





# Environmental Justice & Permitting

Policy, Law and Implementation

October 1, 2012
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# **Environmental Equity Policy**

The policy of this department is that no segment of the population should, because of its racial or economic makeup, bear a disproportionate share of the risks and consequences of environmental pollution or be denied equal access to environmental benefits.

Policy effective: December 17, 1993



## Legal requirements

- File and obtain approval of meaningful public participation plan prior to filing any permit application
- Consult with chief elected official(s)
- Evaluate need for community environmental benefit agreement
- Effective: January 1, 2009



#### Terms defined in law

- Environmental justice community
- Affecting facility
- Meaningful public participation
- Community environmental benefit agreement



#### **Process**

Applicant Meet EJ Law Submit permit application



#### **Case Studies**





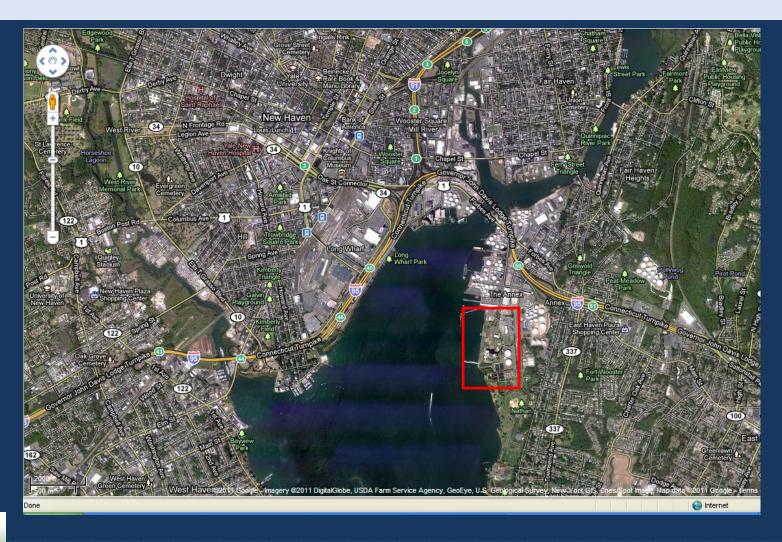
### **PSEG New Haven Harbor**

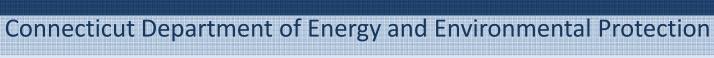
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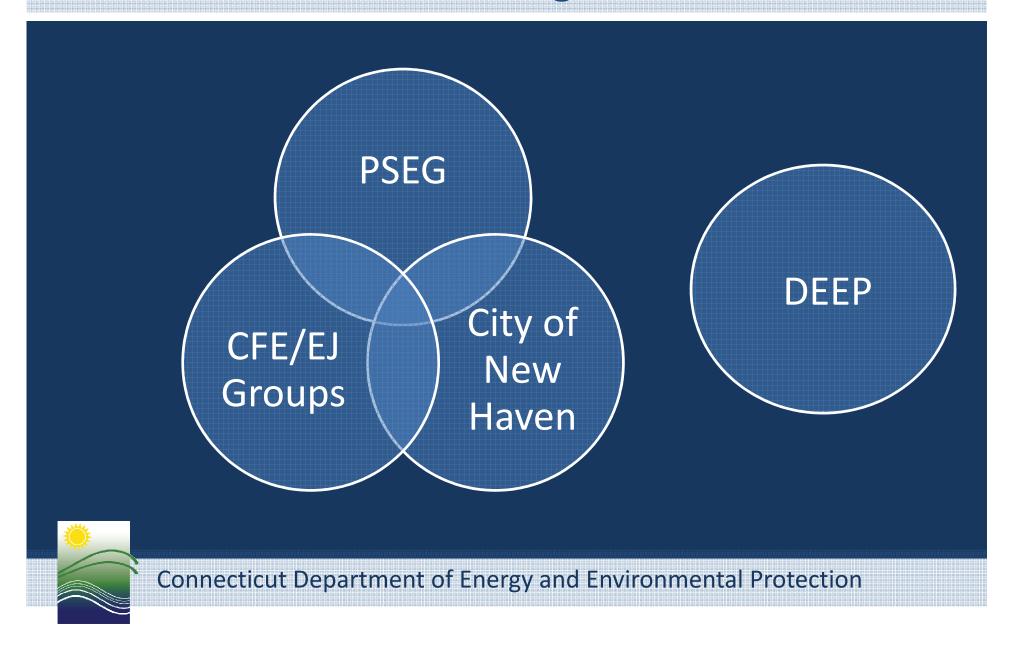


## Location





## Framework of Agreement



## Content of Agreement

- Peaking units
  - Use natural gas when available
- Unit #1
  - Reduce NOx, SO2, PM by co-firing oil/natural gas
- \$500,000
  - East Shore Air Quality Account to reduce PM
- Incorporate agreement into Title V permit



# From Concepts to Enforceability

- CEBA
  - Some elements not enforceable
- EJ approach targeted Title V
  - NSR modification concurrent
- Focus on environmental benefit
  - No net increase in emissions with new project



## Permit Approaches

- First Reference existence of CEBA
  - Negative reaction from EJ groups
- Second Incorporate by reference
  - Negative reaction from Enforcement staff
- Third Draft enforceable language
  - Get emission reductions keeping intent of CEBA



#### **Achieving Environmental Outcomes**

- Peaking units
  - Use natural gas when available
- Unit #1
  - Co-fire with gas in ozone season
  - Co-fire with gas in non-ozone season when peaking units operate
  - Reduce output by 4MW/hour per peaking unit when operated
- Recordkeeping
  - Compliance determination with CEBA conditions



#### Lessons

- Greater emission reductions achieved
  - Beyond standard for permit issuance
- Lengthy, costly hearing process avoided
- Building trust
  - EJ groups, municipality and agency
- Permitting authority must be involved

