

Virginia Council on Environmental Justice
Monday, April 27, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Location: 1111 E. Main St.
3rd Floor Conference Room
Richmond, VA 23219

This is a hybrid meeting. If you are interested in attending virtually, please use this link to register for the meeting.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8498255568043398999>

This meeting will be conducted using GoTo Webinar, which can be accessed in a web browser, desktop app, mobile app. Please register for the meeting to receive instructions on joining virtually.

To join via telephone, dial (415) 930-5321 and use access code 338 086 345

For help with technical difficulties during the meeting, call (804) 486-0492

The Council strives to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals to engage and participate fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact Gwendolin McCrea at gwendolin.mccrea@deq.virginia.gov prior to the event, and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Agenda

- 10:00 AM Council Meeting Begins (30 mins)
- Welcome
 - Roll Call
 - Overview of Meeting Agenda
 - Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - Chairs' Report:
 - Annual Report Update
 - Meeting with Secretary Bulova Update
 - Chesapeake Bay Task Force
 - Review remaining 2026 schedule (Note: Revised Dates)
 - April 27 in Richmond
 - June 18 or 25 – Virtual Meeting
 - September 14 or 21 – In-person Meeting | Northern Virginia (Invitation: Data Center Bus Tour)
 - December 1 or 9 – In-person Meeting | Location TBD
- 10:30 AM Public Comment Period (30 mins)

11:00 AM – 11:15 AM Break | Grab Lunch

- 11:00 AM Working Lunch – Meeting with Secretary Bulova (90 mins)
- 11:15 AM – begin meeting with Secretary Bulova
 - Council Introduction
 - Secretary Bulova Introduction
 - DEQ Update – EJ in Permitting Guidance Memo
 - Secretaries Introduction
 - Katie Frazier, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry
 - Jeffery Smith, Secretary of Education
 - Nick Donohue, Secretary of Transportation
 - Group Discussion
- 12:30 PM Public Comment Period (30 mins)
- 1:00 PM Break (15 mins)
- 1:15 PM Community Presentation – Crystal Mello, Community Organizer, POWHR Coalition | Mountain Valley Pipeline (20 mins)
- 1:35 PM Community Presentation – Lathaniel Kirts, Director, Newport News, East Ends Civic Association | Coal Ash (20 mins)
- 2:00 PM Data Center Bus Tour Update (Janet Phoenix and Lydia Lawrence) (30 mins)
- 2:30 PM Council Member – 2026 Program Planning (90 mins)
- 4:00 PM Meeting Concludes

PUBLIC COMMENTS AT
VIRGINIA COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MEETINGS

PUBLIC COMMENTS AT VIRGINIA COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MEETINGS: The Council encourages public participation in the performance of its duties and responsibilities. It schedules a public comment period at each regular meeting to provide residents with the opportunity to discuss matters relevant to the board which may or may not be listed on the meeting's agenda.

Those persons wishing to address the Council during this time should indicate their desire in advance of the meeting by emailing or mailing a draft of their comment to the staff person serving as the public comment period point of contact, when possible. If you are unable to submit a written copy of your comment before the meeting, please provide one within one week after the meeting. You may bring a written copy to the meeting in person or send a copy via postal mail or email to the contact person listed below.

Any person submitting comments/requesting to speak shall:

1. Identify themselves by name and address, including zip code
2. Limit their remarks to 3 minutes or less (as read aloud)
3. Address an environmental justice topic/community concern
4. Refrain from making any personal references or accusations of a factually false and/or malicious nature

Comments violating these rules are subject to be disregarded at the Council meeting, and the speaker may be removed from the podium and/or from the meeting.

POOLING MINUTES: Persons may pool their minutes to allow for a single presentation to the Council that does not exceed the time limitation of 3 minutes times the number of persons pooling minutes, or 15 minutes, whichever is less. A speaker must present the names of at least five individuals who are present in the audience and who wish to yield their three minutes.

The Council reserves the right to alter the time limitations set forth in this policy without notice and to ensure comments presented at the meeting conform to this policy.

Department of Environmental Quality Staff Contact:

Gwendolin McCrea

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