



**Minnesota Pollution
Control Agency**

520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

Environmental Justice Principles and Practices

Policy Title: Incorporating Environmental Justice Principles and Practices (EJ Policy) into Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Operations

Policy Type: Environmental, Agency-wide

Effective Date: October 11, 2012

Policy statement

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) will, within its authority, strive for the “...*fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.*”

Fair treatment means that no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental and commercial operations or policies

Meaningful Involvement means that:

- 1. people have an opportunity to participate in decisions about activities that may affect their environment and/or health;*
- 2. the public's contribution can influence the regulatory agency's decision;*
- 3. their concerns will be considered in the decision making process; and*
- 4. the decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of those potentially affected*

The above concept is embraced as Environmental Justice (EJ) by the MPCA.

John Linc Stine, Commissioner

Purpose and rationale

Environmental Justice is based on the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) definition of environmental justice, which can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/basics/index.html>. This MPCA policy is intended to identify principles and practices to guide the commitment to integrating Environmental Justice principles into programs administered by the MPCA.

Statutory Basis

[Title VI of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964](#)