

Data Quality Record for Long-Term Performance Goals

Long-Term Performance Goal Text: By September 30, 2026, complete 84 information sharing sessions and outreach and technical assistance events with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups on civil rights and environmental justice issues.

Corresponding Annual Performance Goal: Number of information sharing sessions and outreach and technical assistance events held with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups on civil rights and environmental justice issues.

Goal Number/Objective: Goal 2/Objective 2.3

NPM Lead: Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR)

1a. Purpose of Long-Term Performance Goal:

This long-term performance goal (LTPG) aims to ensure EPA is more fully and meaningfully engaged with internal (all EPA national program and regional offices) and external (states, overburdened communities, and advocates) stakeholders to inform and strengthen its external civil rights compliance work and to integrate environmental justice considerations for the benefit of overburdened and underserved communities. By incrementally increasing the number of engagements from FY 2022 through FY 2026, EPA will be able to engage a better cross-section of interested stakeholders, not only the advocates but the actual community members themselves, to better identify concerns and priorities for EPA's civil rights and environmental justice work.

1b. Performance Measure Term Definitions:

Information sharing sessions, outreach, and technical assistance: In the context of this LTPG, these are different methods for engaging with communities, government agencies, and advocacy groups. These terms are intended to be encompassing of the different forms of engagement between EPA programs and external stakeholders to share information, receive feedback, and mutually build the capacity of all involved to improve the understanding and ability to operationalize integration of environmental justice considerations and compliance with civil rights requirements in ways that are meaningful and responsive to community concerns and realities.

Overburdened communities: For this LTPG, overburdened indicates communities of color, marginalized communities, low-income, Tribal or Indigenous Peoples, or geographic locations in the United States that potentially experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks.

Underserved communities: For this LTPG, underserved indicates marginalized populations that have been systematically denied the full opportunity to participate in aspects of social, economic, and civil life.

Environmental justice advocacy groups: Groups, generally but not exclusively with 501c3 status, that advocate for environmental equity and justice for communities that have historically been overburdened and underserved with environmental issues.

1c. Unit of Measure:

The number of information sharing sessions and outreach, technical assistance events with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups.

2a. Data Source:

Staff in OEJECR and regional environmental justice (EJ) divisions will report their data monthly, generally within the 2nd week after the end of a month. Staff will enter the data into an OEJECR-owned database.

2b. Data needed for interpretation of (calculated) Performance Result:

In FY 2022, only staff in the External Civil Rights Compliance (ECRC) office were reporting on this measure. Starting in FY 2023, shortly after ECRC, the Office of Environmental Justice, and the Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center joined to become OEJECR, the universe of staff reporting on this measure grew exponentially. As a national program, OEJECR, along with regional EJ divisions are all reporting on this measure, which has resulted in the Agency setting annual targets that are beyond the LTPG target.

The EPA will rely on staff in OEJECR and regional EJ divisions to track applicable information sharing, outreach, and technical assistance events with overburdened and underserved communities and environmental justice advocacy groups.

3. Calculation Methodology:

The number of sessions and events conducted annually are calculated to provide a total.

4. Quality Assurance/Quality Controls:

QA/QC procedures have included the provision of guidance on what qualifies as an information sharing session, outreach, or technical assistance event. For issues around identifying environmental justice advocacy groups, it is recommended that regional EJ staff are engaged to ensure an accurate recognition of such groups has been accomplished.

5. Data Limitations/Qualifications:

While efforts have been made to ensure data quality, there may still be limitations in identifying what qualifies as an information sharing session, outreach, or technical assistance event, or identifying an environmental justice advocacy group. Environmental justice advocacy groups do not necessarily identify as such either as their primary or even explicit function (e.g., many community-based or faith-based organizations).

6. Technical Contacts:

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7. Certification Statement/Signature:

I certify the information in this DQR is complete and accurate.

PDAA Signature Original signed by Theresa Segovia **Date** 5/6/2024