



FROM 20BY20 TO 20BY26

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

2026

20 GOALS TO ACHIEVE BY THE END OF 2026

20BY26: NEW GOALS TO ACHIEVE

- 20BY26 builds off the success of 20BY20 to keep making our work transparent, predictable, and efficient.
- 20BY26 launches 16 new **DEEP-identified performance goals** that DEEP will achieve by the end of 2026.
- Stakeholders are invited to **nominate four additional goals**. *Submissions requested **by May 1** at DEEP.20BY26@ct.gov.*
- 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 GOAL 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

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: DEEP Partnerships with Private Entities in State Parks

GOALS 17–20: Stakeholder Goals

Read DEEP's kickoff report: [20BY26, Setting the Target: CT DEEP 2026 Goals](#) (Feb. 2024)

20BY26 GOAL 1

ADOPT RELEASE-BASED REGULATIONS TO MODERNIZE CONNECTICUT'S CLEANUP 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

CONNECTICUT'S RELEASE-BASED SYSTEM:
A New, Proven Way to Address Spills to Spur Remediation and Reinvestment in Our Communities

TRANSFER ACT	RELEASE-BASED SYSTEM
Ties up property transfers in red tape	48 states do it this way
Unfairly picks winners and losers	Same standards apply to everyone, creating more certainty and more equitable outcomes
Stalls real estate transactions for decades	Faster, less expensive clean ups
Deters investment	Spurs redevelopment and reinvestment in our communities
Puts CT at an economic disadvantage	Better outcomes for the environment, businesses, local economies, and CT's economy
Incentivizes owners to abandon properties	Fewer blighted properties
Leaves hazardous holes in our communities	Protects human health and the environment
3,150 CT properties sitting underdeveloped in our communities since the 1980s	Healthier, safer communities

20BY26 GOAL 2

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



WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 20BY20:

GOAL 1: MAKE PERMITTING TIMEFRAMES MORE TRANSPARENT

DEEP established expected timeframes for **all 125+ permitting processes** and a **dashboard** showing our success in hitting those targets.

GOAL 6: FAST TRACK SAME-TO- SAME PERMIT RENEWAL TIME

DEEP finalized a **new system** for solid waste permit renewals in 2020, **shortening the processing time for these permits by three months.**

GOAL 7: CHANGE INDIVIDUAL PERMITS TO GENERAL PERMITS

In 2020, DEEP successfully issued consolidated general permits that **streamline the regulation of thousands of industrial and commercial wastewater discharges** to publicly owned treatment works statewide.

GOAL 8: ELIMINATE SOME PERMITS AND MOVE TO “PERMIT BY RULE”

Adding to the effects of Goal 7, in 2020, DEEP **secured legislative approval** to move environmental protections from permits into regulations for certain well-known, high volume, low-complexity sources of air emissions, thereby streamlining permitting and processing.

20BY26 GOAL 2

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



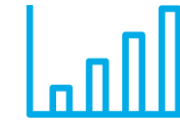
WHY

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

WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 20BY20:

45% REDUCTION IN BACKLOG OF 331 APPLICATIONS FILED WITH DEEP BEFORE 2017



WHY

Further enhancement of regulatory certainty



STRATEGY

Continue to reduce backlog of permits older than 5 years, 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**WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 20BY20:**

CREATED ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT HUB FOR IMPROVED TRACKING AND MADE ENFORCEMENT RECORDS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OPEN DATA PORTAL

**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 7 (NEW)

COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOP REGULATIONS THAT IMPLEMENT RECENT ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



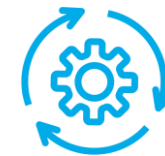
WHY

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**WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 20BY20:**

NEW DOCUMENT ONLINE SEARCH PORTAL THAT NOW CONTAINS OVER 1M DOCUMENTS, EXPANDED OPEN DATA PORTAL ENTRIES, AND LAUNCHED GIS PORTAL

**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 12

EXPAND DEEP CONCIERGE SERVICES TO MUNICIPALITIES AND SMALL BUSINESSES

WHAT WE ACHIEVED IN 20BY20:



Camille Fontanella
Office Director

Bea Milne
Emily Tully
Jessica Bilyard
Darren Wright

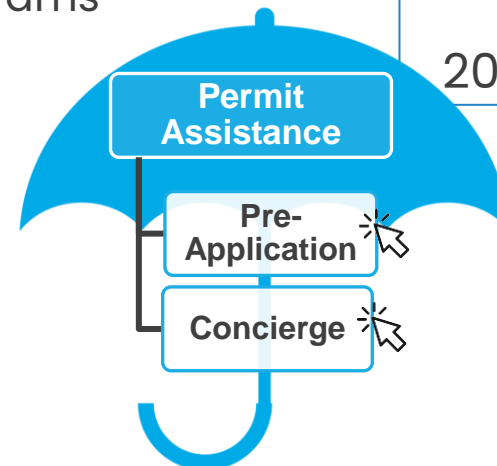
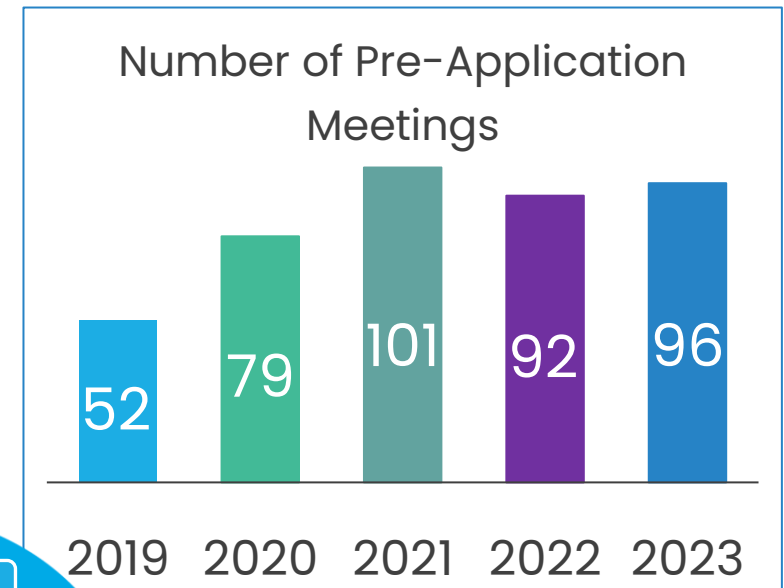
Concierge Team Members

THE OFFICE OF INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND PLANNING

DEEP’s Central Office “**front door**” and point-of-contact for stakeholder assistance with environmental permitting

- Facilitates communication between stakeholders and permit programs
- Guides projects through the complex permitting process
- Follow-up on projects within DEEP and with other federal and state agencies
- Stakeholder Outreach

Contact the Concierge Team:
DEEP.Concierge@ct.gov



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

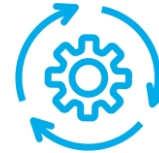
20BY26 GOAL 14 (NEW)

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

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



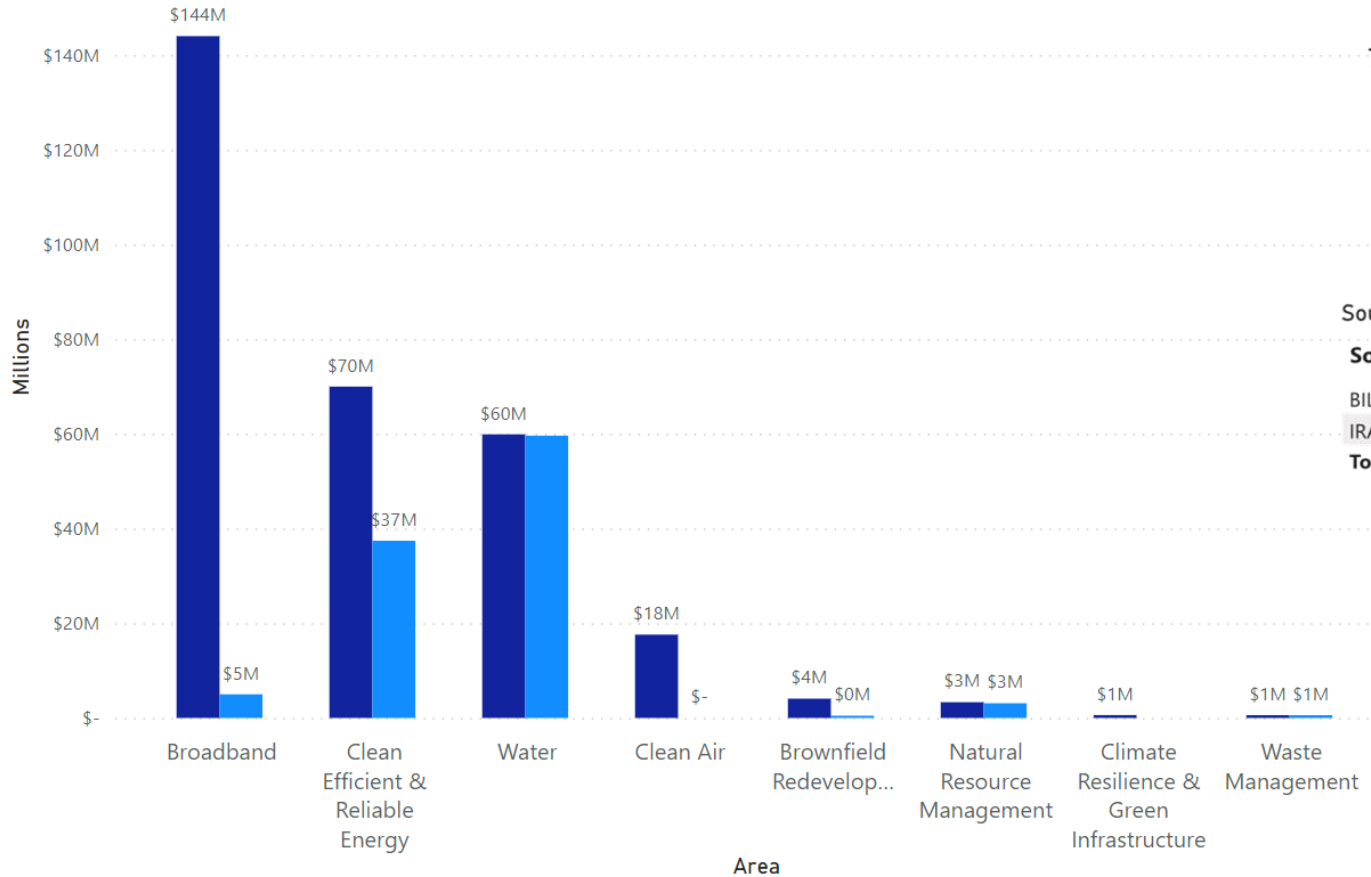
ACTIONS

- 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

Since the establishment of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), a sum of \$300 million has been awarded to DEEP in the areas shown below

CT DEEP - Total BIL/IRA grants awarded to date

● Awarded ● Received to date

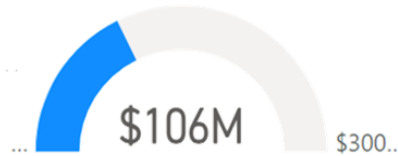


● **Awarded:** Total of federal funds that DEEP has been formally awarded.
 ● **Received:** Award funds either received to date or approved for receipt from the federal government.

\$300M

Total BIL/IRA funding awarded

Total received to date by DEEP



Source of Funding

Source	%
BIL	97.3%
IRA	2.7%
Total	100.0%

Type of Funding

Type	%
Formula	93.6%
Competitive	6.4%
Total	100.0%

Funding per Federal Agency

Fed. Agency	%
DOC - NTIA	48.0%
DOE	23.3%
EPA	22.4%
DOT	4.9%
USDA	1.1%
DOC - NOAA	0.3%
Total	100.0%

Key Awards:

- Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (\$144M)
- Clean Water Fund – Supplemental Grants, Stormwater/Sewer, Emerging Contaminants (\$52M)
- Weatherization Assistance Program (\$46M)
- Grid Resilience Grants (\$16M)
- Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (\$14.6M)

20BY26 STAKEHOLDER GOALS 17-20

DEEP is seeking suggestions for **four additional goals**



GOAL 17



GOAL 18



GOAL 19



GOAL 20

Stakeholders may submit questions or suggestions for goals by **May 1** to DEEP.20by26@ct.gov.

Sign up to receive email updates [HERE](#).

NEXT STEPS: 20BY26 SCHEDULE AND REPORTING



Stakeholders may submit questions or suggestions for goals to DEEP.20by26@ct.gov.

Sign up to receive email updates [HERE](#).

View our ~~20~~20BY26 Report and learn more at portal.ct.gov/DEEP-



THANK YOU

Q&A