

SUBGROUP: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Remediation and Redevelopment External Advisory Group



Chairperson	DNR Representative	Participants*
Jodie Peotter	Alyssa Sellwood Jody Irland	Ned Witte Noah Saperstein Roy Irving Bill Scott Molly Schmidt Chris Valcheff Jason Scott Sarah Gruza

*Participants who expressed interest to participate as a result of 9/23/2022 RR EAG meeting. All meetings are open to the public.

PURPOSE/OBJECTIVE

The U.S. EPA defines environmental justice (EJ) as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies. Meeting this purpose/objective includes providing recommendations for integrating environmental justice into remediation and redevelopment policies and practices, cultivating strong community partnerships to improve on-the-ground results, and charting a path forward for achieving better environmental outcomes and reducing disparities in the state's most overburdened communities by identifying and addressing resource and policy gaps.

DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

- Common understanding of environmental justice concepts within Wisconsin and its intersections with the NR 700 process
- Identification of disadvantaged, environmentally burdened and underserved communities who are disproportionately exposed to and impacted by environmental hazards and may have interest in participating or providing input to the RR EAG and its subgroups
- Outreach and communication plan, and invitation to potentially interested parties to participate in and build the EJ subgroup
- Recommendations for other RR EAG subgroups on cultivating meaningful community involvement within subgroup work planning, decision-making, and deliverable development
- Resources/framework/expectations for RR EAG subgroups to routinely evaluate, consider and address environmental justice issues within subgroup work planning, decision-making, and deliverables, including review by the EJ subgroup. This will include guidance and support for other RR EAG subgroups on funding, policy, and practice strategies to address environmental justice concerns and needs raised by community partners and best practices for managing partnerships when those needs are out-of-scope for subgroups.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Increased participation by and representation of disadvantaged, environmentally burdened and underserved communities within the RR EAG and its subgroups and meetings
- Increased consideration and incorporation of environmental justice needs identified by partners in subgroup recommendations, deliverables, milestones and outcomes
- Framework for the RR EAG for cultivating meaningful involvement from a diverse group of stakeholders and community partners
- Integrated approach for environmental justice considerations throughout the work of the RR EAG and its subgroups