

# Air Permitting: What to Know About the Public Participation Process

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## Protecting Michigan's Air

EGLE ensures that Michigan's air remains clean by regulating sources of air pollutants to minimize adverse impact on human health and the environment. Goals are to meet and maintain air quality standards, limit emissions of hazardous and toxic pollutants, and inform the public about current air conditions.





## Why is Public Participation Important?

- Required by law
- Thorough review
- Inclusion





# When is public participation required for Air Permits?

- Major Permitting
- Rule 205
- Act 451 – Known Public Controversy

# What does public participation mean for my action under review?

- Rule 206
  - 240 days of receipt for an application **requiring** public notice and comment
  - Extensions





# Community Outreach by Permit Applicant

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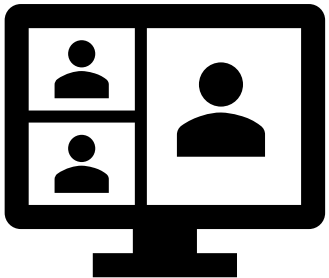
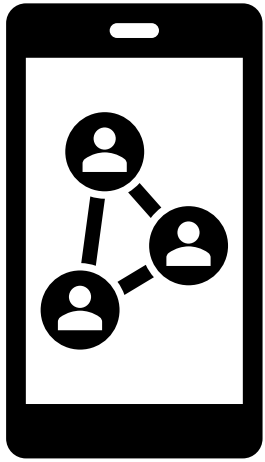
- Talk to community about how the project may impact them (visually, jobs, environmentally, etc.)
- Explain the needs for the project to community





# Why did we create the P&P and what is covered?

- Consolidation of existing procedures
- Includes:
  - When public participation is required
  - What AQD considers
  - Documentation
  - EGLE Policies



# How is Environmental Justice considered in the review?


- Evaluate community needs
- Limited English Proficiency
- Tools and Resources:
  - Local community leaders
  - US EPA EJ Screening Tool
  - When finalized - MiEJScreen
  - Knowledge and history of area – anecdotal information



# What do we hear from community?

- Earlier notification
- More time
- Cumulative Impacts
- More monitoring





## What process improvements has AQD made?

- Plain language review
- Web updates
- New outreach documents
- Using screening tools for translation



# THANK YOU!

Time for questions