

Enforcement

Public Comment on Proposed Enforcement Settlements

Evaluate methods of seeking public comment on proposed negotiated settlements of DTSC enforcement cases to further the Department's efforts to make its enforcement activities more transparent and accessible to the public.

Goal: This pilot project will evaluate methods and the effectiveness of seeking public comment from interested parties on proposed negotiated settlements of DTSC enforcement cases before they are finalized. DTSC will review the outcomes of this pilot project and determine whether to continue, modify, or discontinue this approach.

Background: DTSC is committed to making its enforcement activities consistent, more transparent and accessible to the public. For example, in April 2014, the Department launched user-friendly enhancements to EnviroStor to provide the public with detailed information on inspections and enforcement actions of permitted hazardous waste facilities. This work plan is a continuation of these efforts started as a part of DTSC's Fixing the Foundation initiative. To date, DTSC has begun drafting a pilot project plan while gathering input and perspective from interested community members. Please note that the following work plan is subject to change as the implementation strategies of this project are currently under development.

Timeline:

6 months: July 2014 – December 2014

- Complete meetings with select non-governmental organizations and industry regarding the intent and approach of this project as well as the most effective means for soliciting review and comment on proposed DTSC enforcement settlements.
- Complete write-up of pilot project guidelines, and solicit final comments on the project.
- Begin pilot project to solicit review and comment on proposed enforcement settlements.

12 months: January 2015 – June 2015

- Continue pilot project.
- Evaluate actions and effectiveness of approach, and make adjustments as needed.

Beyond June 2015

- Complete pilot project.
- Evaluate effectiveness and needed changes.
- If effective, add any needed changes and incorporate approach into DTSC's enforcement policies and processes.

