Enhancing Transparency in the Policy Process

June 30, 2015

Agenda

- Timeline & Process Overview

- Demonstration of eComment

- Discussion of Policy Revisions

- Outreach & Training

- Resources

Introduction

- *Policy for Development and Publication of Technical Guidance* (ID # 012-0900-001)

- Published as Interim Final on May 30, 2015

- 45-day public comment period

- Comments due by July 14, 2015

- eLibrary: Final Documents → Policy Office

eComment

Environmental Policy Comment System

Home

Welcome to the Department of Environmental Protection's Environmental Policy Comment System.

From this page, you can view policies, technical guidance, general permits, Air Quality State Implementation Plan revisions, and other reports for which the Department is currently soliciting comments, access the full text of these documents, submit comments, and see other's comments.

Thank you for taking the time to comment; your viewpoint is valuable to the Department.

Please choose one of the links below to begin:

Open Comment Periods

Policy, Technical Guidance, or General Permit document	PA Bulletin	Period Start	Period End	Action
Policy for Development and Publication of Technical Guidance, #012-0900-001	5/30/2015	5/30/2015	7/14/2015	View comments / Submit comments
NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, PAG-13	5/30/2015	5/30/2015	7/29/2015	View comments / Submit comments

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eComment

eComment enables users to:

- View all Technical Guidance documents open for public comment

- Link to the full text on the eLibrary/*PA Bulletin*

- Submit comments electronically; and

- View comments submitted by others

Accessing eComment:

- Direct Link www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/eComment/
- Public Participation page of DEP website
- Button on DEP Homepage

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Changes since the 2011 policy:

- Creation of the Non-Regulatory Agenda*

- Enhanced Advisory Committee Consultation

- Administrative Changes

*Recommendation of the Citizen's Advisory Council

Non-Regulatory Agenda

- Development was a recommendation from the Citizen's Advisory Council.

- Similar to the Regulatory Agenda, will outline policies and Technical Guidance documents that are planned for updates over the next year.

- Will be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* twice a year by February 1st and July 1st.

- The first Non-Regulatory Agenda will be published at the end of June.

Policy Revisions - Enhancing Input

Enhanced Advisory Committee Consultation

- Under the former policy, programs were asked to consider consultation with Advisory Committees.

- The new guidance enhances this process by requiring programs to explain how they engaged with Advisory Committees or explain why engagement was unnecessary or impractical.

- Programs are encouraged to consult with Advisory Committees as early in the development as possible.

External Stakeholder Outreach

- Legislative Notification
- Stakeholder Notification/Press Release
- Advisory Committee Notification
- External Webinars*
  - Wed June 10th 10:00 – 11:00am
  - June 30th 2:00 – 3:00pm
- Advisory Committee Presentations

*Requires registration

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Resources

- Policy Document eLibrary & Pa Bulletin (accessible via eComment)

- Policy Office Staff (717) 783-8727 or ra-epthepolicyoffice@pa.gov

- DEP eNewsletter

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