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Environmental Policy Legislation Workgroup Convening

Georgia Coalition for Environmental Policy & Protection







Tonight's Agenda

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Welcome & Recap

- 2023- 2024 Session: We successfully facilitated the collaboration of two legislators to introduce a single EJ Bill
- Environmental Justice Day at the Capitol: Constituents from all over the state were able to engage their lawmakers
- SR 754: Hearing on Committee
- What have we learned?
 - Focus on rural GA: Environmental Justice in Rural GA
 - Focus on impact of pollution on the economy and economic development
 - Start early!

OUR MISSION

Georgia General Assembly's adoption of environmental legislation in the 2025 Legislative Session

2024 2025 Legislative Priorities

2025 Legislative Priorities

Legislative: Senate Study Committee on Cumulative Impact of Pollution on Economic Development and Growth

Support: Bad Actor Bill (enable EPD to deny permits for known bad actors from outside and inside the state

Support: Consumer Utility
Counselor at the Public Service
Commission

2025 Engagement Strategy

Community Conversations: Brunswick, Savannah, Augusta, Newnan, Metro ATL

- Virtual student coffees
- Monthly workgroup convenings

Environmental Justice Day at the Capital 2025

- Confirm day after the election
- Mailing of legislative and regulatory priorities to state house and senate representatives

Engage in the rulemaking process w/ EPD, DOA, DNR

- Letter to the EPD requested a cumulative impact study

Social Media

- Flyers (Coffees), a student toolkit, and social media posts for student engagement
- Website

Georgia Public Service Commission

Biomass Contract Approved 4-1

Thank you for your comments, public and written, to the PSC.

GA WAND, GCV vs. The GA Secretary of State

- HB 1312 extended the terms of currently serving commissioners beyond the GA Constitutionally mandated 6 year terms.
- The judge should release his ruling after the election.

PSC Election - June/November 2025

- Districts 2, 3 and possibly 5
- The election date and number of districts on the ballot will be determined by the court

Call To Action

- Vote on <u>November 5th</u>
- For every position on the ballot
- Encourage everyone you know and interact with to vote!



