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
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy, Technical Guidance, or General Permit document</th>
<th>PA Bulletin</th>
<th>Period Start</th>
<th>Period End</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy for Development and Publication of Technical Guidance, #012-0900-001</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="document" /></td>
<td>5/30/2015</td>
<td>7/14/2015</td>
<td>View comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, PAG-12</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="document" /></td>
<td>5/30/2015</td>
<td>7/29/2015</td>
<td>View comments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recently Closed Comment Periods

No document comment periods have been closed recently.

Questions or problems using this comment system? Please contact the DEP Application Support Help Desk at (717) 705-3768 Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
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/](http://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/eComment/)
- Public Participation page of DEP website
- Button on DEP Homepage
Overview of Policy Revisions

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 1\(^{st}\) and July 1\(^{st}\).

• The first Non-Regulatory Agenda will be published at the end of June.
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 10\textsuperscript{th} 10:00 – 11:00am
  - June 30\textsuperscript{th} 2:00 – 3:00pm
- Advisory Committee Presentations

*Requires registration
• Policy Document eLibrary & Pa Bulletin (accessible via eComment)
• Policy Office Staff (717) 783-8727 or ra-epthepolicyoffice@pa.gov
• DEP eNewsletter
Policy Office
ra-epthepolicyoffice@pa.gov
(717) 783-8727

Laura Henry- Technical Guidance Coordinator
lahenry@pa.gov
(717) 705-3769