

## **EJ Public Participation Process:**

The Public Participation Process seeks to involve community members in decisions related to siting or expanding affecting facilities in environmental justice communities. It is an opportunity for the community to learn about the proposed development and a platform for community members to express their views and concerns, and to allow for meaningful comments that may be incorporated into the permit and or facility operations.

**How does it work?** The process begins with the development of a public participation plan by the applicant seeking to construct, expand, or site a facility. This plan outlines how the applicant will engage with the community and solicit their feedback.

**What happens during the process?** The applicant executes the plan, which typically involves hosting community meetings, publishing notices in local newspapers, and placing a sign on the property. As of 2023, these meetings must be video recorded, and the video must be submitted to the department.

**What happens after the process?** After executing the plan, the applicant must submit a report to the department showing compliance with the requirements for informal public meetings and demonstrating how they have responded to the community's feedback.

**Why is it important?** The Public Participation Process ensures that community members have a say in decisions that affect their community and environment. It promotes transparency, fosters trust between developers and communities, and leads to better, more informed decisions.

### **Additional Resources:**

For more information, review the EJ Public Participation Guidance Document:

[ejguidpdf.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#)

Check out the template for permitting applicants to complete their EJ Public Participation Plan: ([Word Version](#) | [PDF Version](#))



**Connecticut**  
Department of Energy &  
Environmental Protection

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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE