VERMONT
AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Scope of Work for the Environmental Justice (EJ) Advisory Council

Community Engagement Plans

- The Interagency Committee will consult with the Advisory Council during the development of the **core principles of community engagement** (due September 1, 2023*).
- The Advisory Council will advise covered agencies during the development of **community engagement plans** (due July 1, 2025).

Equitable Distribution of Environmental Benefits

- The Agency of Natural Resources will consult with the Advisory Council during the development of the **environmental benefits spending guidance** (due November 15, 2023*).
- The Advisory Council will advise covered agencies on equitable distribution of environmental benefits for environmental justice focus populations.

Consideration of Environmental Burdens using the EJ Mapping Tool

- The Agency of Natural Resources will consult with the Advisory Council during the development of the **EJ mapping tool** (due January 1, 2023).
- The Agency of Natural Resources will consult with the Advisory Council during the initial **rulemaking on cumulative environmental burdens** (due July 1, 2025).
- The covered agencies will consult with the Advisory Council when adopting or amending **policies and procedures, plans, guidance, and rules** to implement the EJ Law (July 1, 2026 and onward).
- The Advisory Council will review and provide feedback to covered agencies on any **proposed rules** for implementing the EJ Law and submit a recorded vote on each proposed rule to the Interagency Committee on Administrative Rules and the Legislative Committee of Administrative Rules (July 1, 2026 and onward).

Civil Rights and Environmental Justice Complaint Reporting

- The Advisory Council will review the annual **civil rights and environmental justice complaint reports** submitted by the covered agencies and provide recommendations to covered agencies concerning these reports (annually starting January 15, 2024).

Environmental Justice Action Reporting and Review of Definitions

- The Advisory Council and the Interagency Committee will recommend to the General Assembly **amendments to terminology, thresholds, and criteria of the definition of environmental justice focus populations** (due December 1, 2023).
- The Agency of Natural Resources will consult with the Advisory Council during **review of the definitions** contained in the EJ Law. This review will happen at least every five years.

* This due date reflects a two-month extension resulting from a two-month delay required to statutorily authorize per diem payments for EJ Advisory Council members during the 2023 Legislative Session.