HOW TO ENGAGE IN THE "STATE" YOU'RE IN

2015 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE ATLANTA, GA











What's the Difference?

OUTREACH

- Primarily one-way
- Involves talking to people
- Means approaching an audience or community with answers
- Focuses on educating people
- Can be a productive part of an engagement strategy

ENGAGEMENT

- Requires building ongoing, two-way relationships based on trust and authenticity
- Involves listening to people
- Means working with the community to mutually identify solutions
- Ongoing dialogue to develop understanding

HOLISTIC ENGAGEMENT

SEEING COMMUNITIES WITH EYES WIDE OPEN

- Understanding the Intangible Strengths of Communities
- Resilient Individuals

ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESILIENCY

- Wisdom, Dignity, and Respect: Listening and Communicating
- Helping a Community Know Its Strength

HOLISTIC ENGAGEMENT

Holistic Community engagement presents an opportunity for collective learning

Communities should be learning how to make <u>appropriate</u> demands on government

TRUTH

Communities must learn to advocate for themselves using resources that the state can provide.

DELUSION

A state EJ Coordinator is the agency's internal community advocate.

What is the Role of EJ Coordinator

- Identify stakeholders
- Create a two-way street for communication
- Bring diverse and marginalized voices into the planning process which allows for consideration of perspectives that would not otherwise be understood
- Determine the right method to goals and stakeholders
- Identify what is negotiable and what isn't
- Inform participants of the other inputs into decisionmaking

The Normal Process (New Facilities)

- Determination of Need for Permit
- Submittal of Application or Notice of Intent
- Agency Reviews application
- Permit Drafted
- Public Participation begins
- Permit Issued or Denied



For many agencies,
the public
participation
process starts here.
In actuality, a
community can
start participation
in the permitting
process much
earlier.

Public Notice (Title V)

- The permit writer takes the draft permit, rationale, and permit application summary to public notice and EPA review
- Public notice is for 30 days at the local library for viewing the actual permit and public notice
- The public notice document go to the nearest daily newspaper to announce the first day of public notice
- EPA review is for 45 days at the same time as the public notice
- EPA, the facility, and the public can make comments on the permit documents
- The public notice document is mailed or emailed weekly to the contacts on the Public Notice Mail-Out List

Public Notice Matrix

	Air ¹			Air Title V			Synthetic Minor		NPDES		Pretreatment ²		SOP ²		Animal Waste		Solid Waste			Controversial Projects								
Correspondence Type	Public Notice	Permit	Permit Review Summary	Public Notice	Permit	Information Relative	Permit Application Summary Form	Public Notice	Permit	Permit Review Summary	Public Notice	Permit	Rationale	Public Notice	Permit	Rationale	Public Notice	Permit	Rationale	Public Notice	Permit	Rationale	Public Notice	Permit	Rationale	Public Notice	Permit	Rationale
Company	X	X	Х	Х	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	Х	x	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	х	Х	x		
Courthouse	х			х			П	х			x			x			x			х						х		
EPA	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	3		х	3														х		
File	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	X	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		
Library ⁴	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х		х	х		х	х	х	х		
Newspaper ⁵	х			х				Х			х			х			х			х			х			х		
Postmaster	х			х			П	Х			х			х			х			х						х		
POTW (cc Company Letter)								Г						х	х	х												
Mayor & County Board of Supervisors	x			x				x			x			x			x			x			x			x		
Mass Mail	x			Х				X			x			X			x			X			x			X		

Public Notice

- If there are any comments from EPA, the public, or the facility, MDEQ must address these comments before the permit can be issued
- If the comments received are major and will cause significant changes to the permit, then the public notice period must be restarted
- If there are no comments received during the public notice process or the EPA review period, then the permit can be issued

What Tools are Already Available



Case Study: DOE Uranium Enrichment Plant

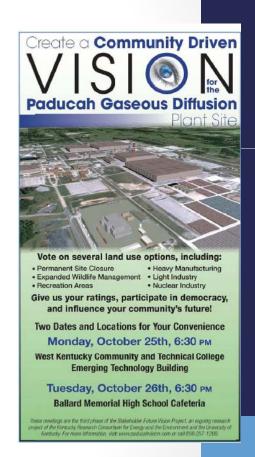
- "The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant" provided enriched uranium from 1952 -2013 for military and commercial reactors and nuclear weapons
- Only operating enrichment plant in the US from 2001-2010
- Plant is 750 acres, total site is 3,425 acres.
- Groundwater, surface water and soil contamination
- Paducah mayor in 2013: "we cannot accept a dirty shut down"
- Remediation is ongoing, Citizen's Advisory Board in place under CERCLA\RCRA authority
- Question of future land use





End State Vision Project

- Conducted by the University of Kentucky
- Engaging the pubic in a participatory process
- Informed decision-making
- Interviews of 80 community leaders from 44 specific organizations and interest groups from 16 stakeholder "clusters" (e.g., Education, Media, USEC Employees, Neighbors, Recreation Enthusiasts, CAB (Citizen Advisory Board) Members, DOE/Contractor Employees, etc.)
- Meetings with eight stake-holder focus groups.
- Two Community Information Meetings
- Three Community Scenario Meetings at which audience members voted on 12 future use scenarios.
- Additional use of a project website through which the public could vote on 12 future use scenarios. (713 distinct IP address hits; 97 responses)



Community Involvement Using Keypad Technology

- Structured public involvement
- Individual Keypads
- Allowed voting on scenarios
- Provides input on multiple options
- Instantaneous results



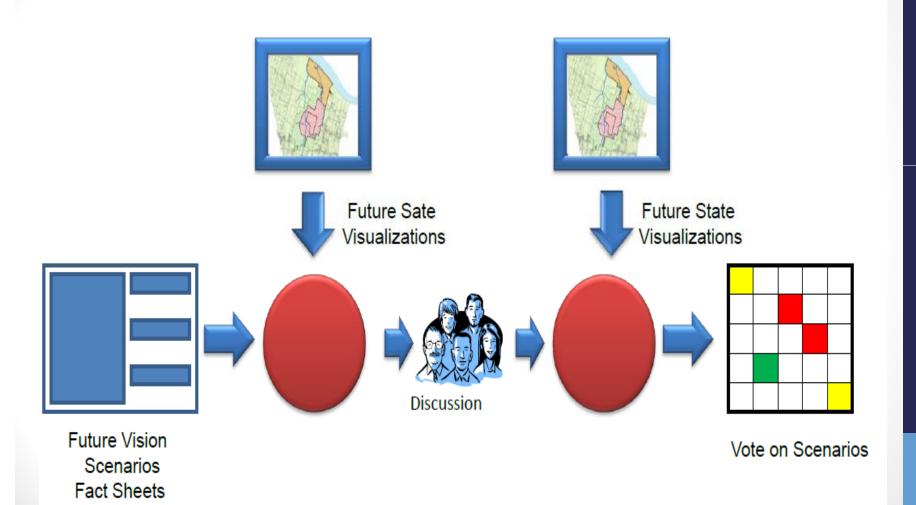




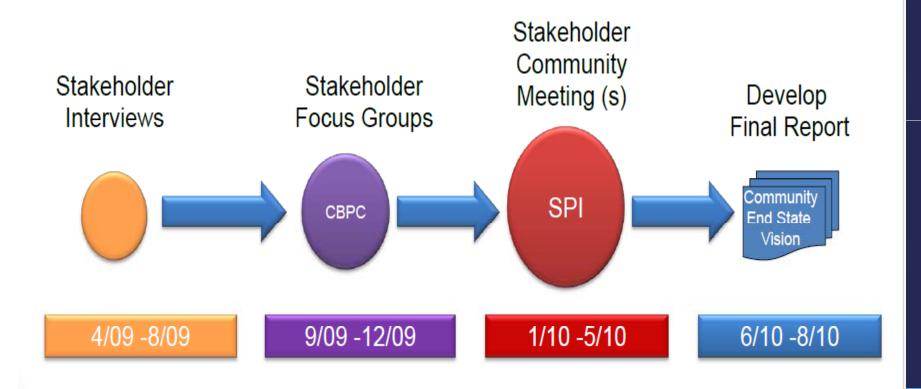
Example Scenario Matrix

Future Vision Categories	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	\Rightarrow
Land Use					
a. Nuclear Industry					
:					
z. Residential Apartments					
Waste Disposal					
a. On-site					
b. Partial					
c. Off-site					
Groundwater					
a. Water Policy & Active Treatment					
:					
z. Monitoring & Enhanced Inst. Controls					
Surface Water					
a. Monitoring					
:					
z. Sedimentation Basins/Removal					
\triangle					

Structured Public Involvement



Future Vision TIMELINE



Benefits of Using Keypads for Community-Based Participatory Communication

- Decentralization
- Inclusiveness everyone participates
- Democratic
- Fosters individual involvement
- Reduces grandstanding
- Provides instant feedback on opinions
- Summary and graphical results
- Provides a voice to those that do not want to talk in front of a group
- Respect everyone's time is valued

Why Engage with Your State?

To Ensure Meaningful Public Participation is Conducted & Your Voice is Truly Heard



Engagement Overview

Understand the Issues

Understand the Process

documents, reports, scientific studies
Sign up for mailing lists for state/federal agencies
Go to agency website

Know what you want

See the big picture

Know how to speak the language

Get the Facts

Request public

Ways to Engage with Your State?

- To COLLABORATE to bring about change
 - What does collaborate mean?
 - "A mutually beneficial well defined relationship entered into by two or more organizations/groups/individuals to achieve common goals." (Amerst H. Wilder Foundation)
- Collaborative Problem-Solve (CPS)

Barriers for Collaboration ...

- Ego Being the Boss
- Personal Gain
- Deference
- Giving up something
- Lack of courage & endurance

Key Steps to Engaging States

Identify Who You Need to Know

Know the Power that a Community Holds

Seek change within an agency by knowing their policies and practices

Build Relationships using informal communication

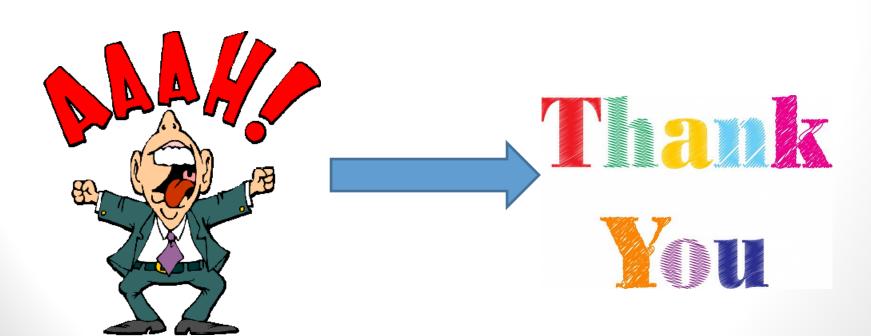
Establish your community as Primary Stakeholder.

Be educated and able to use/understand terms used by agency

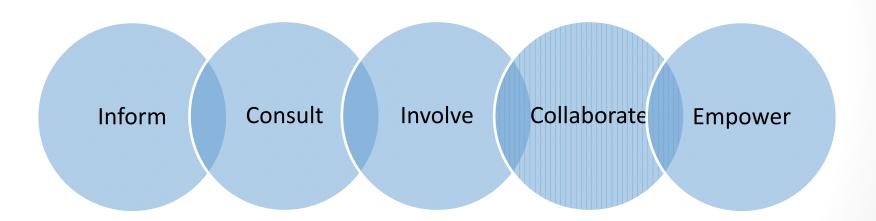
Become an Agency Partner

Building Relationships

- Attention
- Acceptance
- Acknowledgement
- Appreciation



Public Participation Spectrum



IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum

Courtesy of The Perspectives Group





Public

goal

participation















Increasing Level of Public Impact

Inform

To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or

solutions.

Consult

To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.

Involve

To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.

Collaborate

To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.

Empower

To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.

Promise to the public

We will keep you informed.

We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.

We will implement what you decide.

Example techniques

- Fact sheets
- Web sites
- Open houses
- Public comment
- Focus groups
- Surveys
- Public meetings
- Workshops
- Deliberative polling
- Citizen advisory Committees
- Consensus-building
- Participatory decision-making
- Citizen juries
- Ballots
- Delegated decision

the perspectives group

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What's the Objective of Your Engagement?

MODELS OF ENGAGEMENT What type of stakeholder do you want to be?

STAKEHOLDER AS THE:	OBJECTIVES OF ENGAGEMENT:
Client	Satisfaction of stakeholders
Partner in dialogue	Creating a basis for mutual understanding
Producer of ideas	Exploration of feasible alternatives
Co-producer of policy	Creation of ownership of solutions
Agenda setter	Follow-up on wishes from grass root level
Jointly responsible	Creation of joint management model
Stakeholder decides	Delegation of powers to stakeholders

Engagement

Effective engagement can:

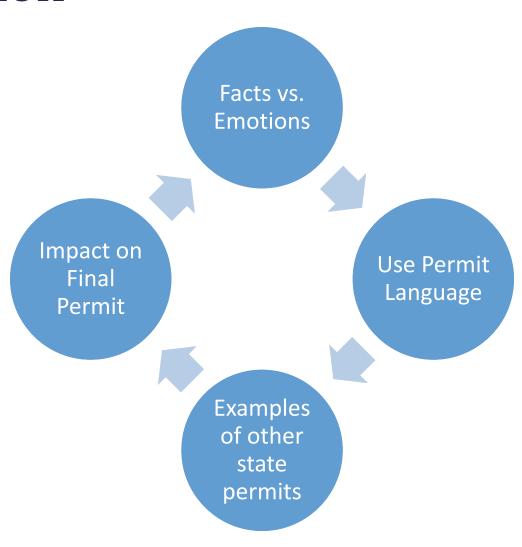
- raise citizen and community awareness about an issue
- identify community perceptions about an issue
- identify what will work in reality and what will not
- tap into new ideas and expertise
- provide avenues for dialogue with:
 - key stakeholders and interest groups
 - citizens
 - communities
 - government interests
- promote consensus
- achieve negotiated outcomes
- build constituency support
- provide feedback/evaluation on existing policies.

Engagement

Bottom line, community engagement is important because:

- 1. The best decisions come from difference and deliberation, not immediate agreement and harmony.
- 2. Individuals need to have access to unbiased information and data to form their own opinions.
- 3. Individuals bring with them specialized knowledge from their experiences. When a section of the community is missing from the table a big chunk of information is also missing.
- 4. When community engagement processes are in place, creative solutions with community buy-in for implementation are the result, often meaning more vibrant, resilient and sustainable communities.

Writing a Comment that Gets a Reaction



Understand the Issues

Understand the Process

Know What You Want

PREPARE

process?

<u>Policy</u>- What is the agency <u>required</u> to do with this communication?

PLAN

<u>Purpose</u>-What do we want to accomplish?

PRODUCE

Reception - What will recipients know after they read my comments?

Problems - How do I define the problem? How do others define the problem?

Actors - Who else has a significant role in this

<u>Politics</u>-Which actors are most likely to influence the process or the outcome?

Message- What is my message? What argument will I make to support my message?

Role- What is my role in this process? What is my interest in the outcome?

<u>Contents</u>- What information will support the message? What attitude do I want to convey?

Response- What is likely to happen as a consequence of this communication?

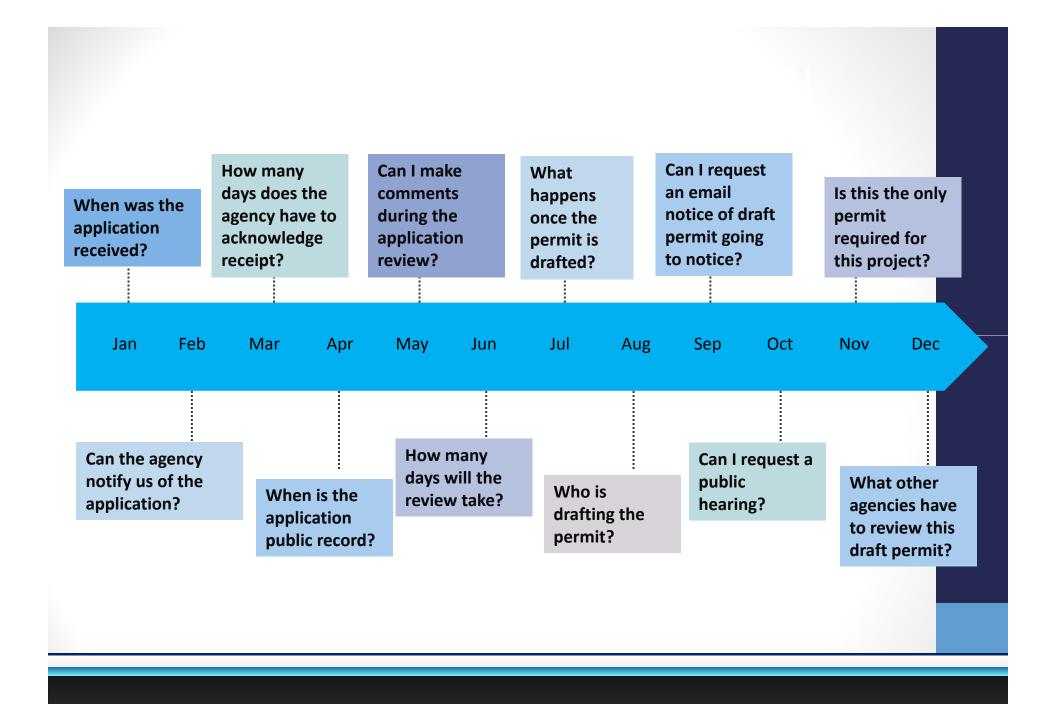
TO UNDERSTAND THE ISSUES, YOU GOT TO DO YOUR HOMEWORK!

Request public documents, reports, scientific studies

Sign up for mailing lists for state/federal agencies

Get the FACTS

Do Online Research Find out who can you supply information about the project- may be various people working different aspects of the project.



Know What You Want

The Permit Agency may require the applicant to provide data necessary to evaluate the impacts of air toxics, including the predicted emission rates and ambient concentrations, when it deems necessary, considering factors that follow:

- (1) the types of air toxics involved;
- (2) the quantity of emissions involved;
- (3) the physical characteristics of the stationary source (such as the location, size, etc.);
- (4) the anticipated human health effects;
- (5) the weight of scientific data supporting the health effects associated with the air toxics

Summary

"When citizens and communities are properly engaged, then they become more precise and detailed in their comments on environmental issues, policies and permits. These types of comments serve to demonstrate, primarily, the ability of the community to grasp all that we do as an environmental agency and reveal the veiled influence that lies within every citizen to bring transformation to their community."

-Melissa Collier