

Charge of the Environmental Impact Work Group

Background Information

The [Coastal Zone Conversion Permit Act](#) (CZCPA), passed by the Delaware General Assembly in 2017, amended the Delaware [Coastal Zone Act](#) (CZA) to provide for development on 14 existing “heavy industry use sites” in the state’s Coastal Zone. Such provisions allow for the “conversion” of these sites to alternative heavy industry use, additional heavy industry use, or a bulk product transfer facility. DNREC must promulgate regulations that will govern how it will evaluate applications for and write conversion permits. The Secretary has convened a Regulatory Advisory Committee (RAC) to provide recommendations to DNREC on how to amend the existing CZA regulations to address the CZCPA amendments.

Role and Scope of the CZCPA Work Groups

The CZCPA Work Groups are tasked with providing technically feasible options for the RAC to consider regarding the evaluation of proposed CZCPA projects’:

- Economic Effect
- Environmental Impact
- Risk Evaluation and Financial Assurance
- (Environmental) Offsets

CZCPA Work Group Topic: Environmental Impact

The Environmental Impact Work Group was assembled to provide options for assessing the environmental impact of existing or previous use and proposed activities, and the net improvement compared to the previous heavy industry use (see 7 Del. C. §7014(c)).

Work Group Outputs

The technical consultant will lead and facilitate the Work Group discussions, provide technical expertise and research services, and prepare Work Group outputs. Those outputs are expected to include draft and final reports containing an analysis of issues, considerations, pros and cons of different approaches, resources, models from other analogous regulatory scenarios, and options for the RAC to consider.

Work Group outputs should enable the RAC to:

- (1) understand and deliberate the options;
- (2) send questions, comments, and/or areas for further exploration to the Work Group that would further refine options; and
- (3) develop recommendations to DNREC regarding new CZA regulations.

Schedule and Deadlines

The Work Group will convene in August 2018 and conclude, at the latest, by the end of the calendar year. The Work Group is expected to meet at least once per month, with the option to meet more frequently at its discretion.

The CZCPA RAC will meet:

- Tuesday, August 21
- Wednesday, September 12
- Tuesday, October 9
- Wednesday, November 7
- Tuesday, December 11

A draft report is due to the RAC by November 1, 2018 and a final report is due by January 1, 2019.

DNREC's RAC liaison to the Environmental Impacts Work Group (Judy Jordan) will assist in scheduling and running Work Group meetings and facilitating the flow of information between the RAC, Work Groups, consultants and other stakeholders.