



# Assessment of Environmental Justice at the NRC

**We Will Begin Shortly**

Please log into the toll-free bridgeline for audio.

1:30 p.m. ET Bridgeline:

- US: 1-888-831-4306
- Passcode: 3889403#

8:00 p.m. ET Bridgeline:

- US: 1-800-369-2109
- Passcode: 6976164#

Public Meeting Slides are available at ML21193A295. There are also links to access the slides via Teams for the [1:30 p.m. ET](#) and [8:00 p.m. ET](#); these links can also be found in our meeting notices.

# Systematic Review of Environmental Justice in NRC's Programs, Policies, and Activities

Public Meeting  
July 15, 2021

# Agenda

Bridgeline US 1:30 p.m. ET 1-888-831-4306 Passcode: 3889403#

Bridgeline US 8:00 p.m. ET 1-800-369-2109 Passcode: 6976164#



Introduction and  
Agenda



Overview of  
environmental  
justice effort



Comment gathering



Closing Statements

# Meeting Logistics

- This is a Comment-Gathering public meeting to receive public comments.
- This meeting is being transcribed and transcript will be publicly available.
- No regulatory decisions will be made at today's meeting.



Meeting **audio** is through toll-free bridgelines:

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET

- US: 1-888-831-4306
- Passcode: 3889403#

8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. ET

- US: 1-800-369-2109
- Passcode: 6976164#

Participants are in listen-only mode until the comment-gathering period.

**Slides** are available at ML21193A295. There are also links to access the slides via **Teams** for the [1:30 p.m. ET](#) and [8:00 p.m. ET](#); these links can also be found in our meeting notices.

Participants can send questions during the meeting to David McIntyre at [dtm@nrc.gov](mailto:dtm@nrc.gov).

# Introductions

## Facilitators:

Joan Olmstead, 1:30 p.m. ET meeting

Lance Rakovan, 8:00 p.m. ET meeting

## Speakers:

- Jessica Bielecki, Deputy Director, Environmental Justice Review Team, 1:30 p.m. ET meeting
- Gregory Suber, Director, Environmental Justice Review Team, 8:00 p.m. ET meeting
- Allen Fetter, Project Manager, Environmental Justice Review Team, 1:30 p.m. ET and 8:00 p.m. ET meetings

The Environmental Justice Review Team includes members representing multiple disciplines from across the agency, including, for example, environmental sciences, state and tribal government liaison, health physics, public affairs, small business and civil rights, and legal.



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# Welcome and Meeting's Purpose

Describe NRC staff efforts for its environmental justice review

Receive your comments

# Why is the NRC having this meeting?

- Staff is systematically reviewing how **Environmental Justice** is addressed in NRC's programs, policies, and activities.
  - Staff will not be discussing specific ongoing licensing actions
- Soliciting **feedback** is an **important** part of this review.

# What is Environmental Justice?

**Environmental justice** refers to the federal policy established in 1994 by Executive Order (EO) 12898, which directed federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations.





# What is the NRC's current policy on Environmental Justice?

In 2004, the Commission issued its **“Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions”** (69 FR 52040)

- Consider environmental justice in reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- Focus is on disproportionately high and adverse impacts on environmental justice communities.

Commission's  
April 23, 2021  
Staff  
Requirements  
Memorandum  
(ML21113A070)

- A. Evaluate recent Executive Orders and assess whether environmental justice is appropriately considered and addressed given the agency's mission.
- B. Consider the practices of other Federal and State agencies and Tribal governments, and evaluate whether the NRC should incorporate environmental justice beyond implementation through NEPA.
- C. Review the adequacy of the 2004 Commission Policy Statement.
- D. Consider whether establishing formal mechanisms to gather external stakeholder input would benefit any future environmental justice efforts




Questions to help inform the NRC staff's  
Environmental Justice Review  
(excerpts from 86 FR 36307)

What is your understanding of what is meant by environmental justice at the NRC?



When the NRC is conducting licensing and other regulatory reviews, the agency uses a variety of ways to gather information from stakeholders and interested persons on environmental impacts of the proposed agency action.

- How could the NRC expand how it engages and gathers input?
- What formal tools might there be to enhance information gathering from stakeholders and interested persons in NRC's programs, policies, and activities?
- Can you describe any challenges that may reduce your ability to engage with the NRC on environmental justice issues?

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- How could the NRC enhance opportunities for members of environmental justice communities to participate in licensing and regulatory activities?
  - What ways could the NRC enhance identification of environmental justice communities?
  - What has the NRC historically done well, or currently does well that we could do more of or expand with respect to environmental justice, including engagement efforts?
  - In your view, what portions of the 2004 Policy Statement are effective?

What actions could the NRC take to enhance consideration of environmental justice at the NRC, considering the agency's mission and statutory authority?

- Would you recommend that NRC consider any particular organization's environmental justice program(s) in its assessment?
- Looking to other Federal, State, and Tribal environmental justice programs, what actions could the NRC take to enhance consideration of environmental justice?
- Considering recent Executive Orders on environmental justice, what actions could the NRC take to enhance consideration of environmental justice?
- Are there opportunities to expand consideration of environmental justice at the NRC, considering the agency's mission? If so, what are they?

## Environmental Justice Review Timeline

- Comments Accepted via
  - **Telephone:** 301-415-3875 (leave voicemail comment)
  - **E-mail:** NRC-EJReview@nrc.gov
  - **Mail**
  - **Federal Rulemaking Website**
- Planning additional public meeting(s) during the comment period
- **Submit comments by August 23, 2021**
- January 2022: Staff provide results of review to the Commission



If you have  
questions/comments

1. Press \*1 from your phone
2. Unmute your line and speak clearly when prompted to say your name.
3. Press # after saying your name to hear the meeting again.
4. If you want to withdraw question: press \*2
5. Try and keep comments to 3-5 minutes

Any follow-up comments will need to proceed back through the process

+Make sure you speak your name clearly

# Contact Information

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