

Administrative Order 360: Regulatory Reform

Department of Environmental Conservation

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Deputy Commissioner

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AO 360: Regulatory Reform Plan

- Signed August 2025
- 15% reduction by 2026
- 25% reduction by 2027

Maintain environmental & public health outcomes



The screenshot shows the DEC website header with the logo and navigation menu. The main content area is titled "Administrative Order 360 & DEC's Regulatory Reform Plan" and includes an introductory paragraph, a "The Plan" section with two PDF links, an "About Administrative Order 360" section with a paragraph and a list of goals, and an additional paragraph about efficiency improvements with another list of goals.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
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Administrative Order 360 & DEC's Regulatory Reform Plan

In response to Governor Dunleavy's AO360, DEC is doing a complete review of its regulations, guidance documents, and permitting processes. DEC has identified reforms that clarify and streamline regulations without reducing protections for human health and the environment. All proposed regulatory changes will undergo a full public process, including opportunity to comment. DEC welcomes your input throughout this process.

The Plan

- [Regulatory Reform Plan Introduction and Overview \(PDF\)](#)
- [Regulatory Reform Plan, Detailed Info \(PDF\)](#)

About Administrative Order 360

In August 2025, Governor Dunleavy issued Administrative Order 360 ([AO360](#)). This order directed each state agency, including the Department of Environmental Conservation, to:

- Review existing regulations, guidance documents, and materials incorporated by reference to identify provisions that are outdated, redundant, or unclear
- Develop proposals for the revision, repeal, or streamlining of the regulations, guidance documents, and materials incorporated by reference identified above
- Reduce the number of regulatory requirements by 15 percent by December 31, 2026, and 25 percent (cumulative) by December 31, 2027

Additionally, AO360 directs state agencies to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of Alaska's permitting systems, and to support responsible resource and economic development while protecting environmental and public interests. Accordingly, these agencies are directed to:

- Review and revise permitting procedures to eliminate unnecessary steps, reduce duplicative reviews, simplify application requirements, streamline internal workflows, and clarify interagency roles to reduce inefficiencies and delays
- Adopt, in regulation, clear timelines and deadlines for permit application processing, review of milestones, and final decision making, including provisions for automatic approval if deadlines are not met
- Ensure transparent processes by making permit application statuses, timelines, and decision rationales available to applicants and the public, to the extent allowable by law
- Promote predictability in decision-making by applying regulatory standards consistently
- Leverage technology, such as artificial intelligence, to support digitization, automation, and public access to permitting information



DEC's Approach: A Comprehensive Review

Repeal

Consolidate

Streamline

Modernize

Recalibrate
discretionary
authority

Align regulations
with statutory
requirements



Baseline & Measurable Reductions



Department wide:

- 13,000 discretionary regulatory requirements
- 40 proposed regulatory packages
- More than 2,600 requirements eliminated
- Over 5,000 pages of guidance documents



DEC's Reform Priorities

- Maintain environmental and public health protections
- Reduce unnecessary approvals & delays
- Lower compliance costs
- Improve flexibility for homeowners & small businesses
- Err on the side of humans where discretion exists



Permitting & Operational Reforms: Already Underway

- Permit template standardization
- Clear submittal checklists
- Internal review benchmarks
- Pre-application coordination
- Guidance document review & codification



Timeline & Implementation



Public Process & Transparency

- All packages will undergo current formal public notice and comment process
- Regular updates provided through our website
- Continued review through 2027

“Efficiency does not eliminate public process.”



Questions?



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DEC Administrative Order 360 Web Page

<https://dec.alaska.gov/commish/ao360/>

