



CEEJAC SPECIAL MEETING

Presented by DEEP staff and Alex Rodriguez of Save the Sound
February 22, 2023

The logo banner for CEEJAC features the acronym 'CEEJAC' in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. To the right of the acronym is a vertical white line, followed by the full name 'Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council' in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font. The background of the banner is a dark purple gradient with a faint, textured image of a forest.

CEEJAC

Connecticut Equity
and Environmental
Justice Advisory Council

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Alex Rodriguez, Environmental Justice Specialist, Save the Sound

*Edith Pestana, Environmental Justice Program Administrator, CT
DEEP*

*Plus staff from DEEP's Air, Waste, and Water bureaus and the Office
of the Commissioner*

CEEJAC GROUND RULES

During the discussion, all members should:

- Listen respectfully, without interrupting.
- Listen actively and with an ear to understanding others' views.
- Only have one conversation at a time.
- Be mindful to give others the opportunity to speak.
- Focus on the task at hand rather than the position.
- Avoid off-topic conversations.
- Criticize ideas, not people.
- Commit to learning, not debating.
- Avoid blame, speculation and inflammatory language.
- Avoid assumptions about any member of the group.

AGENDA

- ~~• Welcome and introductions~~
- ~~• Ground Rules~~
- Background on the issue (Alex Rodriguez)
- Background on existing processes (DEEP staff)
 - DEEP's Air permitting (Jaimeson Sinclair)
 - DEEP's Water permitting (Jeff Caiola, Graham Stevens)
 - DEEP's Waste permitting (Gabrielle Frigon)
 - Connecticut's EJ Public Participation (Edith Pestana)
- Proposed EJ-related legislation for 2023 session:
 - Environmental Justice permitting process
 - Waste Bill
- Closing and Next Steps

A PRINCIPLE TO LIVE BY

“...no segment of the population should, because of its racial or economic makeup, bear a disproportionate share of risks and consequences of environmental pollution or be denied equal access to environmental benefits.” –

CT DEEP’s Environmental Equity Policy, 1993



AGENDA

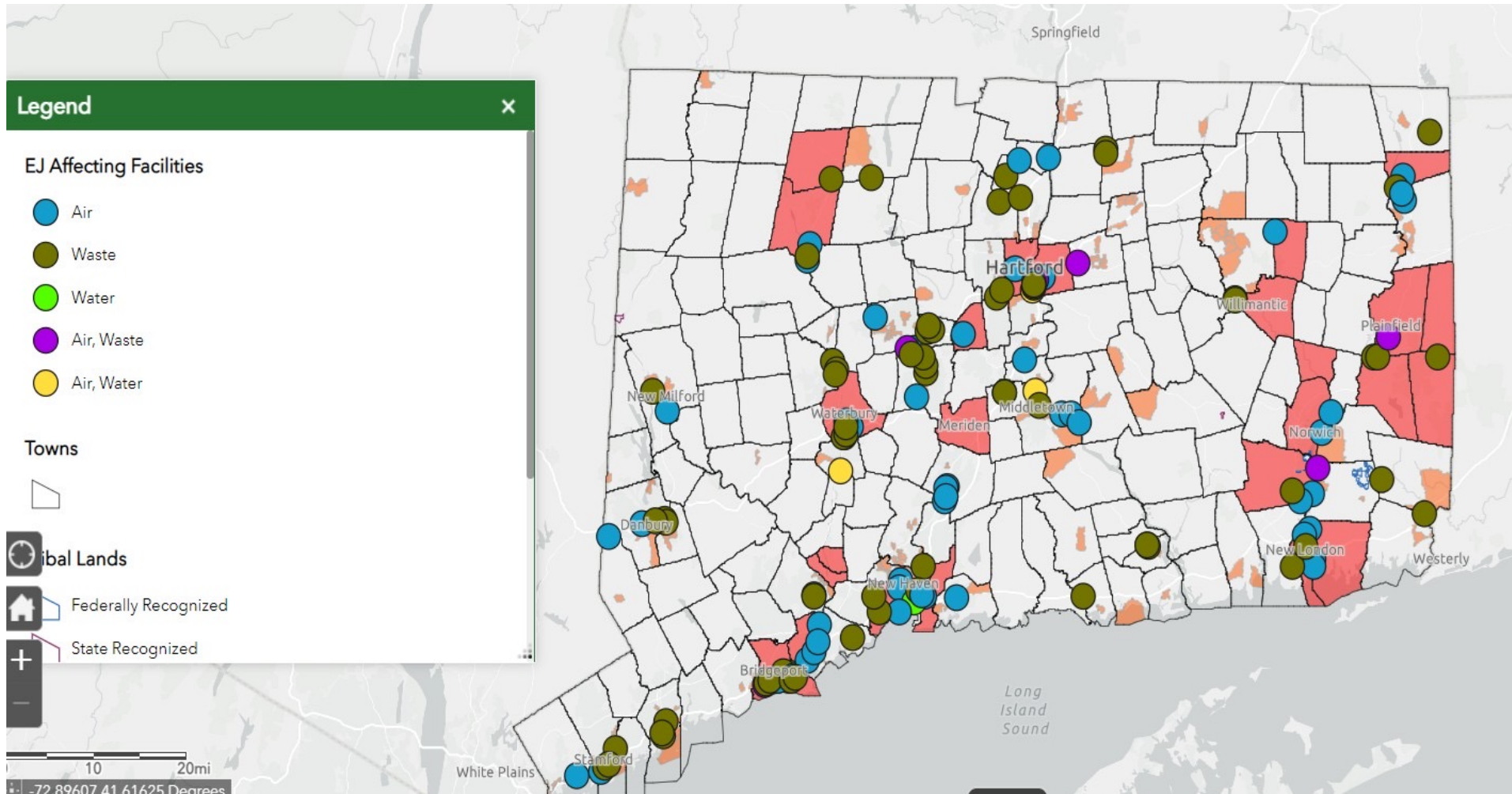
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THE PROBLEM

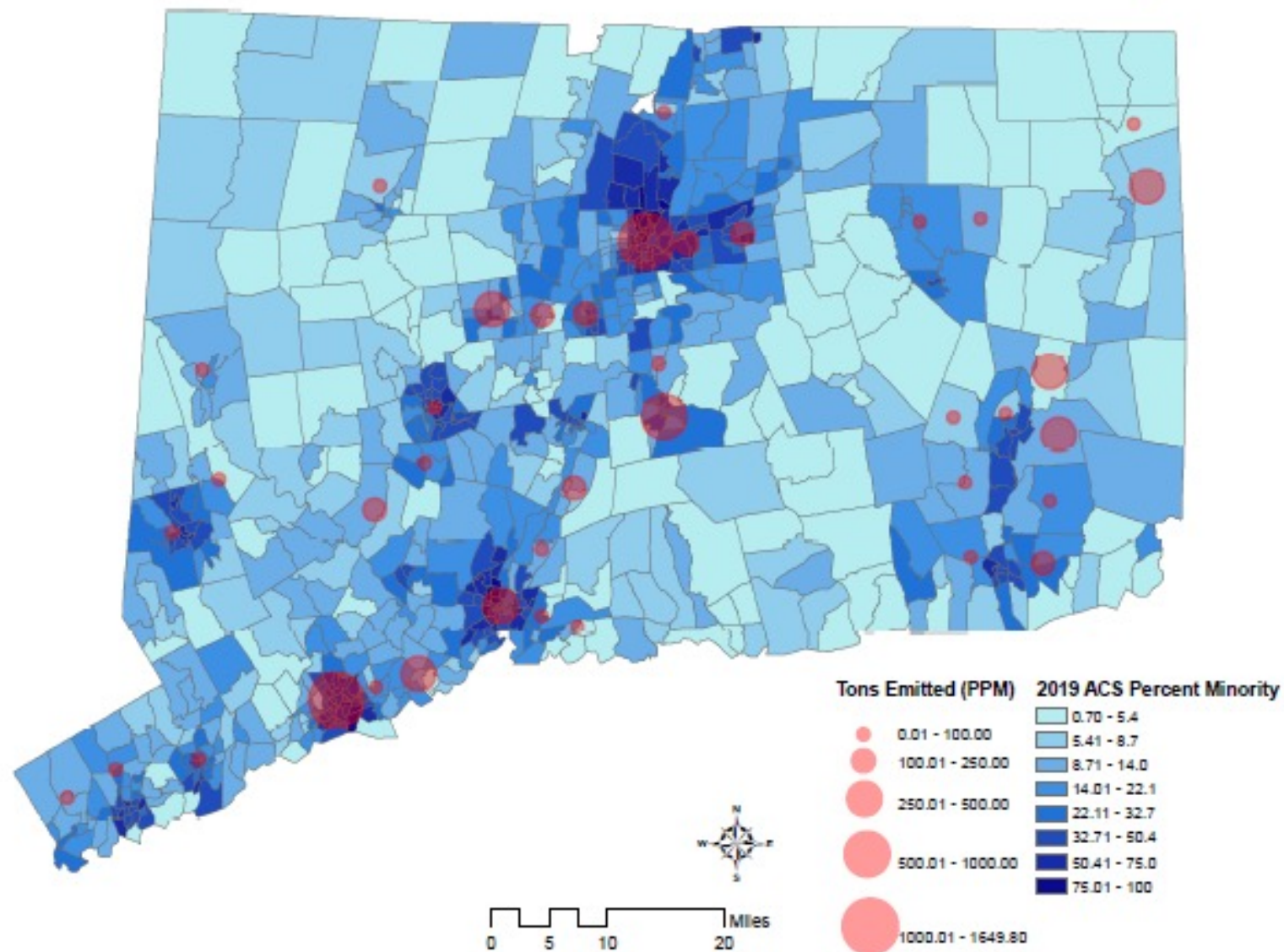
- ▶ Climate change disproportionately affects those who suffer from socioeconomic inequalities, including many people of color.
- ▶ Environmental health hazards are purposely situated in low-income and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities:
 - ▶ 23 of Connecticut's largest fossil fuel generating units are located in state-identified EJ communities
- ▶ Hazards include: Trash incinerators, sewage treatment plants, power plants with fracked gas as source, and more



MAP OF AFFECTING FACILITIES IN CT



Census Tracts Percent Minority & 2020 Point Source Air Pollution Emissions by Town



WHAT POLICIES HAVE IMPROVED EJ?

Enacted in 2008, the state's environmental justice law required public participation in decisions to site or expand facilities, such as power plants, waste treatment facilities, disposal facilities, or large air emission producers, in certain municipalities and communities.

In 2020, the CT legislature passed a bill that would revise the state's environmental justice regulations, and require facilities that impact the environment to improve communication with the public and provide services or funding that would mitigate any environmental effects on the surrounding community.

The effort to strengthen the law was revisited because there was a lot more that needed to be done to strengthen public notice and participation, among many other factors.

Still, not enough has been included in the law to protect people from environmental hazards.

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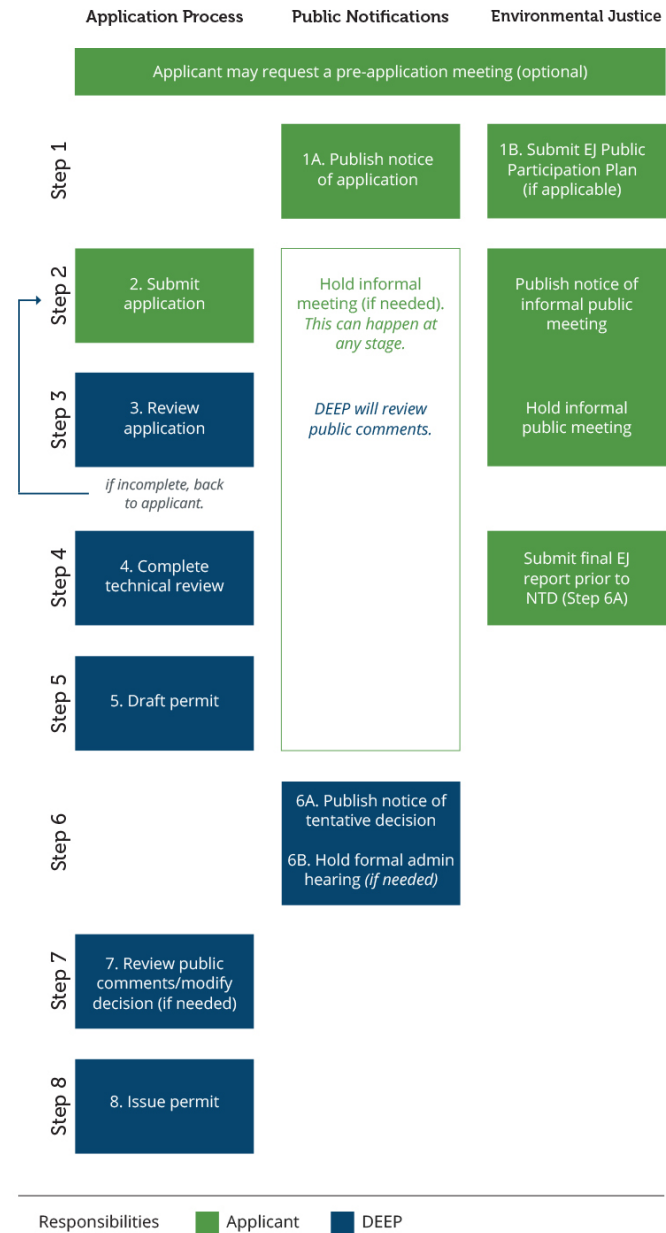
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PERMITTING FLOWCHART

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Permits-and-Licenses/Permitting-Process-Overview/Application-Process-Individual-Permits>

Green = Applicant Part of the Process

Blue = DEEP Part of the Process



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APPLICATION TYPE

There are three main types of environmental permits for projects that may affect our state's natural resources, environment and human health: **individual permits, general permits and permit by rule.**

If the impact of a project's activities on the environment are relatively minor, those activities may be authorized by DEEP through **a general permit** or permit by rule.

Each **general permit** describes the necessary level of approval needed to initiate an activity, which can include one or more of the following:

- No registration is required prior to initiation of the activity
- A registration is required along with written acknowledgement from DEEP
- Prior to initiation a registration is required along with DEEP approval prior to initiation of the activity

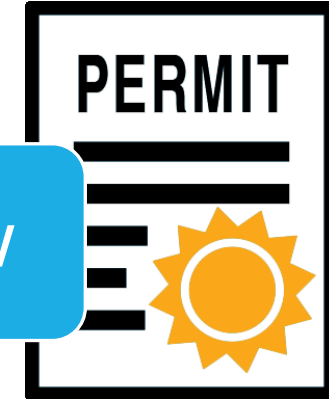
DEEP'S GENERIC REGULATORY PROCESS FOR COVERAGE UNDER A GENERAL PERMIT

Sufficiency Review

- Is the proposed activity eligible for authorization under the general permit that the applicant is applying under?
- Does the application include all the components necessary to conduct the technical review?
- The Commissioner may reject an application or petition as insufficient if it does not meet the requirements of Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

Technical Review

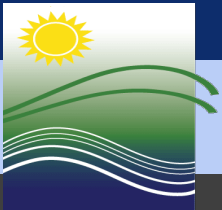
- Factors for Consideration outlined in the statutes that are applicable to the program in which your applying for a permit under
- Some programs have corresponding regulations, which have additional requirements that must be adhered to
- Request for Additional Information (RFI) maybe issued during the technical review process



APPLICATION REVIEW

General Permits – Generic Workflow

Application Review
Site visit
Sufficiency Review
Notice Of Insufficiency
Review NOI Response
Resource Coordination
Tech Review
Meeting
Request for Additional Information
Review Additional Information
Route of authorization for Signature



APPLICATION TYPE

If the activities involved in your project may have a significant impact on the state's air, water or land, you may need to apply for an **individual permit** that is tailored for your specific project. The process of applying for and obtaining an individual permit may differ slightly from program to program

Before you submit your permit application, you must publish a **notice of your application in a newspaper of general circulation** in the affected area and submit a copy of the notice to DEEP as part of your completed application



APPLICATION TYPE

Prior to submitting an application...



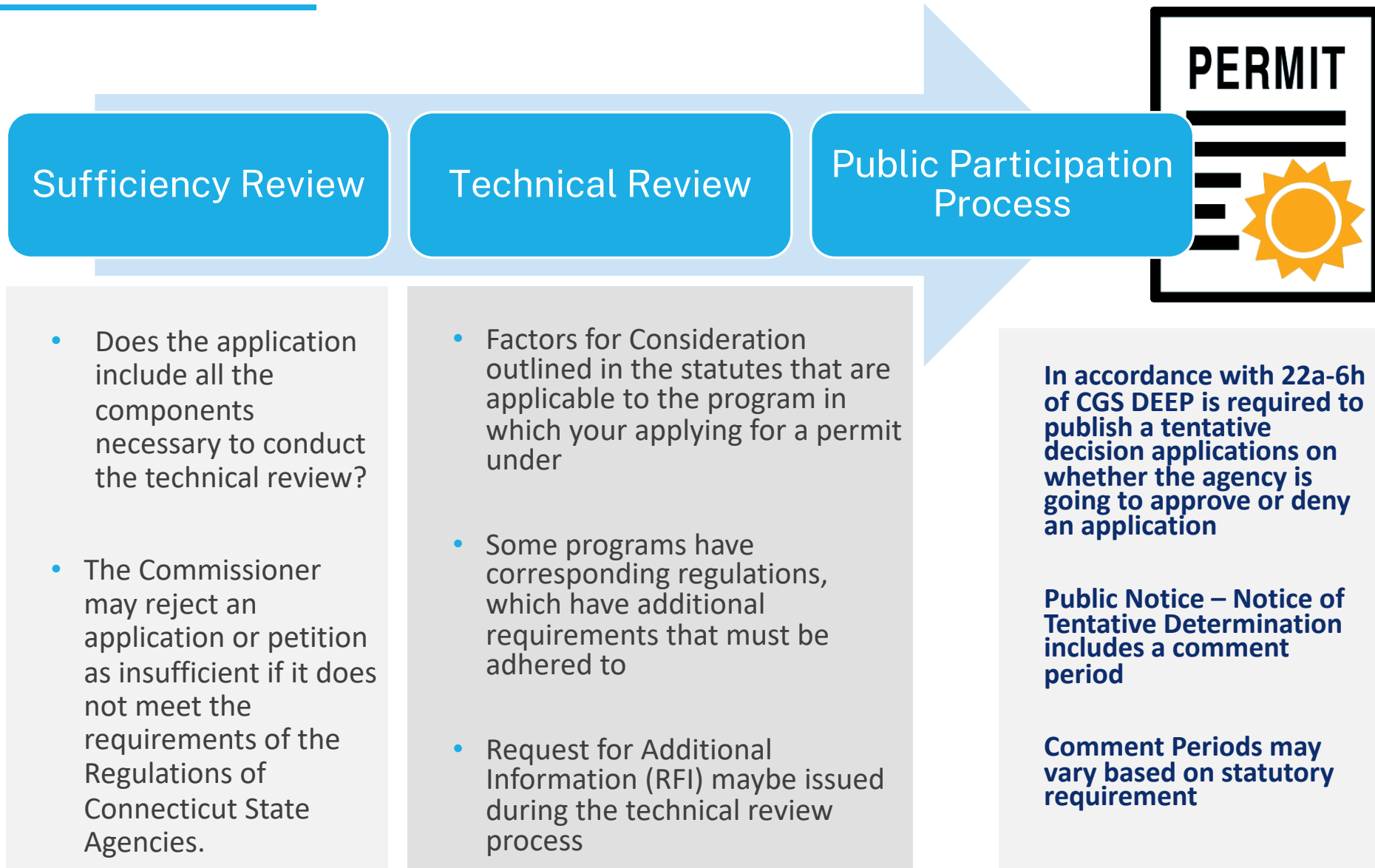
IMPORTANT

If your proposed activity is located in an environmental justice (EJ) community, and is defined as an affecting facility, then EJ requirements such as an EJ Plan and additional public notice requirements will apply.

In this case, before you submit a permit application, you must receive a tentative approval from the EJ program for your EJ Plan; that tentative approval is then submitted as part of your permit application.

DEEP will publish a public notice of its tentative determination to approve or deny a permit application for a period of time at the end of the application review (either 30 or 45 days, as specified by the applicable law).

DEEP'S GENERIC REGULATORY PROCESS FOR INDIVIDUAL PERMITS



APPLICATION REVIEW

Individual Permit Applications - Generic Workflow

Application Review

Site Visit

Sufficiency Review

Notice Of Insufficiency

Meeting

Review NOI Response

Resource Coordination

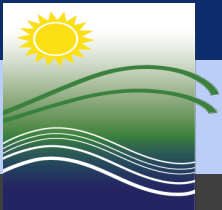
Tech Review

Request for Additional Information

Review Additional Information

Notice of Tentative Determination

Review Public Comment / Route of license for Signature



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WASTE ENGINEERING & ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

WEED administers statutes & programs pertaining to:

- **Permitting of**
 - Facilities that receive, process, store and transfer Solid Waste, Hazardous Waste and Recyclables & treat, store and dispose of Hazardous Waste
 - Transporters of Biomedical & Hazardous Waste
 - Use of Pesticides
 - Recyclers of Electronic Waste
- Enforcement of all of the above
- Developing programs that advance the goals of the state-wide Solid Waste Management Plan

WEED CONT.

Types of Facilities that WEED regulates

- Volume Reduction Facilities – any facility that processes waste
 - Processing – sorting, crushing, grinding, shredding, combusting, gasifying, pyrolyzing
- Transfer Stations – any facility that receives waste for storage but does not process the waste
 - Transfer means that waste is received, consolidated and stored prior to off-site transfer for processing or disposal
- Waste to Energy Facilities (a.k.a. Resource Recovery Facilities)
- Waste Conversion Facilities

WEED CONT.

- Solid Waste Permitting Process
 - Governed by Section 22a-208 et seq. of the CT General Statutes &/or Sec. 22a-454 CGS
 - Regulations provide parameters for application, review, permit drafting and issuance Regulations of CT State Agencies (RCSA) Sec. 22a-209
- Hazardous Waste Permitting Process
 - Prescribed by Federal Code and RCSA 22a-449(c)
- Administrative Process
 - Administrative process prescribed by RCSA 22a-3a-1 – 6 governing quality and timeliness of applications and contested cases

WEED CONT.

- **Before an Application is received - Applicant must satisfy EJ requirements CGS Sec. 22a-20a when applicable**
- **Permitting Process**
 - Pre-Application Meeting – Provide feedback on proposal and guidance on requirements
 - Application Receipt – After Public Participation Plan has been approved
 - Sufficiency Review – Notice of Sufficiency or Insufficiency
 - Technical review – Request(s) for Information
 - Permit Drafting
 - Notice of Tentative Determination – Currently: no P.N. until the Public Participation Plan Report is approved
 - Public Comment Period/Opportunity to request/petition for a hearing
 - Issuance/Denial – Denial process allows for the applicant to appeal (Administrative Hearing Process)

WEED CONT.

- Public Comment Period
 - Formal (written) comments from the applicant and the public
 - Opportunity to Request or Petition for Administrative Hearing
 - Restricted in scope for the hearing to the subject application and the determination of the application's compliance with applicable statutes and regulations

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CT EJ LEGISLATION

In 2009, An Act Concerning Environmental Justice Communities, PA 08-94, became law; in C.G.S. 22a-20a

- Defines EJ communities
- Identifies “affecting facilities” covered under the law
- Requires public participation
- Requires a community benefit agreement in certain circumstances

GOALS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAW ARE TO PROVIDE:

- Enhanced early community notification
- Opportunities for communities to negotiate with industry and government early in the decision-making process: before final construction plans are drafted.
- Incorporation of communities' concerns/agreements in the permit (e.g., reductions in emissions)

PUBLIC ACT 20-6 (CGS 22A-20A) NOVEMBER 1, 2020

- ❑ Defines environmental justice communities
- ❑ Defines specific affected facilities
- ❑ Requires a public meeting
- ❑ **New** Requires written notice to local and state elected officials
- ❑ **New** Requires written notification of neighborhood and environmental groups in English and the language spoken by at least 15 percent of the population living within a half a mile of the proposed or existing facility
- ❑ **New** Requires signage on the existing or proposed project site in English and all languages spoken by at least 15 percent of the population as defined by the most recent US Census.
- ❑ **New** Requires a community environmental benefit agreement if the Town has five (5) existing affecting facilities.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT AGREEMENT

Applicant enters into an agreement with the Town manager, Town elected official. Required if 5 affecting facilities.

The Chief elected official or Town Manager is required to participate in the negotiations of any community environmental benefit agreement (CEBA) and enforce the agreement.

The law requires that before negotiating the terms of a community environmental benefit agreement, the municipality shall negotiate with the community and provide a reasonable and public opportunity for residents of the potentially affected environmental justice community to be heard concerning the requirements of or need for, and terms of, such agreement.

The CEBA shall be approved by the legislative body of the town before implementation, administration and enforcement of such agreement.

NON-COMPLIANCE

Permit applications filed that fail to undertake the requirements under CGS 22a-20a, the application shall be deemed **insufficient**.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Environmental-Justice/05-Learn-More-About-Environmental-Justice-Communities>

- a distressed municipality, as designated by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD ranking methodology); OR
- defined census block groups where 30% of the population is living below 200% of the federal poverty level.

EJ PLAN PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Submit an Environmental Justice Public Participation Plan

Informal public meeting

Written notification to state & local elected officials

Written notification to neighborhood/community groups and organizations in ***appropriate language****

Written announcement of meeting in newspaper must be one-quarter page in size (written news media not effective)

Must be published on a Monday in newspaper of general circulation or any day in a weekly or monthly paper

****If ≥ 20 percent of the EJ community is non-English speaking then notice shall be published in appropriate language media: if available.****

A FINAL REPORT IS REQUIRED

Provide an Executive summary of the meeting

- List of concerns raised at meeting
- Copies of news ads, public announcements
- Meeting attendance sheet.
- Copy of Public Meeting Agenda
- Copies of materials handed out at meeting
- Copies of the presentation
- List of all individuals and groups contacted

THE POSITIVE RESULTS OF EJ PROCESS

The EJ Plans have resulted in a decline of petitions for formal adjudicatory hearings which are costly and delay permit decisions.

Good Neighbor: Improved communication facilitates CEBA's, which are mandatory if your proposed activity is located in a community with five existing "affecting facilities"

Communities have negotiated pollution reductions and funding for environmental projects through CEBA's.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Concierge Permit Assistance team:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Permits-and-Licenses/Client-Concierge-Permit-Assistance>

New enhanced EJ webpages:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Environmental-Justice/Environmental-Justice>

Edith.Pestana@ct.gov tel: (860) 424-3044

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Alex Rodriguez/STS presenting on EJ permitting proposals

SIMILAR LAWS IN NJ, NY AND MA

In 2020, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy signed S232, which requires the NJ Department of Environmental Protection to evaluate the environmental and public health impacts of certain facilities on overburdened communities when reviewing certain permit applications

New Jersey is the first state in the nation to require mandatory permit denials if an environmental justice analysis determines a new facility will have a disproportionately negative impact on overburdened communities

At end of 2022, NY Gov. Kathy Hochul signed landmark legislation that strengthens protections for communities already bearing disproportionate pollution burdens

S.8830/A.2103D ensures cumulative impacts are taken into consideration in the State's environmental permitting processes when potentially polluting facilities seek permits in disadvantaged communities

Mass. is also preparing regulations to implement cumulative impact legislation

2023 ACTIONS

On 1/19, 40 organizations, 2 State Reps, 1 Mayor, and 100+ individuals sent a letter to Gov. Lamont and the General Assembly requesting legislative action on a stronger EJ law. What demands were included in the letter? Permitting limitations; Comprehensive application of EJ law; Cumulative impact analysis; Funding for EJ programs; and more

Legislators have introduced EJ proposals HB 5570, HB 5154, and HB 5106

On 2/8, CT DEEP released its agency proposals, including *An Act Concerning Environmental Justice* in response to our demands and legal precedence set by New Jersey and New York

On 2/15, the Environment Committee voted to draft *An Act Concerning the Environmental Justice Program of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection*

AAC ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Although the text has not been drafted, this proposal likely would give the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Siting Council the authority and tools to deny or place conditions on certain permits where the Department determines, after a process and after completion of a thorough regulatory process, that the proposed permit would place additional burdens on already overburdened communities

IMPROVED ACCOUNTABILITY & PERMITTING LIMITATIONS

Advocates' Letter: DEEP and the Siting Council should be prohibited from issuing permits that would increase cumulative environmental or public health impacts in already overburdened communities, unless the permitted activity serves a compelling public purpose in that community

DEEP's proposal: Section 1 would allow DEEP and the Connecticut Siting Council to evaluate the cumulative impact of certain permitting decision and, where specified, to deny or place conditions on, well-defined classes of permits for a class of affecting facilities

Section 2 would outline a regulatory process required for implementing the new substantive provisions. Section 2 also would authorize the commissioner to promote regulations regarding the renewal of permits

COMPREHENSIVE APPLICATION OF EJ LAW

Advocates' Letter: All renewals, modifications, or change of use applications for existing permits should trigger application of the EJ Law, requiring an EJ impact review to aid in understanding existing pollution burdens

DEEP's proposal: No, our bill only addresses expansions (not modifications or general changes) of existing permits; it reserves for regulations the question of renewals.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT ANALYSIS

Advocates' letter: Included in their application, all permit applicants should be required to submit a cumulative impact statement detailing the impact their activities, if permitted, will have on the host community and nearby EJ communities, if applicable

The assessment will also consider the impact of other nearby affecting facilities, and this will be publicly available on the DEEP website and will be reviewed by DEEP when deciding whether to grant approval

DEEP's proposal: In agreement; uses language of environmental and public health stressors

FUNDING FOR EJ PROGRAMS

Advocates' Letter: A permit application fee should be authorized to fund the DEEP review process and environmental justice programs

DEEP's response: In agreement

CURRENT AFFECTING FACILITIES DEFINITION

[Section 22a-20a of the Connecticut General Statutes \(CGS\)](#)

176 statewide

142 in EJ Communities

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Environment-al-Justice/Demographics-and-Affecting-Facilities-Web-Map>

- (A) electric generating facility with a capacity of more than 10 megawatts;
- (B) sludge or solid waste incinerator or combustor;
- (C) sewage treatment plant with a capacity of more than 50 million gallons per day;
- (D) intermediate processing center, volume reduction facility or multitown recycling facility with a combined monthly volume in excess of 25 tons;
- (E) new or expanded landfill, including, but not limited to, a landfill that contains ash, construction and demolition debris or solid waste;
- (F) medical waste incinerator; or
- (G) major source of air pollution, as defined by the federal Clean Air Act.

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO ENV. JUSTICE

Comprehensive coverage of facilities

Advocates' Letter: Expand the current list of EJ affecting facilities covered by the EJ law to include all facilities that may increase exposures to environmental hazards or elevate public health risks, including higher risk of asthma and worse cardiovascular health

DEEP's proposal: "Affecting facility" means any (additional affecting facilities are in **bold**):

(A) electric generating facility with a capacity of more than ten megawatts;

(B) sludge or solid waste incinerator or combustor;

(C) [sewage treatment plant with a capacity of more than fifty million gallons per day] **publicly owned treatment works in communities with combined sewers that transport both storm water and sanitary sewage, or expanded design flow rate for any publicly owned treatment works;**

(D) intermediate processing center, volume reduction facility, **solid waste transfer station, resource recovery facility, chemical recycling facility, or multitown recycling facility with a combined monthly volume in excess of twenty-five tons;**

(E) [new or expanded] landfill, including, but not limited to, a landfill that contains ash, construction and demolition debris or solid waste;

(F) medical waste incinerator; [or]

(G) major source of air pollution, as defined by the federal Clean Air Act;

(H) pipeline, terminal, or bulk commercial storage facility not providing direct to consumer retail or delivery for fossil fuels, including coal, oil, petroleum, and natural gas; or

(I) facility with a diversion of more than two million gallons of water per day

COMPREHENSIVE DEFINITION OF EJ COMMUNITY

Advocates' Letter: Ensure that the state's definition of EJ communities is comprehensive and reflects Connecticut's diverse population. Consider including language barrier and racial demographic criteria, as New Jersey does.

DEEP's proposal: No expansion of EJ community necessary because existing definition covers the needed populations; but Section 9 of the proposed bill would amend Section 16-243y(7) of CT General Statutes to expand "vulnerable communities" list:

Communities of color;

Children and Seniors;

People with disabilities and Pregnant people;

People with limited English proficiency;

People impacted by the environmental conditions where they are born, live, learn, work, play, and worship that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks, known as social determinants of health

IMPROVE AND EXPAND COMMUNITY CAPACITY TO ENGAGE MEANINGFULLY IN THE PERMITTING PROCESS

Multilingual Outreach and Public Notice Requirements

Advocates' Letter: Use census data to identify and publicize meetings and notices in commonly spoken languages in that community. Also, require that they be published in non-English media sources (e.g. newspapers, community boards, libraries), as applicable to the local context.

DEEP's proposal: Subdivisions (b)(2) and (3) would require new kinds of outreach, such as:

posting on electronic media, e.g., relevant internet websites and social media platforms

notice by mail of the meeting to all residential households within a ½ mile radius of the proposed or existing affecting facility. The notice shall provide the date, time, and location of such meeting, a description of the proposed or expanded affecting facility, a map indicating the location of the affecting facility, information on how an interested person may review project documents, including any complete needs assessment, alternatives assessment, or environmental impact analysis, and more.

notice must be in writing in all languages spoken by at least 15 percent of the population within ½ mile radius of the proposed or existing affecting facility.

Same notice for any subsequent public participation opportunities as part of the permit approval process before the department or council, and to notify the public of any notice of tentative or final determination

TIMING REQUIREMENTS

Advocates' Letter: Limit the time between the public hearing process and the permit application submission to ensure that the public can stay engaged in both the public hearing and actual permitting process (or require continued engagement by the permit applicant and DEEP between these processes)

Applicants must also notify the public of subsequent public comment opportunities during permit proceedings

DEEP's proposal: CT DEEP or the Council shall not take any action on the application for a permit, license, certificate or siting approval earlier than the date that the department or council approves the Public Participation Report

If the applicant fails to undertake the requirements of this subsection, any such application shall be deemed insufficient

The application of an applicant who fails to receive approval of such Public Participation Report shall be deemed insufficient

PUBLIC HEARING REQUIREMENTS

Advocates' Letter: Require that hearings be recorded and made publicly available and translated, when applicable. Require written response to comments and a summary of changes made to the proposed activity in response to community dialogue

DEEP's proposal: In agreement

CITIZEN SUIT PROVISION

Advocates' Letter: Add a citizen suit provision in the EJ law authorizing parties to challenge permit approval when public participation requirements are violated or when the agency does not comply with its EJ impact determination

DEEP's response: No mention of citizen suit provision to challenge permit approval

PUBLIC NEGOTIATION IN CEBA NEGOTIATIONS

Advocates' Letter: Require involvement of community members throughout the negotiation of a community environmental benefit agreement

No CEBA funding should be allocated to medical facilities as it does not correct historic health disparities caused by exposure to affecting facilities. Funding should instead be restricted to environmental benefits or community engagement in environmental benefits

DEEP's proposal: No mention of outlawing of CEBA funding to medical facilities. And existing law already requires involvement of community members in CEBA's. ("Prior to negotiating the terms of a [CEBA], the municipality shall negotiate with the community and provide a reasonable and public opportunity for residents of the potentially affected environmental justice community to be heard")

See also https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/environmental_justice/EJfspdf.pdf

COMMUNITY APPROVAL

Advocates' Letter: Community approval should be required to site these affecting facilities. Without the consent of the community, these facilities should not be placed in overburdened communities

DEEP's proposal: (e) Public comments from potentially impacted residents may be considered in DEEP and the Council's decision to deny or place conditions on permit siting or renewal

CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY EJ LETTER SIGNATORIES

Page 15 (c) (1) Any municipality, owner or developer may (SHALL) enter into a community environmental benefit agreement in connection with an affecting facility

No CEBA funding for medical facilities; allow community-based organizations (CBOs) to access CEBA funding, similar to the CIRCA Climate & Equity Grant; develop a process for residents and CBOs to influence what programs are funded through new CEBA funds

Page 16 (d) (1) Sec. 2 In accordance with regulations promulgated under this statute, the department or the council shall review such application for compliance with this Act and with the regulations adopted pursuant to Section 2 of this Act and may (SHALL) deny an application for a permit for a new affecting facility upon a finding that approval of the permit, as proposed, would, together with other environmental or public health stressors affecting the environmental justice community, result in adverse cumulative environmental or public health stressors in the environmental justice community that are higher than those borne by other communities within the State, county, or other geographic unit of analysis as determined by the department or council pursuant to regulations issued pursuant to section 2 of this act

Page 16 (d) (1) Sec. 3 If such permit is granted, it may (SHALL) impose conditions on the construction and operation of the affecting facility intended to mitigate public health impacts

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?



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NEXT STEPS

Be ready to testify! “AAC The Environmental Justice Program of the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection” concept to be drafted as a raised bill on 2/15.

Public hearing date: TBD

After testimony, submit your story to your local paper

Raise awareness with your neighbors, interested community orgs, and with legislators

Email climateintern1@savethesound.org to join Strengthen CT’s EJ Law Committee Meetings – Meetings held biweekly on Tuesdays at 2PM

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~~• Welcome and introductions~~

~~• Ground Rules~~

~~• Background on the EJ issue~~

~~• Background on existing processes~~

~~===== DEEP's Air permitting (Jaimeson Sinclair)~~

~~===== DEEP's Water permitting (Jeff Caiola, Graham Stevens)~~

~~===== DEEP's Waste permitting (Gabrielle Frigon)~~

~~===== Connecticut's EJ Public Participation (Edith Pestana)~~

~~• Proposed EJ-related legislation for 2023 session:~~

~~===== Environmental Justice permitting process~~

Waste Bill

• Closing and Next Steps

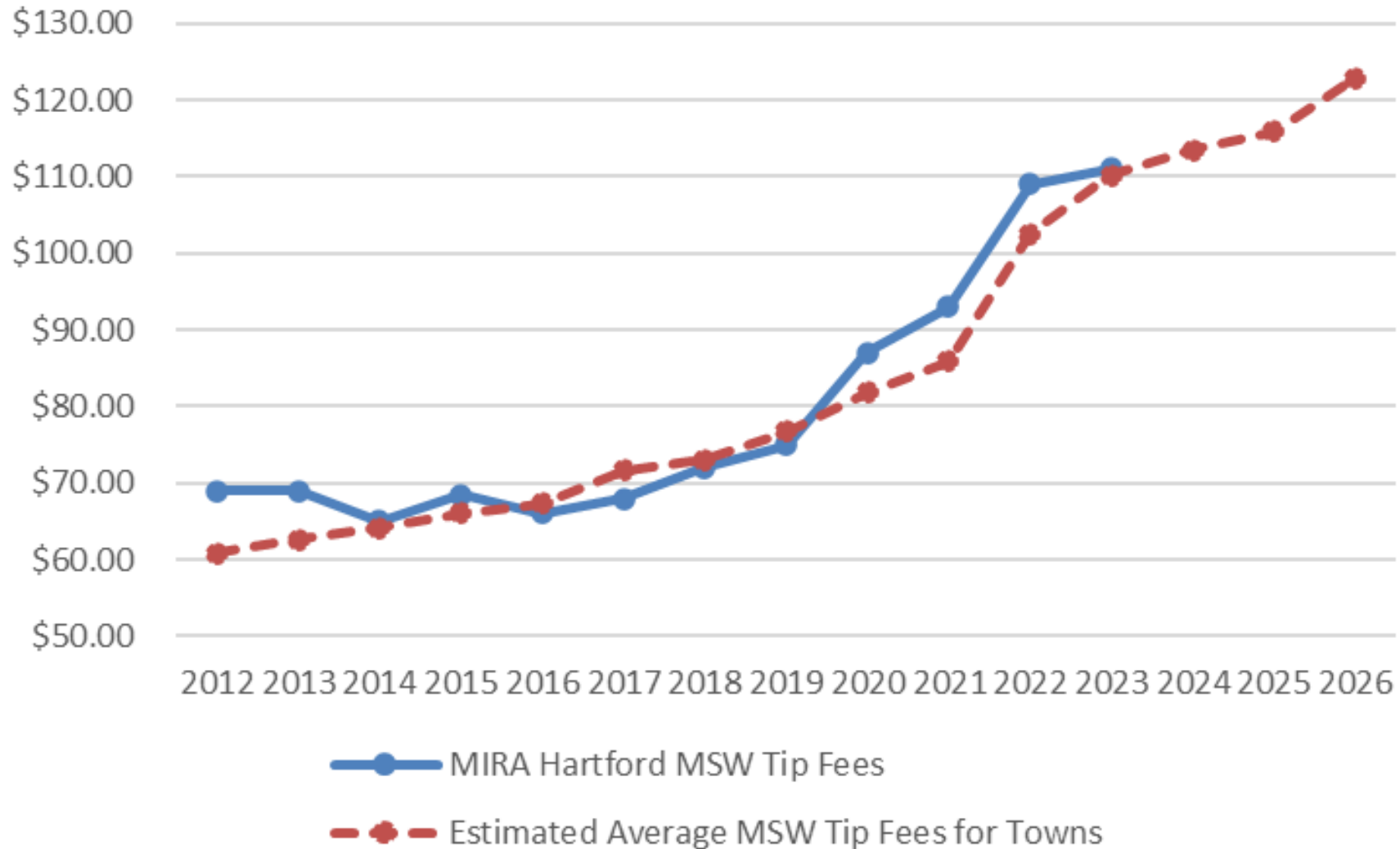
GOVERNOR'S BILL 6664 – WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Address MIRA's decision to close the Hartford WTE Facility in July 2022, which has led to the state exporting an estimated 860,000 tons of trash out of state for disposal
- Proposes strategies to improve recycling and composting of food scraps
- Addresses the remediation of the site of the MIRA Hartford facility



MIRA Hartford facility. Photo from CT Mirror.

MSW TIP FEES FOR DISPOSAL OVER TIME



IMPROVING RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING

Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging

- Shift burden of responsibility for managing recyclable materials from municipalities and taxpayers to the product manufacturers who create those materials
- Can save municipalities \$50 million annually

Improve Food Scraps Collection

- Food scraps make up about 22% of all trash that is thrown away – nearly 500,000 tons annually
- If separated from other trash before being thrown out, food scraps can be turned into valuable compost
- Bill would provide universal access to food scraps collection and make improvements to the law that requires certain businesses to recycle their food scraps

ADDRESS THE MIRA HARTFORD SITE

The bill would reconstitute the MIRA Board as the “Connecticut Waste Authority” and charge it with determining what the environmental needs are for site remediation for redevelopment

Expect that cleaning up the site will be challenging and costly due to legacy of the site

Recognize Hartford has been the host community for this facility for decades; this bill indicates that the state is a willing partner in cleaning up the property for a future productive use

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE BILL

Updates the solid waste assessment

Allows DEEP to partner with municipalities and regions to issue a request for proposals for infrastructure

AGENDA

- ~~• Welcome and introductions~~
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