

Public Service Responsibilities/Requirements

- [Vermont State Code of Ethics](#)
- [Vermont Public Records Act](#)
- [Vermont's Open Meeting Law](#)

Environmental Justice [Act 154](#) Tasks

Overall Responsibilities:

- **The Environmental Justice Advisory Council (Advisory Council or the AC):** provide independent advice and recommendations to State agencies and the General Assembly on matters relating to environmental justice, including the integration of environmental justice principles into State programs, policies, regulations, legislation, and activities.
- **The Interagency Environmental Justice Committee (Interagency Committee or the IA Committee):** guide and coordinate State agency implementation of the Environmental Justice State Policy and provide recommendations to the General Assembly for amending the definitions and protections set forth in this chapter.
- Both the Advisory Council and the Interagency Committee shall consider and incorporate the [Guiding Principles for a Just Transition](#) developed by the Just Transitions Subcommittee of the Vermont Climate Council in their work.
- Must meet no more than 8 times per year, at least 4 times jointly. Meetings may be held in person, remotely, or in a hybrid format to facilitate maximum participation and shall be recorded and publicly posted on the Secretary's website
- Each group may elect two co-chairs

Due Date	Task	Who's Responsible?	Who's Consulted?	Questions/Comments
December 15, 2022	<p>Appointments to the EJ Advisory Council and Interagency Committee.</p> <p>(pg. 36)</p>	<p>Committee on Committees, Speaker of the House, VCNAA, named agencies</p>		<p>1 EJ Council member pending from Speaker</p>
July 1, 2023	<p>The Interagency Committee, in consultation with ANR and Council, shall develop a set of core principles to guide development of community engagement plans. (pg. 37)</p>	<p>Interagency Committee (IA Committee)</p>	<p>Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) and the Advisory Council</p>	
September 15, 2023	<p>ANR in consultation with Council and Committee shall issue guidance on how covered agencies shall determine which investments provide environmental benefits to EJ populations; requires 40-day public comment period (pg. 34)</p>	<p>ANR</p>	<p>Advisory Council and IA Committee</p>	

December 1, 2023	Council and Committee consider and recommend amendments to terminology, thresholds, and criteria of definition of EJ focus population (pg. 37)	Joint IA Committee and Advisory Council		
Annually, starting January 15, 2024	Covered agencies shall submit annual reports to the Council summarizing EJ and civil rights complaints (pg. 33)	Covered Agencies		
February 15, 2024	Covered agencies shall review past three years of spending and generate baseline spending reports consistent with ANR guidance (pg. 34)	Covered Agencies		
July 1, 2024	Goal of covered agencies directing investments proportionately to EJ focus populations (pg. 34)	Covered Agencies		

January 1, 2025	Mapping tool shall be available for use by the public and State government (developed by ANR in consultation with Committee and Council) (pg. 39)	ANR	IA Committee and Advisory Council	
January 15, 2025	Covered agencies shall publicly post annual reports summarizing EJ efforts (pg. 34)	Covered Agencies		
July 1, 2025	Covered agencies shall create and adopt community engagement plans. (pg. 33)	Covered Agencies		
July 1, 2025	ANR shall adopt rules to define and implement cumulative environmental burdens, with initial consultation with the Council and 45-day notice to the Council (pg. 35)	ANR and Advisory Council	Council: votes are recorded and submitted to ICAR	

<p>December 15, 2025</p>	<p>ANR shall submit report to the General Assembly describing whether spending reports indicate any municipalities or portions of municipalities are routinely “underserved” by environmental benefits. Report includes recommendations about “underserved community” definition. (pg. 39)</p>	<p>ANR</p>		
<p>Annually, starting January 15, 2026</p>	<p>Covered agencies shall either integrate into existing spending reports or issue annual spending reports where investments are made and the percentage of benefits to EJ focus populations (pg. 34)</p>	<p>Covered Agencies</p>		