



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Pennsylvania DEP's Environmental Justice Policy Small Business Compliance Advisory Committee (SBCAC)

April 27, 2022

Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

DEP Mission

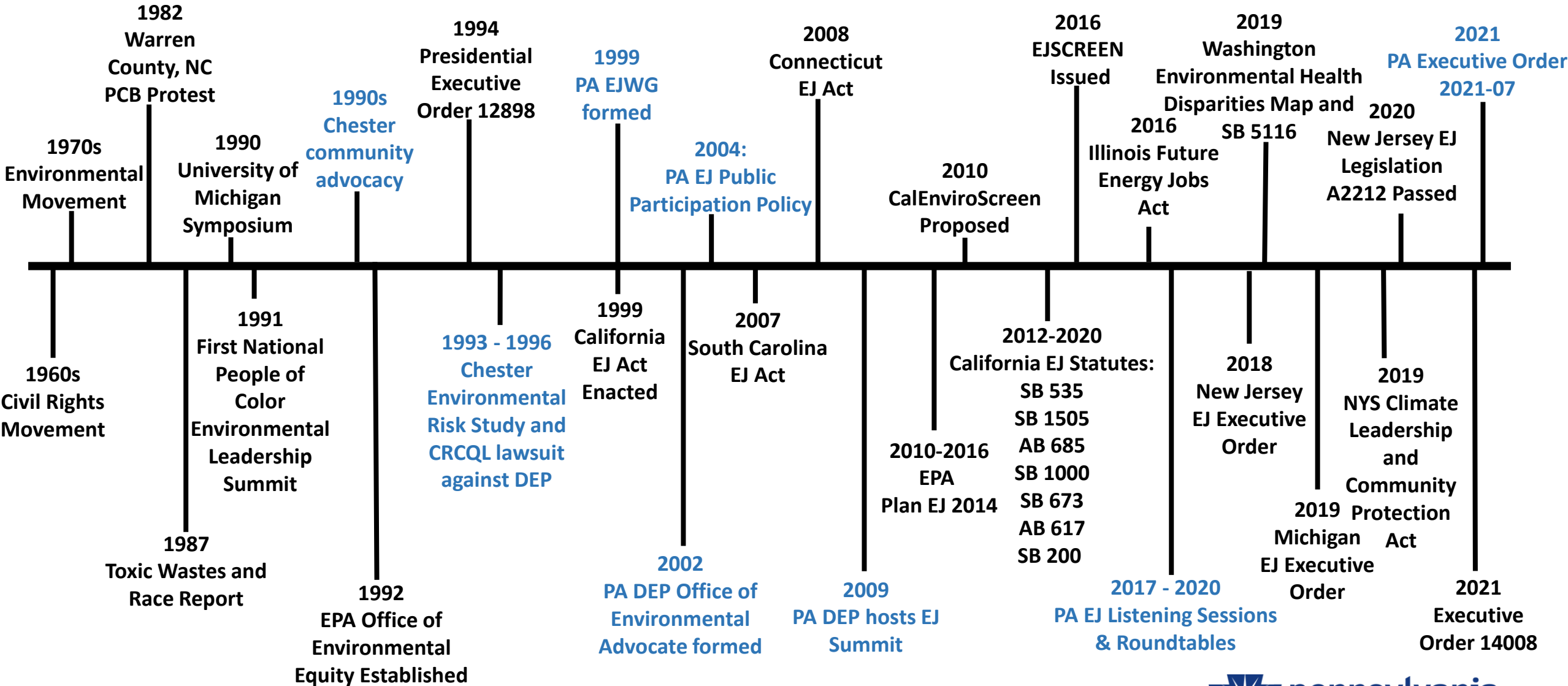
To protect Pennsylvania's air, land, and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment. We will work as partners with individuals, organizations, governments and businesses to prevent pollution and restore our natural resources.

Roots of EJ in Pennsylvania

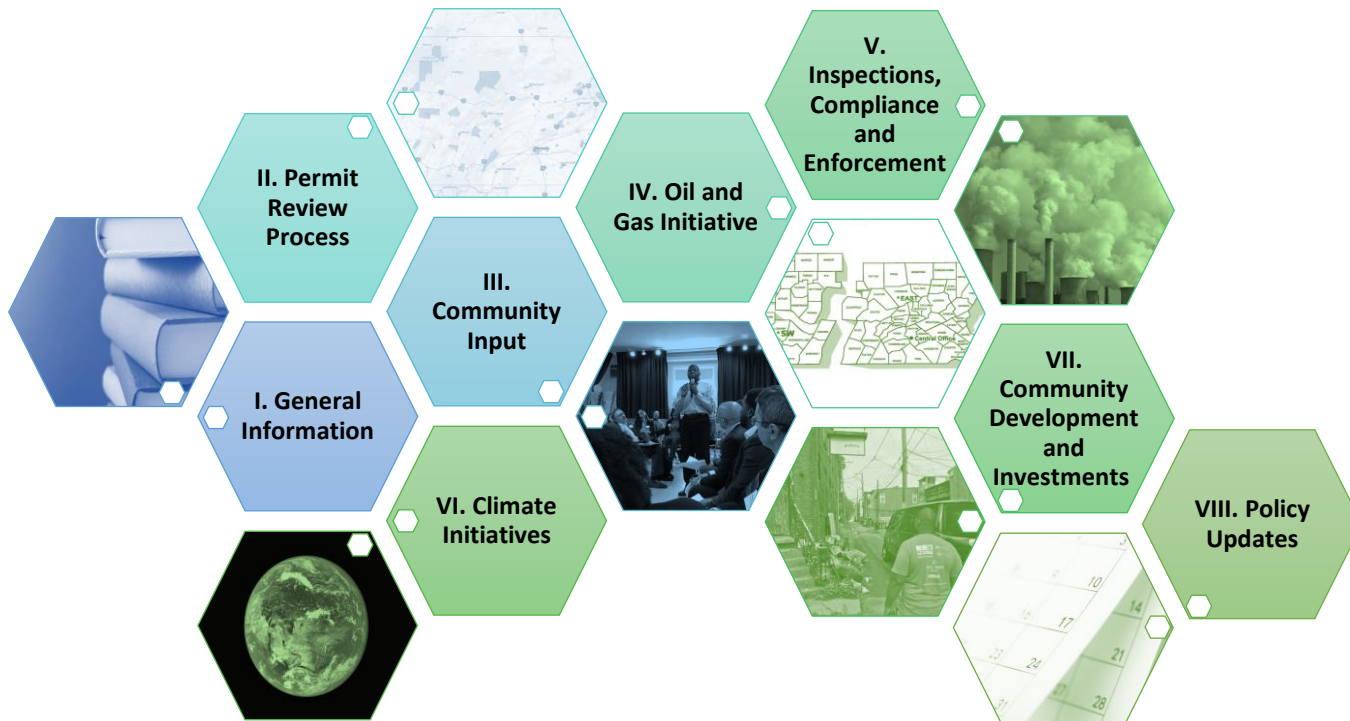
- Organizing of Chester in early 1990s
- Environmental Risk Study by EPA in conjunction with DER in 1993
- Chester residents (CRCQL) lawsuit against DEP in 1996
- DEP Environmental Justice Work Group (EJWG) created in 1999
Report and Recommendations released in 2001



Timeline of Federal and State Government Response



EJ Policy Components



- I. General Information
 - a. Definitions, OEJ, EJAB
- II. Permit Review Process
- III. Community Input
- IV. Oil and Gas Engagement
- V. Inspections, Compliance and Enforcement
- VI. Climate Initiatives
- VII. Community Development and Investment
- VIII. Policy Updates

Definitions



I. General Information

- Robust definitions section defines terms ranging from applicant to public meeting.
- Assist in clarifying the document and ensuring that it is similarly interpreted by the public, DEP staff, and permit applicants.
- Enhances the overall readability and accessibility of the document.

OEJ and EJAB



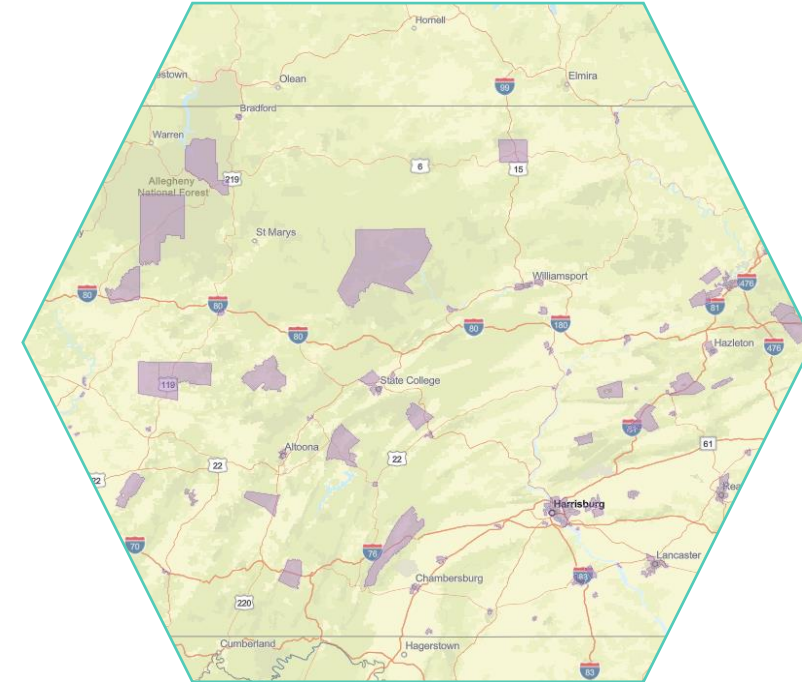
I. General
Information

- Office of Environmental Justice
 - Define Role of the Office of Environmental Justice
 - Training
 - EJ Maps and Identification of Environmental Justice Areas
 - Annual Report
 - Language Access Services
 - EJ Strategic Plan
 - Environmental Justice Interagency Council
- Environmental Justice Advisory Board

Permit Review Process

II. Permit Review Process

- Builds from the current policy with improvements and updates
- Clarifies permits covered
- Offers significantly more detail in the Opt-In permit process



Community Input

III. Community Input

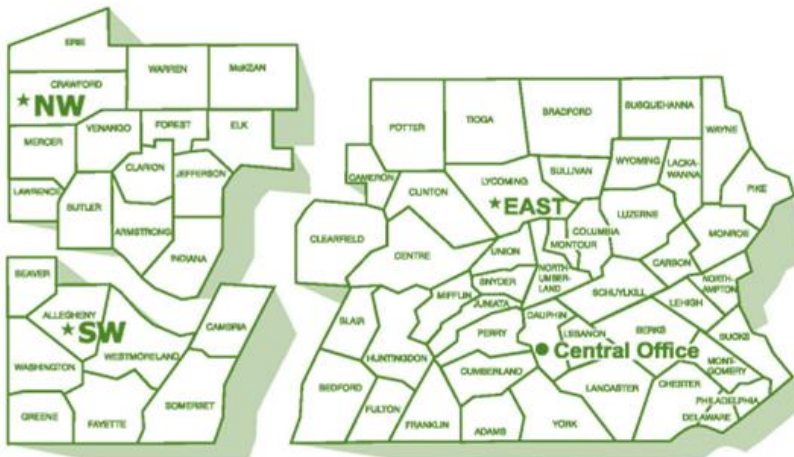
- Describes the process for community input
- Indicates a number of potential outreach options



Oil and Gas Initiatives

IV. Oil and Gas Initiative

- New section specific to unconventional gas drilling
- Community concern about including some EJ considerations in the process
- Legislatively mandated permit review timelines don't allow for these permits to be included with the permit review process identified in sections 2 and 3.




Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement

v.
Inspections,
Compliance
and
Enforcement



- Moving beyond public participation within our existing regulatory authority
- Prioritizing inspection and compliance
- Community Environmental Projects

Climate Initiatives



VI. Climate Initiatives

- Climate Action Plan involvement
- Climate adaptation
- Directs DEP to engage in public involvement that integrates the stated needs and concerns of EJ communities


Community Development and Investment

VII. Community Development and Investments

- Targeting grants
- Promoting brownfield redevelopment
- Partnering with higher education institutions



Policy Updates



VIII. Policy Updates

- Requires review of the EJ policy for updates every 4 years
- Update EJ area identification and mapping every 2 years, based on latest data

EJ Policy Update Timeline

Planning

Fall – Winter
2020

Outreach and Engagement

Fall 2020 –
Summer 2021

Drafting and Finalization

Spring 2021 –
Summer 2022

Implementation

Summer 2022

EJ Policy Update Timeline

Planning

Fall – Winter 2020

Inform partners about withdrawal of policy and plan for EJ Policy development and implementation.

Draft plan and timetable for outreach and get initial feedback on outreach

Consider development of EJ Policy Advisory Group

Outreach and Engagement

Fall 2020 – Summer 2021

Identify internal (DEP and state agency) partners for feedback

Develop outreach questions, survey and strategy

EJAB, EJ Stakeholders and other external engagement

EJ Policy Update Timeline

Drafting and Finalization

Spring 2021 – Summer 2022

Internal review and input

EJAB comments on Policy

Public comment – Spring 2022

Comment and response document preparation

Internal review

Finalize policy

Implementation

Summer 2022

Staff and state agency training on policy

EJAB overview of Policy

Community Engagement about Policy



Office of Environmental Justice

General Comments & Questions

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