



## Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Public Comment Period 2024 Draft Enhanced Public Participation Plan

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA or Agency) is accepting public comments on its 2024 Draft Enhanced Public Participation Plan (Draft Plan). This public notice provides a brief background on the Draft Plan and instructions on how to submit comments and request additional information.

The Draft Plan is available at <https://epa.illinois.gov/public-notice/general-notice.html> or by contacting the Illinois EPA in one of the ways below.

### How to Submit Comments

Please reference “**Public Comment 2024 Draft Enhanced Public Participation Plan**” in your request. The Agency’s point of contact is **Paulina Lopez-Santos**, Office of Environmental Justice.

**Mailing Address:**  
115 S La Salle St. Suite 2203  
Chicago, IL 60603

**Email Address:**  
[EPA.OEJ@illinois.gov](mailto:EPA.OEJ@illinois.gov)

**Phone:** (312) 832-2182 – if  
unavailable, please leave a  
voicemail.

Public comments must be received no later than **11:59 PM on November 8, 2024**. Comments should be submitted in writing to the mailing address or e-mail address listed above. Comments can also be made by calling the above phone number. Language access services are available at no charge by contacting the Office of Environmental Justice.

### Brief Background

On February 14, 2024, Illinois EPA voluntarily entered into an Informal Resolution Agreement (IRA) with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to resolve a civil rights complaint concerning the Illinois EPA’s issuance of an air construction permit for a metal shredder to be located on the Southeast Side of Chicago. Under the IRA, Illinois EPA committed to revising several of its plans and policies, including its 2018 Enhanced Public Participation Plan.

The 2024 Draft Plan presents the Agency’s public participation goals and outlines a framework of tools and strategies for enhanced public participation efforts that may be tailored to Illinois EPA programs and activities. The 2024 Draft Plan strengthens Illinois EPA’s commitment to ensuring the Agency meets its nondiscrimination obligations under applicable civil rights laws.

**For more information** related to public participation, community relations, and environmental justice, please visit Illinois EPA’s [Office of Environmental Justice](#) webpage and the [Office of Community Relations](#) webpage.