



Public Notification Vs Public Participation

Karen Kloo, Section Chief

Bureau of Case Assignment and Initial Notice





Public Notification Sites with On-Site Contamination

Within 14 days prior to RA field activities (current requirement)
– will change back to RI with rule amendment package.

Two options for public notification at sites with **on-site** contamination:

1. Post sign at site (*action taken at our Case Study site*); Or
2. Send periodic letters to owners/tenants within 200 feet

Required documentation must be provided to clerk
and health department(s)





Public Notification

Sites with Off-Site Contamination

- Prepare and distribute fact sheet within 14 days of determining contamination left the property of discharge
- Publish in newspaper within 30 days, and
- Update, redistribute & republish within 90 days of completed delineation unless:
 - Contamination is limited to GW & CEA is established
 - Follow notification requirements for CEA





Public Notification – Keep in Mind

- Publish Fact Sheet as a display ad (not buried in the legal ads)
- RPs must respond to inquiries
 - Received by the RP or received by DEP & referred to RP
 - DEP will no longer have the most current site information in many cases
 - LSRPs will be in best position to answer public inquiries
- LSRPs should resolve contractual/confidentiality issues with RPs to be able to respond





Direct Department Oversight Public Participation Plan

- The Public Participation Plan must:
 - Plan must be site specific
 - Plan must meet the needs of the community in which the site is located
 - The level of public concern should dictate how rigorous the plan should be





Public Notification VS. Public Participation

What's the intent?

- Public notification requirements - provide information
- Public participation – provide information **AND** receive and consider comments

Participation is a more interactive process





Public Notification VS. Public Participation

- All correspondence to the public should include:
 - An explicit statement to that you are soliciting public comment
 - A description of how the public should submit comments
 - To the RP or LSRP
 - Via hardcopy or email
 - Explicit statement that comments will be considered and will receive a response





QUESTIONS?

