

Environment & Energy

New Jersey Unveils Environmental Justice Rules for Permitting

By Zach Bright

June 7, 2022, 3:52 PM

Permit-seekers in New Jersey would have to meet new environmental justice requirements laid out in a draft proposal released by the state.

The proposed rules, released Monday, are designed to implement New Jersey's environmental justice law (S. 232). If enacted, the rules would empower the state's Department of Environmental Protection to deny or place conditions on permits for facilities that emit pollution located in overburdened communities.

The draft requires permit applicants for certain facilities to complete environmental justice impact statements and conduct public hearings on their applications. Statements would assess a facility's effect on nearby overburdened communities and evaluate potential environmental and public health stressors.

1. The act defines overburdened communities as those with at least 35% households designated low-income, at least 40% of residents considered minority or tribal members, or at least 40% of households with limited English proficiency.
2. Eight types of facilities are subject to the new rules: major air pollution sources; incinerators and resource recovery sites; large sewage treatment plants; transfer stations and solid waste facilities; certain recycling facilities; scrap metal facilities; landfills; and certain medical waste incinerators.
3. Four public hearings to discuss the draft proposal's specifics will be held on July 11, 13, 27, and 28. Public comment will close after Sept. 4.

To contact the reporter on this story: Zach Bright at zbright@bloombergindustry.com

To contact the editor responsible for this story: Renee Schoof at rschoof@bloombergindustry.com

Documents

Proposed Rule
[Environmental Justice Regulations](#)

Related Articles

[FERC Expanding Environmental Justice Efforts, Top Counsel Says](#)

June 1, 2022, 4:48 PM

[Environmental Health Equity to Get Boost From New HHS Office](#)

May 31, 2022, 10:48 AM

Topics

air pollution
state environmental legislation
hazardous materials disposal
environmental permitting
environmental justice

© 2022 The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. All Rights Reserved