

# September EQC Meeting

## **DEQ**

# **Permit Process Decisions and Public Comment**

**September 14, 2017**  
**Bend, OR**

# Permitting Decisions

In almost all cases, DEQ is the permit decision maker and not the Environmental Quality Commission.

# Types of Permit Actions

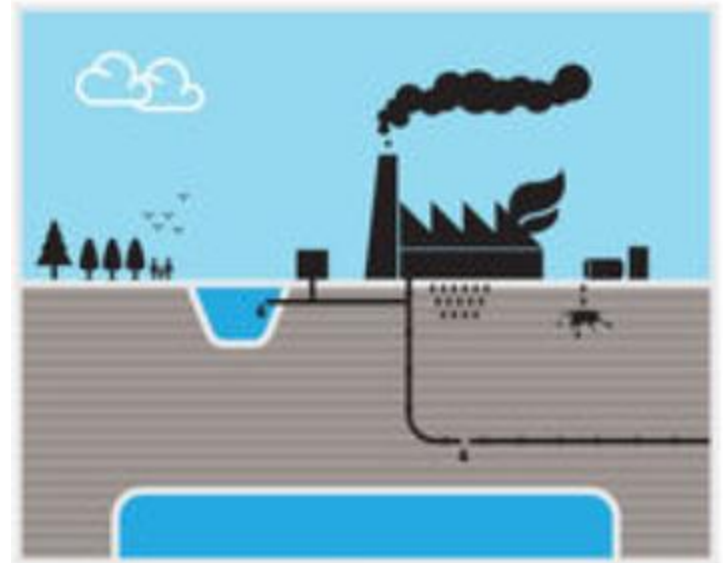
- Issue new permit
- Renew existing permit
- Modify existing permit
- Revoke permit



# Categories of Public Participation

## Environmental and Public Health Significance

- I – Low
- II – Mild
- III – Moderate
- IV – Potentially High



## Increased Category of Public Participation

- Anticipated Public Interest
- Compliance and Enforcement History
- Potential for Significant Environmental or Public Harm
- Federal Requirements



# Who Does DEQ Provide Notice To?



[Sign up for text or email notifications via GovDelivery.](#)

- Entities signed up on GovDelivery
- Tribes
- Environmental Justice Communities
- Other entities DEQ believes will be interested, including adjacent property owners

# Tribal Outreach

- Project Specific
- WQ Permits
- AQ Permits

# Environmental Justice Outreach

*EPA EJScreen*: Screening and mapping tool to help users identify areas with:

- Minority and/or low-income populations
- Potential environmental quality issues
- A combination of environmental and demographic indicators that is greater than usual



# Receiving Public Comments

- DEQ proposes a permit action
- Document reasons behind proposal
- Protects human health and the environment and is legally defensible
- Mail, email, fax, oral (public hearing)

# Public Hearing

- Informational Meeting
- Q & A
- Formal Public Hearing
- Neutral Hearings Officer



# Considering All Comments

DEQ carefully considers all public comments received and makes changes to proposed decision or action on the basis of comments received, as appropriate.



# Response to Comments

- Must respond in writing to all comments
- Issue permit action as proposed
- Make changes to permit action
- Deny permit action

# Response to Comments (cont.)

DEQ sends decision and response to comments to:

- Applicant
- All who commented
- Post on web (permitting actions, review reports and/or responses to comment documents)

# After Issuance

Requests for Reconsideration

Appeals

Revocations



# End of Presentation

## Questions?

Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email [deqinfo@deq.state.or.us](mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us).