

Elements of Other State Environmental Justice Programs MDEQ Integration Subgroup

Sara Gosman
Lecturer, University of Michigan Law School
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I. Training/Education

- Training
 - Key agency staff trained (MA, NY)
 - Community members participate in training (CA)
 - Policy handbook created for agency staff (IL)
 - Training extended to stakeholders, including local government (CA)
- Education of Industry/Facilities
 - Information distributed on EJ and EJ policy (NY)
 - Toxic use reduction advice given (MA)

II. Public Participation

- Generally
 - Toll-free EJ Hotline created to provide information (NY)
 - Comprehensive information posted on website (NY)
 - Workshops held for public on EJ requirements (NY)
 - Fact sheets created on key regulatory programs for EJ communities (MA)
 - Key documents translated (IL, NY)
 - EJ mailing list of community members, non-profits, etc. created (IL, MA)
 - List of alternative media outlets created to be used in EJ communities (MA)
 - EJ listserv created for updates on EJ programs and opportunities for comment (CA)
 - Alternative information repositories created in EJ communities (MA)
 - Online discussion forum created for ongoing feedback and dialogue (CA)
 - Regional EJ outreach teams created to act as liaisons, may include representatives from business development agency (MA)
 - Community advisory boards created in EJ communities (CT)
 - EJ communities given assistance with grant applications and questions about environmental regulations (MA)
- During Permit Review
 - Applicant required to submit written public participation plan, certify compliance before permit is issued (NY) or before submit application (CT)
 - Technical Assistance Grants given to public for permit review (CA, NY)
 - Enhanced public participation measures voluntary in EJ communities (PA)

- Environmental advocates act as point of contact for permitting in EJ communities, also work with applicants (PA)
- Public meetings or hearings scheduled at locations and times convenient for neighborhood stakeholders (MA)
- Notices provided as early as possible to all neighborhoods potentially impacted by a decision (MA)
- "Small room" or "living room" meetings held with grassroots organizations (IL)
- Interactive GIS mapping tool available that identifies EJ populations and can be used by public (MA)
- Public notices translated into other languages (MA)
- Interpreters and translated documents offered at public meetings (MA)
- Mapping tool used to determine where other languages spoken to provide for translation (WA)
- Comments in other languages accepted and responded to in same language (IN)

III. Permitting

- Permit Review
 - Adverse impacts in EJ communities considered as part of environmental review process for major permits, minimized to extent practicable (MA, NY)
 - If a concern is expressed about potential environmental impacts in an EJ area, significance reviewed and impacts assessment conducted in light of resource and feasibility issues (IL)
 - Checklist used to determine if there are EJ issues (WA)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
 - Dispute between applicants & public facilitated by agency staff (NY)
 - Resolution of dispute can include enforceable permit conditions (NY)
 - Community-industry panel created to discuss concerns (LA)

IV. Compliance & Enforcement

- Complaints
 - Chart of contacts created for EJ community (CT)
 - Toll-free number to receive EJ complaints (TX)
- Inspections
 - Supplemental compliance & enforcement inspections conducted in EJ areas (MA, NY)
 - Multi-media "sweeps" by multiple units in urban EJ communities (NJ)
 - Enforcement activities directed toward schools (CT)
- Enforcement Agreements

- Projects proposed by EJ communities used in SEPs (CO, CT, MA)
- SEPs targeted to communities where EJ concerns are present (FL, OR)
- Good neighbor agreements between businesses and neighbors facilitated through voluntary mediation by agency staff (MN)

V. Data/Assessment

- Research & Data Collection
 - Community and environmental emissions/discharge, exposure and health risk data (including data on and surrounding federal facilities) collected in pilot projects (CA)
 - Pilot study conducted of cumulative impacts of air pollution in EJ community (NJ)
 - Environmental justice clearinghouse established (CA)
 - Differential patterns of natural resource consumption identified among socio-economic classifications (CA)
 - Research center created at university to conduct research (FL)
 - Community profile tool created to give snapshot of community to residents and decisionmakers (still in development) (MD)
- Cumulative Impact Assessment
 - Environmental & health agencies coordinate on consideration of cumulative impacts (MA)
 - Tools and approaches to be developed to assess and address adverse cumulative impacts, including indicators to measure public health (CA)
 - Small grants given to community organizations to address health hazards (CA)

VI. Other

- Brownfields Redevelopment
 - Inventory created of brownfield sites (MA)
 - Additional funding directed to remediation of sites in EJ communities (MA)
 - Technical assistance given to EJ communities and EJ criteria included in grants (MA)
 - Financial incentives, such as payments to municipalities, used to promote development in EJ communities (MA)
 - Communities involved in integrated remediation of multiple sites (NJ)
 - Advisory committee made up of residents surrounding brownfield used to increase public participation and receive comments (FL)
- Clean Development
 - Economic and environmental agencies work together to promote cleaner technologies (MA)

- Economic development incentives linked to clean production practices (MA)
- "Environmental benefit districts" given priority for certain state resources, for example, pollution control devices on buses (MD)
- Open Space/Recreation
 - Resources targeted toward creation, maintenance, and restoration of open space in EJ communities (MA)
 - EJ criteria incorporated into grants for open space (MA) and recreation (RI)