

**State of Alaska**  
**Departments of Environmental Conservation and Natural Resources**  
**Clean Water Act Section 404 Dredge and Fill Permitting and Compliance**  
**State Primacy**

**Public Process**

**February 22, 2013**

The public process will be informed by and similar to the process followed leading up to and after delegation of the Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) program from EPA to DEC.

As DEC and DNR study assumption of the program, the agencies will seek input on issues, and costs and benefits from affected industries, agencies, tribal and local governments, and the public.

Public Notice Processes

Public notice processes provide transparency of DEC and DNR actions to the public, provide an opportunity for the public to comment upon and inform agency actions, and provide the agencies input to views and ideas to incorporate into agency action.

- Statutory changes that may be required will go through legislative process, including hearings
- Public notice and comment on regulation changes, including public meetings/hearings
- The application submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will go through EPA's public notice and comment process
- The State will provide notice of EPA's public notice of the state's application as part of their program approval process

Public Process after Program Assumption

- After assumption, the State will have a robust public notification and participation similar to that used by the APDES program
- The State will have a public, and tribal and local government notification and communication process similar to that developed and used by the APDES program