




STATE OF MICHIGAN
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE
2018-3**

DATE: July 25, 2018
TO: All Executive Branch Departments and Agencies
FROM: Governor Rick Snyder 
RE: Environmental Justice Interagency Work Group

In my 2017 State of the State address, I called for a new Environmental Justice Work Group (the "EJWG") tasked with examining policy issues and developing guidance, training, and a curriculum for State and local agencies. The creation of this workgroup stemmed from recommendations from the Flint Water Advisory Task Force and the Flint Water Interagency Coordinating Committee's Policy Subcommittee. The workgroup completed its charge in March 2018, upon submitting its final report to me. Within the EJWG final report, it was recommended that I create an interagency working group (the "IWG") to implement recommendations from the report across State government departments and agencies.

Section 1 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 vests the executive power in the Governor. Section 8 of Article V of the Michigan Constitution places each principal department under the supervision of the Governor. Pursuant to these provisions of the Michigan Constitution, I direct the following:

The heads of the following five (5) principal departments or agencies, or their designees from within their respective departments or agencies, shall serve on an Environmental Justice Interagency Work Group (the "EJIWG"):

- The Department of Civil Rights
- The Michigan Economic Development Corporation
- The Department of Environmental Quality (the "DEQ")
- The Department of Health and Human Services
- The Department of Transportation

With the goal of ensuring that every Michigander has the same protections from environmental hazards, the EJIWG shall do the following:

- Review and consider environmental justice issues that have been brought to the attention of EJIWG members.
- Identify State departments that could benefit from the development of environmental justice policies and procedures.
- Assist those departments in the development of such policies and procedures.
- Recommend performance goals and measures for State departments to further environmental justice policies and procedures.
- Review the progress of State departments in complying with environmental justice policies and procedures and promoting environmental justice.
- Interact with tribal governments regarding environmental justice issues with tribal implications.
- Recommend measures to further promote environmental justice in the State.
- Ensure meaningful involvement in State agency decision making from disproportionately burdened communities.
- Promote collaborative problem-solving for issues involving environmental justice.
- Coordinate between departments to identify resources or strategies needed to increase coordination and cooperation between, and among, departments to accomplish the goals of the EJIWG.
- Establish a systematic approach to receiving local level recommendations and other feedback as related to the State's goals of becoming a national leader in achieving environmental justice. This might take the form of enlisting regional advisory committees, investing in a regular series of listening sessions across the State, etc. To be clear, this mechanism is envisioned to expand the ease with which communities can proactively inform the State above and beyond typical "public comment" periods for specific regulatory activities.
- Formalize and expand environmental justice training for State and local employees by directing the DEQ to review the recommended materials provided by the EJIWG in its report. The DEQ should work with the Department of Civil Service to develop appropriate trainings for employees in roles that involve permitting, decision making, community engagement, and communications.
- Encourage the EJIWG and the Environmental Justice Ombudsman to work together to examine mechanisms for the public to raise environmental justice concerns and engage in permitting processes.
- Review best practices to enhance community environmental quality monitoring.
- Examine the creation of an annual environmental justice report.
- Implement environmental health dashboards.
- Support regional cooperation between local and State officials.

- Consider issues to address; the EJIWG should place emphasis on those issues that transcend departmental jurisdictions.

This directive does not apply to the Department of Attorney General or the Department of State, but to promote the goals of environmental justice, these departments are encouraged to voluntarily participate in the manner set forth in this directive.