



c/o Chittenden County RPC  
110 West Canal Street, Suite 202  
Winooski, VT 05404

[www.ccrpcvt.org/northern-lake-champlain-cwsp/](http://www.ccrpcvt.org/northern-lake-champlain-cwsp/)

802-861-0133

## **CWSP / BWQC *Interim* Public Participation Policy**

### **Policy**

It shall hereafter be the policy of the Chittenden County RPC as the Basin 5 Clean Water Services Provider (CWSP) and its Basin Water Quality Council (BWQC) for the Northern Lake Champlain Direct Drainages Basin (aka Basin 5) to: (1) ensure public notice of CWSP and BWQC meetings, decisions, and actions; (2) promote public participation in an open, competitive, and transparent process for identifying and selecting clean water projects with specific consideration given to minority, limited English proficiency, and socioeconomically disadvantaged communities and stakeholders; and (3) comply with the Department of Environmental Conservation's nondiscrimination policy.

### **Practices**

Both the CWSP and the BWQC consider public participation to be of great importance. To promote public participation consistent with the above policy, the CWSP and BWQC will comply with the State's open meeting law, use plain language in their communications, and provide public access to data and methods used to prioritize clean water projects. The CWSP and BWQC will also make use of current and emerging best practices for justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, such as.

- identifying and compensating community connectors;
- publicizing meeting notices using diverse communication channels;
- scheduling and locating meetings with due consideration given to accessibility;
- translating materials (upon request) free of charge; and
- engaging with and providing programmatic support targeted towards historically underrepresented communities (this includes giving consideration to the Agency of Natural Resources's Limited English Proficiency Accessibility Plan, Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act, and CCRPC's Public Participation Plan).

### **Amendment and Refinement**

This policy was developed as part of the CWSP start-up phase. It may be amended as deemed appropriate by the CWSP and BWQC. Within eight months of adoption of this policy the CWSP and BWQC for Basin 5 shall solicit input on the policy from BWQC partners and the public. The CWSP and BWQC will also revisit the policy within two months of the adoption of a Public Participation Plan by either the CWSP and BWQC.

### **Adoption**

Adopted by the CWSP on November 2, 2022

Attest:   
Charles Baker, CCRPC Executive Director

Adopted by the BWQC on October 19, 2022

Attest:   
Dan Albrecht, Basin 5 CWSP Manager