



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

The Public Participation Process Providing Effective Public Comments

Public participation is key to developing more effective rules and regulations for Georgia. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division values public input and depends on it in both the permitting and the rule-making process. When drafting a rule or writing a permit, our engineers and scientists rely on science and the law. They also count on experts and the public to offer suggestions to make rules and permits better. Providing comments using the tips below will ensure that your input is effective.



Know Your Issue

Read and understand the proposal. Make sure that your comment is relevant to the issue at hand.



Unintended Consequences

Thoughtful feedback from the public can point out unintended consequences that we did not consider.



Bring Technical Expertise

Expert Commenters can bring technical information that is beyond our expertise, helping us refine the rules and permits.



Point to a Solution

Although it is helpful to explain why a rule doesn't work, it is more helpful to suggest alternatives and substitute language to improve rules or permits.

Don't Get Sidetracked by **COMMON MISTAKES**.



Commenting on issues that are not specific to the proposed rule or permit



Requesting actions that are beyond our authority (e.g. non-environmental actions)



Asking a question instead of providing a comment



Sending form letters or multiple emails with the same message slows down our review process.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division is committed to using the public notice and comment process to improve the quality of our rules and permits. We value your input and look forward to your participation. Address your comments to the EPD contact person listed on the public notice or announcement.