFF

Collaborators &
Contributors

20BY26 GOAL 1

ADOPT RELEASE-BASED CLEANUP PROGRAM REGULATIONS TO MODERNIZE CONNECTICUT'S ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP FRAMEWORK



WHY

Match framework of 48 other states, safeguard environmental protection, reduce regulatory burden for lower-risk releases, expedite 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"](#)



PROGRESS



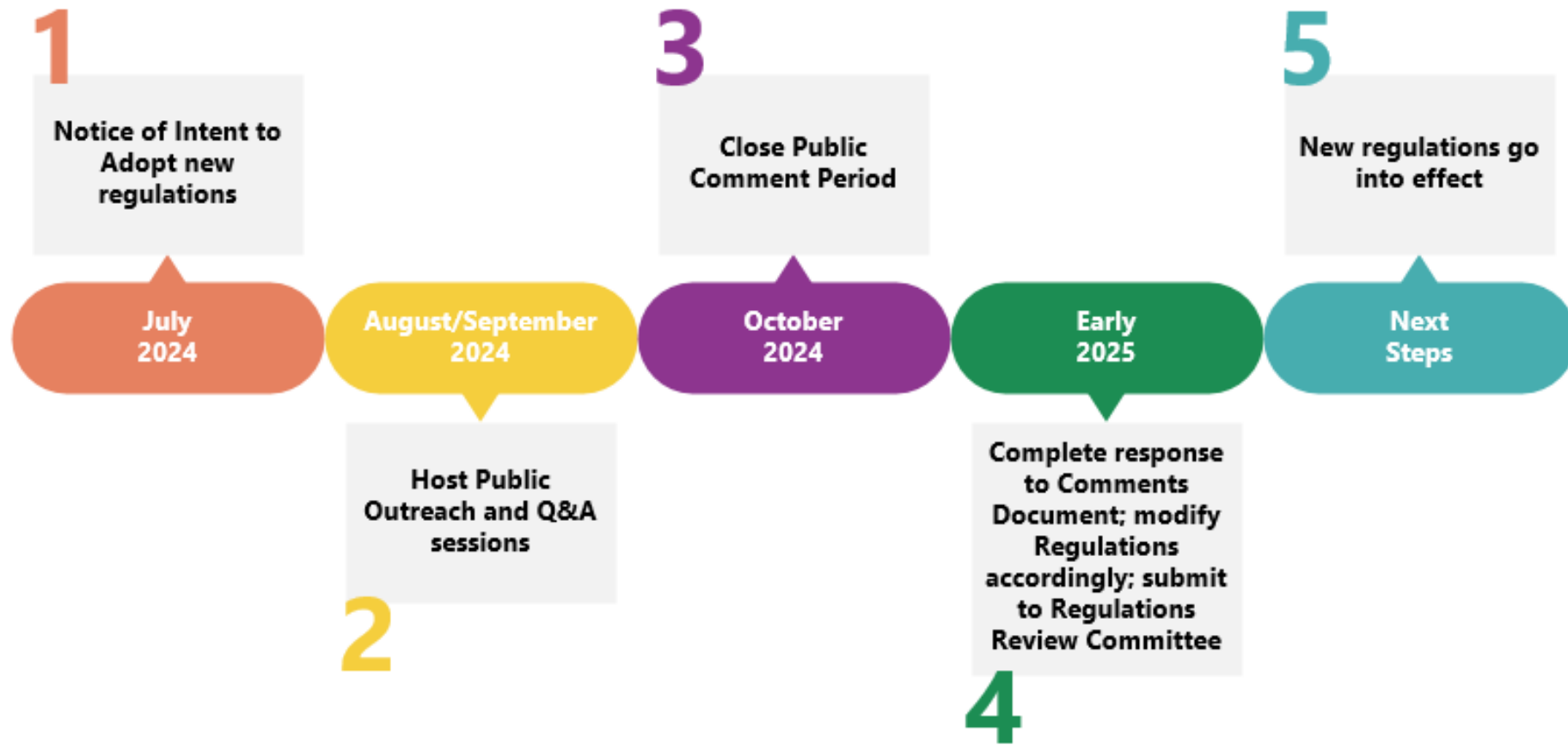
ADOPT RELEASE-BASED CLEANUP PROGRAM REGULATIONS TO MODERNIZE CONNECTICUT'S ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP FRAMEWORK

WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS

- December 2023 -> Draft regulations shared with Working Group
- Throughout Winter 2024 -> Broad public outreach on draft regulations
- February 2024 -> DEEP Question & Answer session for Working Group members
- March 2024 -> Working Group provides written comments on draft regulations to DEEP
- Spring 2024 -> DEEP incorporated changes to draft regulations, based on Working Group comments and discussions with other stakeholders
- DEEP will share revised draft regulations with the Working Group prior to initiating the formal regulation adoption process, pursuant to CGS section 22a-134tt.

ADOPT RELEASE-BASED CLEANUP PROGRAM REGULATIONS TO MODERNIZE CONNECTICUT'S ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP FRAMEWORK

CURRENTLY-ANTICIPATED TIMELINE



20BY26 GOAL 2

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



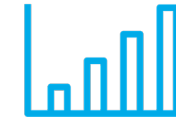
WHY

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



PROGRESS

- Reviewed [permit processing timeframes](#) and recategorized to better accommodate external factors
- Identification of Successes, Challenges, and Solutions
- New [Contacts webpage](#)

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

WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS



Successes

- 3/7 divisions processing ≥ applications received
- Q12024 2/7 divisions hit 90% goal for 3-mo category
- New [Contacts webpage](#)



Challenges

- 6-mo and 12-mo need improvement
- Of the 5 divisions with permits in 6-mo category, 1 reached 80%



Solutions

- Renewal and modification of [Water Resources Construction GP](#) NTD
- Technical Workshops on the proposed Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) GP

Timeframe (months)	3	6	12
AIR (Air Engineering)	89%	38%	None due
ERSP (Emergency Response & Spill Prevention)	None due	NA	NA
LWRD (Land & Water Resources)	78%	22%	NA
REMEDIATION (Remediation)	0	NA	0
WEED (Waste Engineering & Enforcement)	99%	None due	15%
WPED (Water Permitting & Enforcement)	78%	88%	25%
WPMD (Water Planning & Management)	43%	75%	None due

20BY26 GOAL 3

REDUCE THE “LEGACY” PERMIT APPLICATION BACKLOG



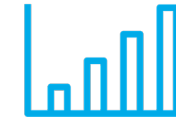
WHY

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



PROGRESS

- Added legacy permit applications from 2017 and 2018 to the existing universe
- Identification of Successes, Challenges, and Solutions

20BY26 GOAL 3

REDUCE THE “LEGACY” PERMIT APPLICATION BACKLOG

WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS



Successes

- Starting Point: 331 legacy permit apps, 223 processed (67%)
- By end Q1 2024: 507 legacy permit apps, 348 processed (69%)
- 159 legacy permit apps remaining for 2024



Challenges

- Balancing legacy permit application processing with processing of incoming permits, enforcement, and compliance actions



Solutions

- Improvement in Goal 2 processing of incoming permits, also improves metrics for Goal 3.

	pre-2017	2017	2018	Legacy Percent Reduction for pre-2019 as of 3/31/24
# Legacy permits	331	60	116	507
# Processed as of 3/31/24	223	41	84	348
% Processed as of 3/31/24	67%	68%	72%	69%

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



PROGRESS

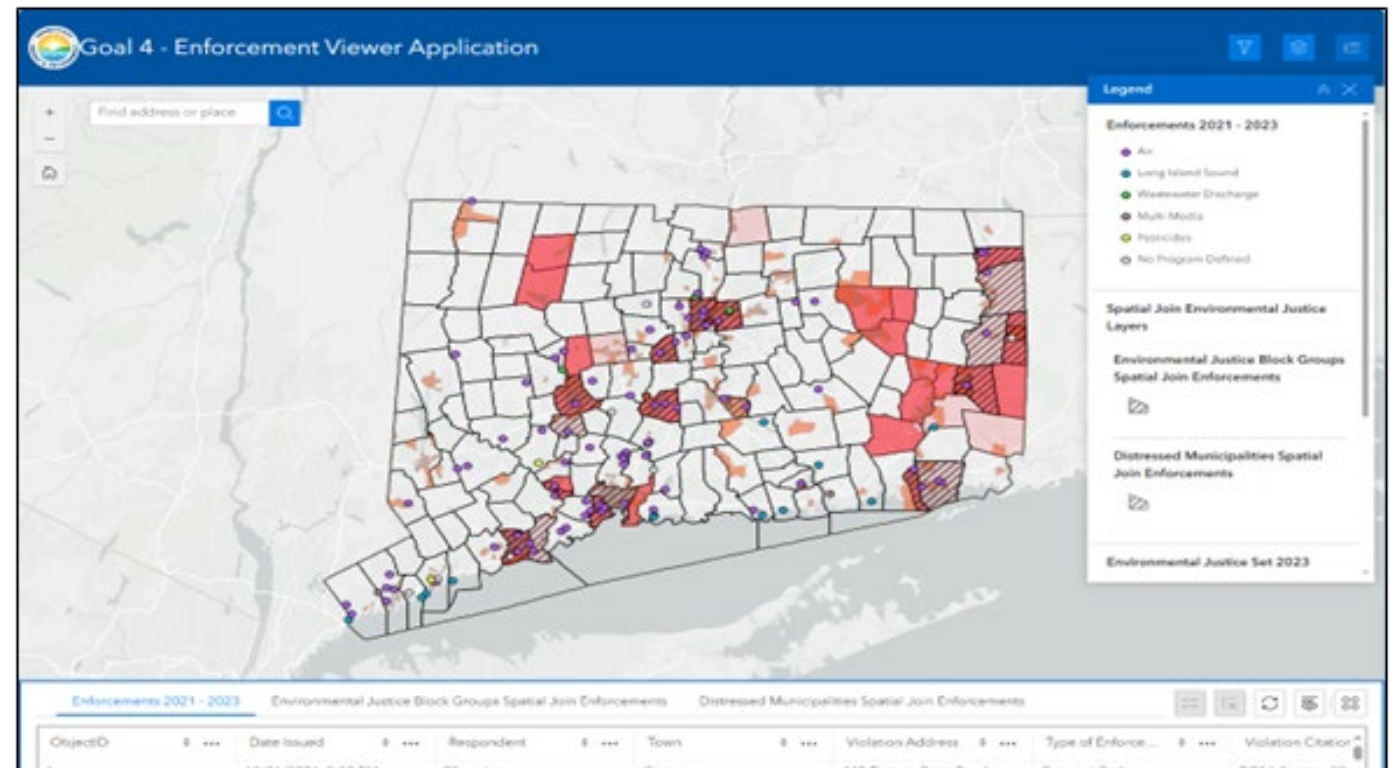
- Created Enforcement Data viewer for formal actions
- GMAP deployment in Hartford/ East Hartford
- WPED's Noncompliance Reporting Platform

STRENGTHEN ENFORCEMENT RESOURCES


WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS

DEEP's new [Enforcement Viewer Application](#) of formal enforcement actions from 2021 onward

- Users can:
 - toggle layers off and on, including an [Environmental Justice Communities layer](#)
 - filter enforcement actions by program
 - export entire or filtered subsets
- Future state will include municipally-aggregated public complaints that have resulted in inspections (no specific addresses)



WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS

 **Noncompliance Notification Form**

Facilities with discharge permits issued by DEEP's Water Permitting and Enforcement Division ("WPED"), both individual and general permits are required to notify DEEP of noncompliance with permit terms and conditions and/or Section 22a-430 et al. of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA"). This form is intended for Permittees to electronically notify DEEP of instances of noncompliance. This form is not intended for notification of noncompliance at publicly owned treatment works.

Submission of this form does not relieve a Permittee of additional notification and reporting requirements in its discharge permit or state and federal regulations. Check your permit and RCSA for additional requirements, which may include written reports and additional sampling. The following link for notification requirements may be useful, but please note this link serves as a guide and does not supersede requirements in your discharge permit and/or RCSA: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Water-Regulating-and-Discharges/Industrial-Wastewater/Compliance-Assistance/Notification-Requirements>

For bypasses, spills, or environmental emergencies, you must also call DEEP's Emergency Response Unit at (860) 424-3338.

You will receive a copy of your notification to the email address provided upon submission.

* Required

Contact Information

1. Facility Name: *

2. Town Facility is Located: *

3. Permit Number: *

Please capitalize all letters in the permit number and ensure you are entering a 9-character permit number. If the permit number is not entered exactly as it appears on the permit, your submission will not be received properly.

WPED's new online noncompliance reporting platform:

- Single point of entry for self-reporting
- 266 reports received since launch
- Staff can review, triage, and respond in real time
- Identification of sectors that could use additional compliance assistance

Geospatial Measurement of Air Pollution (GMAP):

- Toured Hartford and East Hartford in Spring 2024
- Mobile monitor used to pinpoint elevated ambient air pollution



EXPAND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE



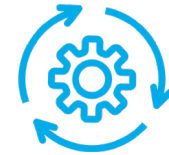
WHY

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



PROGRESS

- Compliance Engagement meetings with stakeholders
- Agency-wide Complaint Intake Systems development

WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS

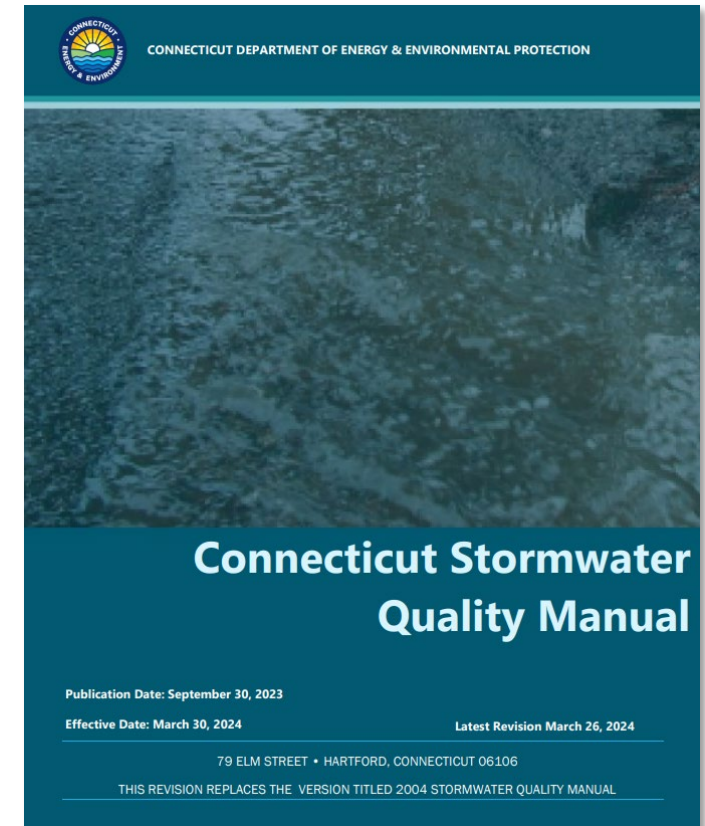
Compliance Assistance:

- LWRD hosted a public Q&A on their recently updated [Beach Association Guide to Coastal Activities and Permitting](#) and [Coastal Property Owner's Guide \(ct.gov\)](#)

Several divisions updated their **public complaint intake systems:**

- LWRD pilots Survey 1-2-3 for EQ
- Air Bureau complaint system

DEEP completed the [Stormwater Quality Manual](#) and the [Guidelines on Soil Erosion and Sediment Control](#), both effective March 30, 2024.



ENHANCED FINANCIAL ASSURANCE TRACKING & 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



PROGRESS

- Internal SOP on FA

COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP REGULATIONS THAT IMPLEMENT RECENT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REFORMS



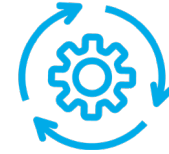
WHY

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



PROGRESS



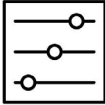


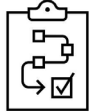
- Informational Sessions
- Development of Regulatory Concepts
- Establishing a Community Advocates Task Force

COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP REGULATIONS THAT IMPLEMENT RECENT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REFORMS

Information Sessions

CBIA	NAACP
CEEJAC	Climate & Jobs
EBC	SIPRAC
HWAC	SWAC
Remediation Roundtable	

Regulatory Concepts

	Identification/Measurement of Stressors		Geographic Points of Comparison
	Public Health and Environmental Stressors Tool		Standards for Denying/Placing Conditions on Permits
	Cumulative Impacts Assessment		Public Participation Plan, Report

Advocates Task Force with



COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP REGULATIONS THAT IMPLEMENT RECENT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE REFORMS

September 2024

Introductory Meeting

Upcoming Stakeholder Engagement

Five Workshops

deep.ejrulmaking@ct.gov

2025

Wrap-Up Meeting

20BY26 GOAL 8

EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION FOR EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



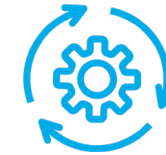
WHY

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



PROGRESS

- Public Participation Guidance document
- Permitting Flow Chart
- Public Participation Checklist

20BY26 GOAL 8

EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION FOR EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

CT.gov Home / Department of Energy & Environmental Protection / Environmental Justice / Participate in the Permitting/Policy Process

Our Commitment to Environmental Justice

Environmental Justice Program Overview

Review Our Environmental Equity Policy

Report an Environmental Concern

Participate in the Permitting/Policy Process

Learn More About Environmental Justice Communities

Tap into Our Education and Outreach Programs

Help Address Climate Change

Explore Environmental Grant Opportunities

Access Health Information

Find Additional Resources

Find Available Programs and Initiatives

Search Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

by Keyword



DEEP is eager to engage the community in its permitting and policymaking process. Whether you're seeking a permit, want to share your opinions about potential permits that could affect your area, or want to help shape environmental policy, we are here to listen and to assist you in any way possible.

About the Permitting Process

We encourage all potential participants, or stakeholders, to understand how the permitting process works so they can better engage in this process. Here are a few resources you may find helpful:

- [Overview of the Permitting Process](#)
- [Permit Process Flowchart](#)
- [Permitting Checklist for Applicants](#)
- [Environmental Equity Checklist for Permit Applicants](#)

How to Engage the Surrounding Community

Keep in mind that before any permit applications can be filed that involve applicable facilities in Environmental Justice Communities, an Environmental Justice Plan must be submitted for review by email to Edith Pestana of the Environmental Justice Program at edith.pestana@ct.gov.

Here are some additional resources that may be helpful in putting together your Environmental Justice Plan:

- [Overview of Environmental Justice Communities](#)
- [Environmental Justice Affecting Facilities Web Map](#)
- [Demographics and Affecting Facilities Web Map](#)
- [Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan Forms \(Word Version | PDF Version\)](#)
- [The Environmental Justice Public Participation Guidelines](#)
- [Public Participation Plans for Remote Meetings](#)



Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan

Before an applicant files a permit application with the Department, the applicant must submit an Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan (the "Plan") and receive approval for any affecting facility, in accordance with section 22a-20a of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), that is proposed to be located or expanded in an environmental justice community. For definitions and further guidance on the underlying EJ statute, please refer to the Department's Environmental Justice Guidance Document.

If a Plan is required for your project, please complete and submit this form to the addresses indicated at the end of this form.

Once the Department has tentatively approved a Plan, the applicant is responsible for fully implementing that Plan. Before the Department issues a Notice of Tentative Determination, the applicant must submit a final report, documenting the implementation of the Plan and receiving Department Approval. If any of the information changes that is to be supplied in this form, or in the tentatively approved Plan, the applicant must contact the Office of Equity and Environmental Justice to determine if the initial Plan must be amended.

Please label all supporting documents to correspond with the outline provided in this document, e.g., "Part II A: Project Summary".

Note:

1. All submitted plans will be made publicly available.
2. All citations herein are to CGS § 22a-20a, Connecticut's Environmental Justice statute. This form is designed to guide applicants in preparing a public participation plan. Applicants should refer to the appropriate statutes and regulations for more detail. It is the applicants' responsibility to obtain and comply with all relevant state, federal, and local laws.
3. This form is now in Version 2.0, last edited in January 2024. DEEP welcomes feedback on the usability of the form.

Part I: Proposed Applicant Information

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant:
 Mailing Address: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 City/Town: _____ ext. _____
 Business Phone: _____ Phone: _____ ext. _____
 Contact Person: _____
 Email: _____
 Applicant (check one): individual company federal agency, state agency municipality
 If a company, list company type (e.g., corporation, limited partnership, etc.): _____
 Check if any co-applicants. If so, attach additional sheet(s) with the required information as requested above.

DEEP-EJ-PLAN-001

Page 1 of 7

Version 2.0, Rev.01/11/2024

Plan Form

Connecticut Environmental Justice Public Participation Guidance Document 2024

Table of Contents

roduction.....1
 ckground.....2
 A. Key Terms2
 B. New in 20233
 Who Must Comply with CGS § 22a-20a.....4
 Public Participation Process.....5
 A. Public Participation Plan.....5
 i. Generally.....5
 ii. Notice.....6
 iii. Informal Public Meeting.....7
 iv. Public Participation Report.....7
 B. Community Economic Benefits Agreement Process7
 C. Environmental Justice and RCRA8
 More Information.....9
 Contact Information.....9
 Appendix A.....10

INTRODUCTION

Connecticut adopted in 2009 one of the country's first statutes that places environmental justice ["EJ"] requirements on DEEP permitting activities and Siting and Siting Certificates. See Connecticut General Statutes ["CGS"] § 22a-20a. The law has been greatly successful and continues to evolve with the times.

Effective October 1, 2023, [Public Act 23-202](#) updated § 22a-20a. This guidance document lays out the EJ law's requirements, and highlights what is new in 2023.

Environmental Justice Public Participation Guidance Document 2024
v.1

1

Guidance Document

ENHANCED PUBLIC RECORDS TRANSPARENCY



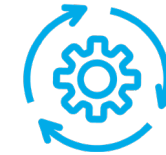
WHY

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](#)



PROGRESS

- Remediation Digitization Complete
- FOIA and Records Center Integration
- Publication of numerous map viewers

ENHANCED PUBLIC RECORDS TRANSPARENCY

WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS

IMPROVED FOIA AND RECORD REQUEST PROCESS:

- Records Center online requests are entered into GovQA
- Internal training on GovQA with Lunch and Learn

RECORDS DIGITIZATION:

- Remediation Division scanning complete!
- LUST and PCB scanning projects in progress
- Developing plan for future scanning lineup

ONLINE RECORDS CENTER:

- Enhanced [Document Search Portal](#)
- 5-Minute Getting Started with the Document Search Portal [Video Tutorial](#)

State of Connecticut
Governor Ned Lamont

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
DOCUMENT SEARCH PORTAL

Home More Information and FAQs Questions on Searches and Documents Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests Report Technical Difficulties

The DEEP Document Online Search Portal includes a collection of documents electronically produced or digitally scanned by the Agency. The portal is searchable by a variety of fields.
Note: Following are the categories of documents currently available through this search portal as well as for a list of available program documents, field definitions and updates: [More Information and FAQs](#).

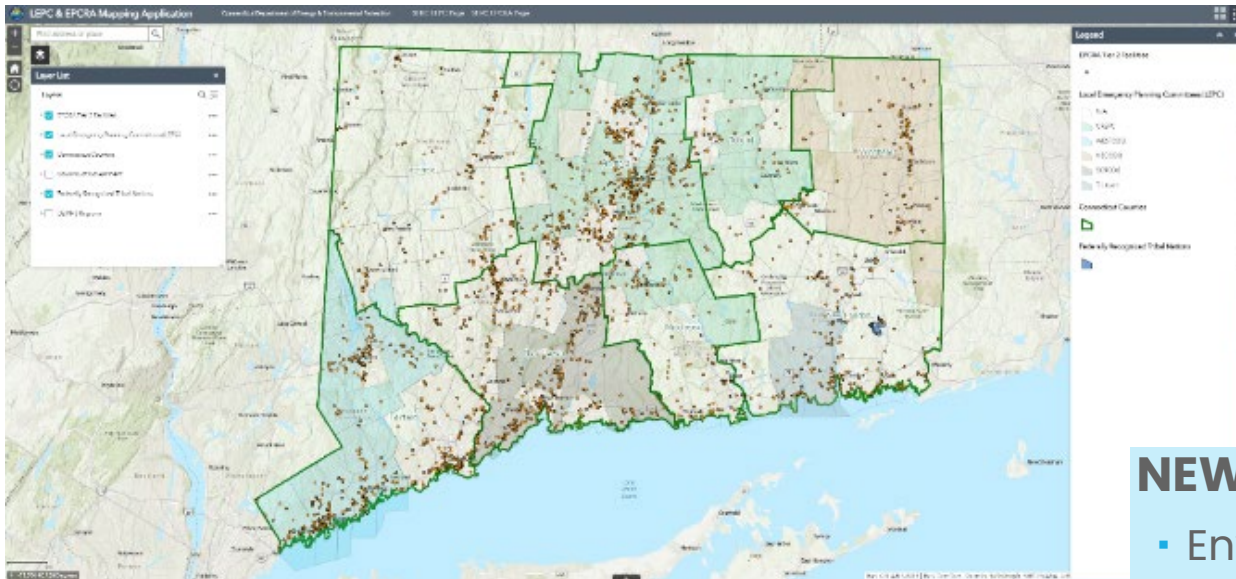
Search Criteria

Agency Program	Agency Program(s)	Entity Name	Entity Name
Town	Town(s)	Street Address	Street Address
Agency ID	Agency ID	Document Type	Document Type(s)
File Type	FileType(s)	Subject	Subject
From Date	From Date	To Date	To Date

RESET SUBMIT

ENHANCED PUBLIC RECORDS TRANSPARENCY

WINTER/SPRING 2024 PROGRESS DETAILS



NEW MAP VIEWERS

- Environmental Justice Mapping Tool 3.0
- Procedures for continuously updating the DEEP GIS property layer
- Brownfield sites GIS mapping application
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Map Viewer

EXPAND TOOLS FOR ONLINE SERVICES



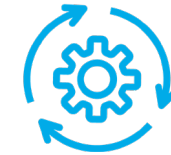
WHY

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



PROGRESS

- Investment in Salesforce Platform
- Development of framework for pollution release reporting system

2026

20 GOALS TO ACHIEVE BY THE END OF 2026



4 NEW GOALS

20BY26 GOAL 17 (NEW STAKEHOLDER GOAL)

IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF NDDB REVIEW



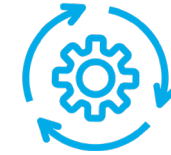
WHY

Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Natural Diversity Database review process for all stakeholders



STRATEGY

Build upon DEEP's new e-NDDB Portal to strengthen the efficiency and predictability of NDDB response and review time



ACTIONS

- Identify sub-optimal components of the submission and review process
- Identify priority program needs
- Gather stakeholder feedback
- Identify process and conservation outcome improvements with a schedule for implementation



20BY26 GOAL 18 (NEW STAKEHOLDER GOAL)

ENHANCING DAM SAFETY THROUGH IMPROVED PERMITTING FOR REPAIR AND REMOVAL



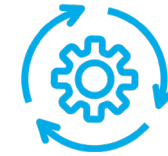
WHY

Importance of dam safety to public safety/property and environmental and ecological health



GOALS

Maintain public safety and provide environmental benefit for private and state-owned dams; improve climate resiliency, ecological and human health, and water quality; reduce permitting timelines by expanding streamlined permitting; and increase protection of drinking water supplies



ACTIONS

- Initiate a joint dam safety advisory group with interested stakeholders
- Expand general permit eligibility for broader range of dam related work.
- Continued focus on state owned dams (under DEEP's oversight) to comply with applicable requirements
- Develop sediment management guidelines (focus on lightly polluted sediment to align with updates to RSRs)

20BY26 GOAL 19 (NEW STAKEHOLDER GOAL) **ESTABLISH EQUITY HUBS**



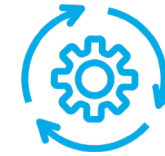
WHY

Address the need for community-based services and support related to DEEP's programs and initiatives in underserved communities.



STRATEGY

Build DEEP's capacity to listen and engage with communities by focusing on key challenges, needs, and opportunities around health disparities, access to clean energy, community resilience, and equitable support



ACTIONS

- Facilitate educational events and funding workshops
- Share environmental data and energy-efficiency solutions
- Assist with state and federal grants

20BY26 GOAL 20 (NEW GOAL)

DEVELOP A METRICS DASHBOARD



WHY

Add transparency and awareness to DEEP's efforts to reduce greenhouse gases and reach CT's carbon reduction goals by 2040



STRATEGY

Create a metrics dashboard to support energy, waste, and climate mitigation sectors; share opportunities for [stakeholder engagement](#); empower residents to join in DEEP actions



METRICS

- Display Quantity of EVs and charging stations; battery storage and solar capacities; tonnage of food scraps diverted; acres of urban tree cover; and more...
- Update [CT's 2015 Waste Characterization Study](#)

NEXT STEPS

September 2024

**All Hands
Presentation on
Goals 11-20 Progress**

July 2024

**October 2024
Quarterly Progress
Reports**

Q&A

20BY26

20 GOALS TO ACHIEVE BY THE END OF 2026

DEEP.20BY26@ct.gov

<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/about/20by26/20by26>