

## **OHIO**

### **How Does Ohio Define Environmental Justice and Environmental Justice Communities?**

#### **Environmental Justice Definitions:**

N/A.

#### **Environmental Justice Mapping Tools:**

N/A.

### **How Does Ohio Consider Environmental Justice in its Substantive Actions<sup>1</sup>?**

#### **Environmental Justice as a Policy of the Environmental Agency or Across All Agencies:**

N/A.

#### **Consideration of Environmental Justice in Permitting:**

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency does not require the consideration of EJ in permitting. OEPA's website states, "[w]hile we do not have a specific environmental justice policy to follow, we consider all comments regarding environmental justice to ensure we comply with Title VI. Also, Ohio EPA issues permits based upon standards that are equally protective of all Ohio citizens."<sup>2</sup>

#### **Consideration of Environmental Justice in Enforcement:**

N/A.

#### **Consideration of Environmental Justice in Land Use:**

N/A.

#### **State Environmental Policy Act "Mini-NEPA":**

N/A.

#### **Dedicated Funding to Environmental Justice Communities:**

N/A.

---

<sup>1</sup> Substantive is defined as governing the original rights and obligations of individuals. Cornell L. Sch., LII, *Wex Legal Encyclopedia*, [https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/substantive\\_law](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/substantive_law) (last visited July 1, 2022).

<sup>2</sup> OHEPA, *Ohio EPA and environmental justice*, [https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/1097/~/~ohio-epa-and-environmental-justice](https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1097/~/~ohio-epa-and-environmental-justice) (last visited July 1, 2022).

Consideration of Cumulative Impacts:

N/A.

Prohibitions on Disparate Impact Discrimination:

N/A.

Established Environmental Rights:

N/A.

**How Does Ohio Address Environmental Justice in its Procedures<sup>3</sup>?**

Environmental Justice as Part of Environmental Agency's Mission:

N/A.

Environmental Justice as Part of Other Agency's Mission:

N/A.

Processes and Procedures (including Title VI):

- Non-Discrimination Policy:

Ohio EPA's Customer Help Q&A page states:

As a recipient of federal funding, the Ohio EPA is under a legal obligation to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. We have fully reviewed the guidance developed by the U.S. EPA for states regarding environmental justice. We meet our legal obligations and implement federal guidance through both our technical review and our public involvement activities on permit applications.<sup>4</sup>

- Grievance Procedures:

The Ohio EPA's customer help page does not include grievance procedures. It states that persons with additional questions can contact the Public Interest Center at (614) 644-2160.

---

<sup>3</sup> Procedural is defined as rules and the methods used to ensure the rights of individuals. Cornell L. Sch., LII, *Wex Legal Encyclopedia*, [https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/procedural\\_law](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/procedural_law) (last visited July 1, 2022).

<sup>4</sup> OHEPA, *Ohio EPA and environmental justice*, [https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a\\_id/1097/~/-/ohio-epa-and-environmental-justice](https://ohioepa.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1097/~/-/ohio-epa-and-environmental-justice) (last visited July 1, 2022).

- Enhanced Public Participation and Information Access:

Further, the customer page does not explain that the public can file discrimination complaints.

- Language Access:

N/A.

- Consultation with Indigenous Communities and Tribal Nations:

N/A.

#### Governmental Environmental Justice Structures, Positions, and Funding Streams;

- Environmental Justice Coordinating Agency:

N/A.

- Environmental Justice Coordinator:

N/A.

- Environmental Justice Advisory Board:

N/A.

- Funding for Environmental Justice:

N/A.

#### **Additional Ohio Environmental Justice Provisions?**

The Ohio Department of Transportation has been delegated authority to administer the National Environmental Policy Act, pursuant to section 6005(a) of the SAFETEA-LU (42 U.S.C. 4321). ODOT has issued a white paper as part of its long-term transportation planning and “ensuring that the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA’s) requirements for consideration of environmental justice populations (low-income and minority) are met.”<sup>5</sup>

#### **Ohio Environmental Justice Contacts?**

N/A.

---

<sup>5</sup> Access Ohio 2045 White Paper: Environmental Justice, *available at* [https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/static/Programs/AccessOhio/White+Papers/AO45\\_WhitePaper\\_EnvironmentalJustice.pdf](https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/static/Programs/AccessOhio/White+Papers/AO45_WhitePaper_EnvironmentalJustice.pdf) (last visited July 1, 2022).

## **Where to Find Ohio Environmental Justice Laws, Policies, and Tools?**

### Constitutional Provisions:

N/A.

### Executive Orders:

N/A.

### Legislation and Statutes:

N/A.

### Regulations:

N/A.

### Policies/Guidance:

N/A.

### Mapping Tools:

N/A.

### Other:

N/A.