

State of Vermont
Department of Housing and Community Development

*Agency of Commerce and
Community Development*

Deane C. Davis Building – 6th Floor [phone] 802-828-3211
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

Dear Environmental Justice Advisory Council,

The Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) is pleased to provide the Environmental Justice Advisory Council with the following annual summary detailing all complaints alleging Environmental Justice (EJ) issues or Title VI violations and any agency action taken to resolve the complaints, as required pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 4001(d).

As a covered agency, ACCD is required to implement the Environmental Justice Law and policies set forth at Title 3, Chapter 72. Likewise, as a recipient of federal funds, ACCD is subject to the antidiscrimination requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

In the calendar year 2024, ACCD did not receive any complaints alleging EJ issues or Title VI violations, and therefore no action to resolve such complaints was taken.

ACCD does not have a specific system for receiving and processing EJ complaints; however, ACCD follows the statewide policy of receiving and processing Title VI complaints. Should ACCD receive a complaint regarding a specific program or source of funding, ACCD will follow any policies and procedures in place for that specific program or funding source. ACCD's Agency Policy Number 3.3, Discrimination Complaints, provides a formal complaint process for Title VI complaints, and the DHCD Fair Housing Plan addresses how DHCD's programs and policies adhere to federal and state fair housing laws and goals.

While ACCD has not received any EJ complaints to date, housing, particularly in mobile home parks and affordable housing, may present a context for such complaints due to potential disproportionate environmental impacts. ACCD recognizes the importance of ensuring that tenants in these communities have clear information on how to report EJ concerns. Moving forward, ACCD will explore opportunities to incorporate language in policy statements and public notices to clarify how individuals can file complaints related to EJ issues.

ACCD welcomes the Council's recommendations and guidance to continue the important work of identifying, reducing, and eliminating environmental health disparities to improve the health and well-being of all Vermont residents.

Sincerely,

Gabbie Wray (she/her) | Environmental Specialist
Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development
(802) 636-7255 | gabbie.wray@vermont.gov

