

# **New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection**



**“One Stop” permit coordination  
through  
Office of Permit Coordination and  
Environmental Review**

**Darin Shaffer, P.E.**

**NJDEP – Bur. Of Dam Safety & Flood Control**

# One Stop Permit Coordination



⌘ What is the one thing you want to avoid after you apply for permits?

Unexpected  
submission  
requirements

Additional evaluation  
requirements

**SURPRISES!**

Timing restrictions

# One Stop Permit Coordination



- ⌘ Provides a “one stop”/single point of entry for smaller, cross-program projects. One Stop helps identify all NJDEP programs and permits that will be involved in your project, establishes communication between you and those programs and helps establish a permitting timeframe.

# One Stop Permit Coordination



- ⌘ Process provides an early, informal review and comment on 'ideas' or conceptual projects before applicants invest time and money into more detailed project design

# One Stop Permit Coordination

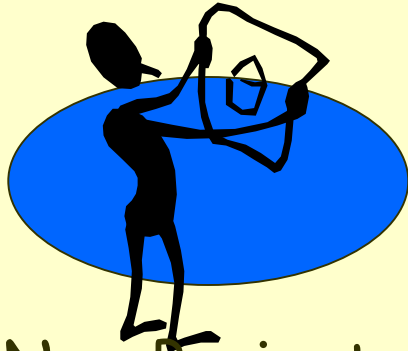


⌘ One Stop permit coordination is not:

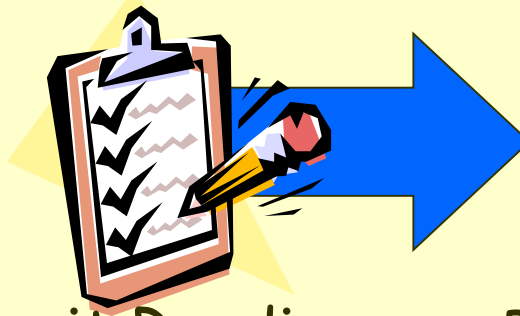
- ☒ Expedited/emergency permit process
- ☒ Guaranteed permit schedule
- ☒ Reduced requirement permit

One Stop does not manage your project.

# Permit Coordination Flow Diagram



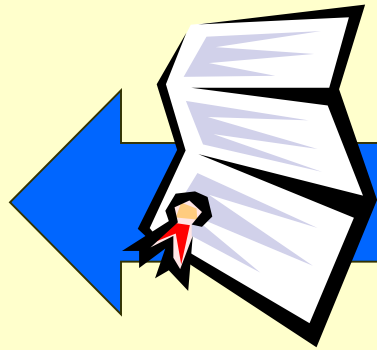
New Project



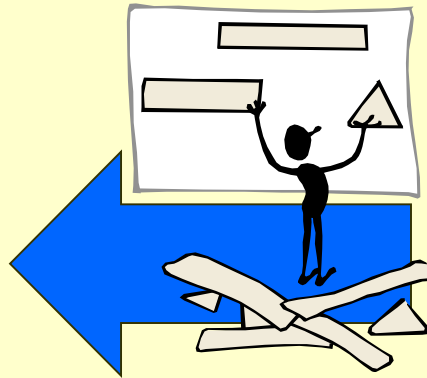
Permit Readiness  
Checklist



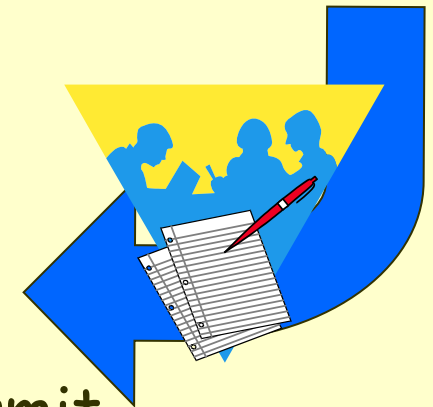
Pre-App Meeting



Submit Permits



Critical Path



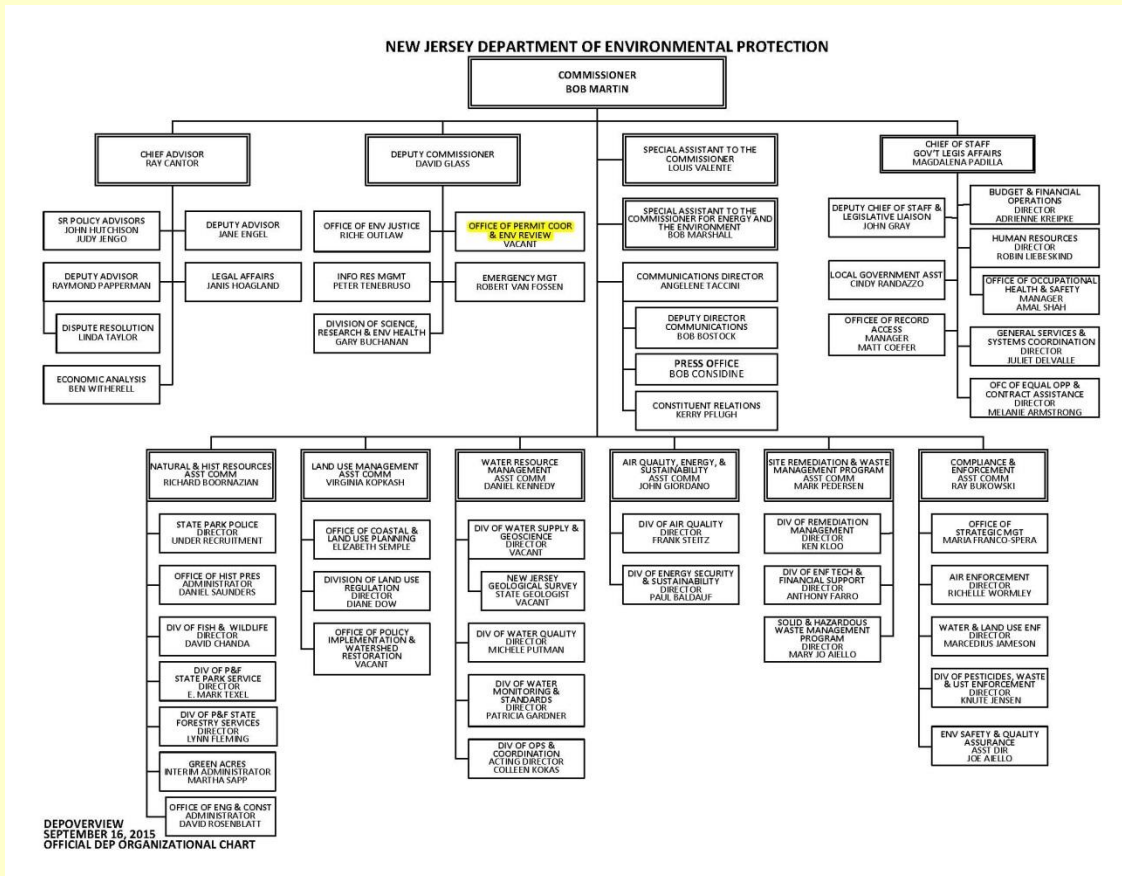
Permit  
Determination

# Benefits of One Stop Permit Coordination



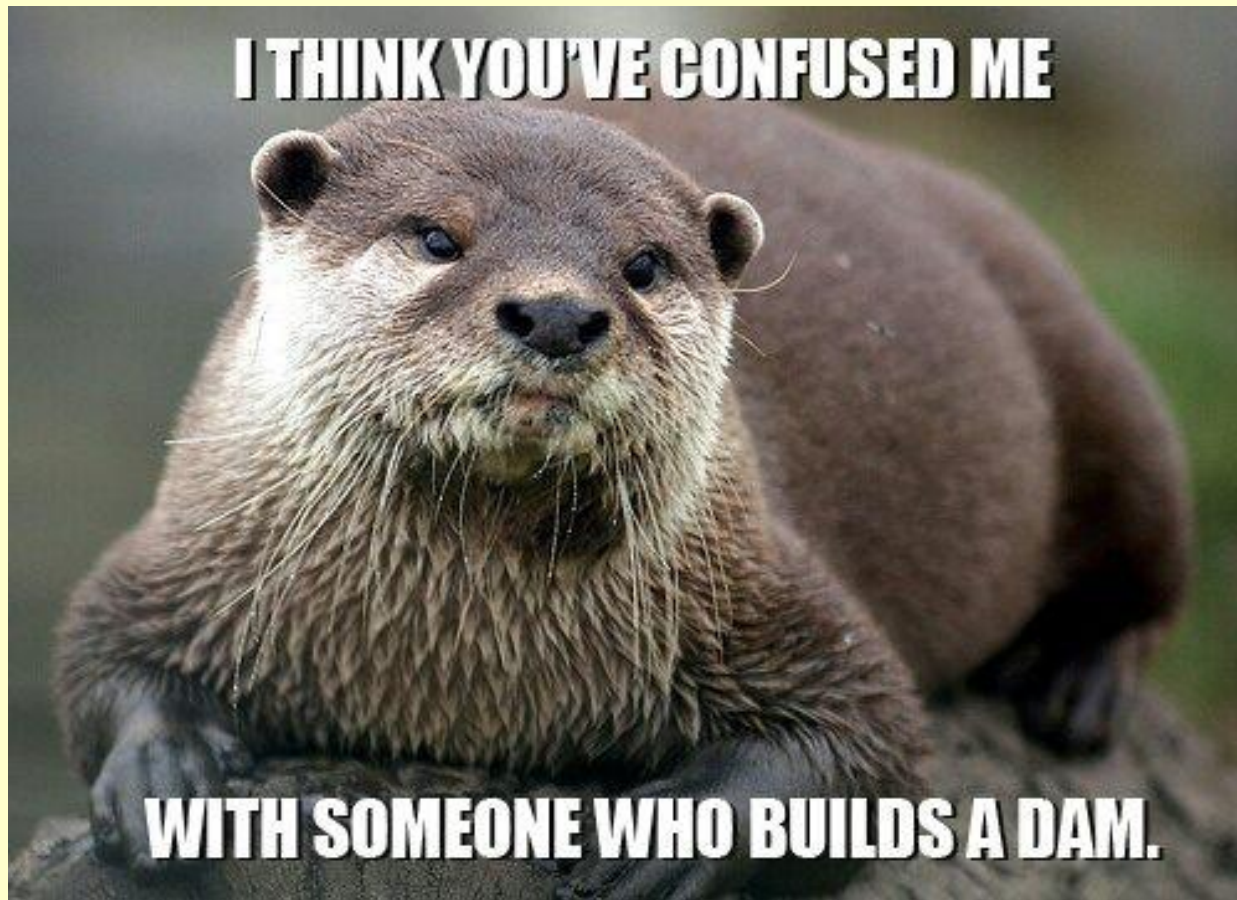
- ⌘ Provides accountable, timely & consistent permit oversight; early flaw analysis and modification of plans
- ⌘ Open communication between team members & applicants; single point of contact to team
- ⌘ Avoids conflicting requirements, duplication of effort & last minute surprises; saves time and money

# Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review






# Dam Removal/Stream Restoration Permitting Example



# Dam Removal/Stream Restoration Permitting Example



⌘ A typical dam removal/stream restoration project typically only requires permits from two NJDEP programs:

Dam Safety: dam safety permit

Land Use: freshwater wetlands general permit(s)

Sounds easy, right?

# Dam Removal/Stream Restoration Permitting Example



⌘ The Dam Safety permit requires plans, specifications and supporting engineering analysis for the proposed design.

Still sounds straightforward...

# Dam Removal/Stream Restoration Permitting Example

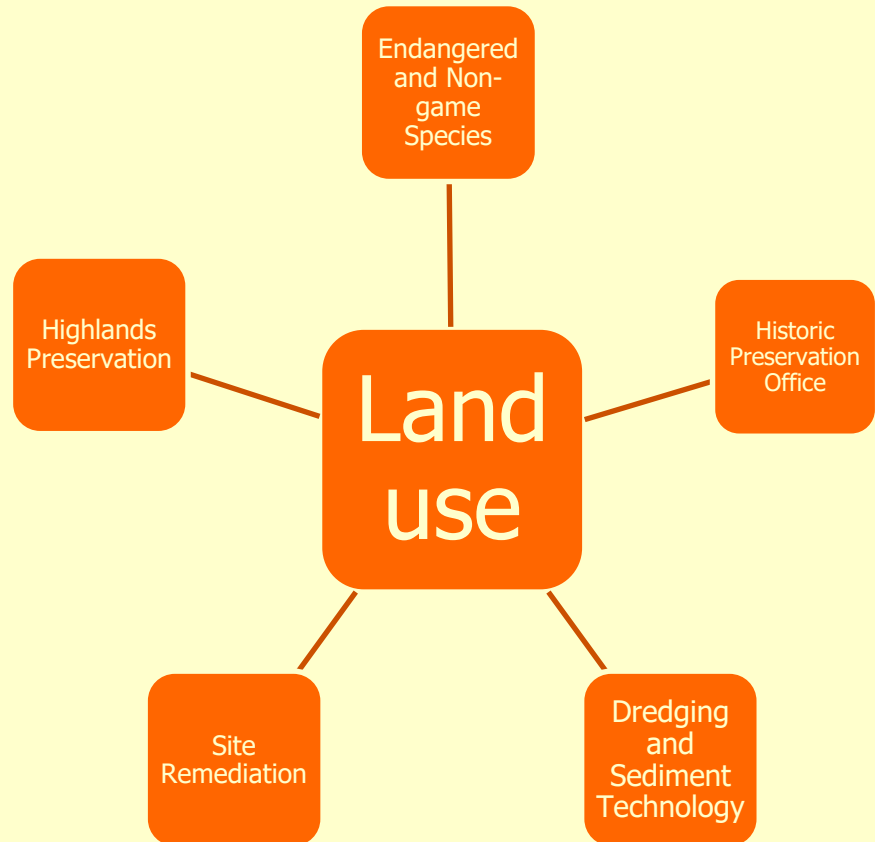


- ⌘ Land Use general permits also have a straightforward, well defined set of criteria and submission requirements; however...

Additional NJDEP approvals (not permits) are necessary before Land Use can issue a wetland's permit.

# Dam Removal/Stream Restoration Permitting Example

In addition to reviewing the project for compliance with applicable wetlands criteria, Land Use will also refer the project to some or all of the following programs for review/approval prior to issuing the Land Use permit:



# Dam Removal/Stream Restoration Permitting Example



- ⌘ Referral programs don't issue their own permits, but may require additional studies, sampling, timing restrictions or other requirements. These additional requirements will be addressed prior to issuance of the Land Use permit or become permit conditions in the Land Use permit.
- ⌘ The One Stop program will bring the permit programs and the referral programs together for the pre-app meeting.

# In summary:



⌘ Applicants will begin their permit submission with confidence that:

- ☑ there is no fatal flaw (early 'no' if needed) in their site or project,
- ☑ certainty they are in fact ready to submit permit applications (that no preliminary approvals are needed or if so that they have been obtained),
- ☑ their project has had the benefit of an informal review and comment by permit reviewers prior to submitting a formal application,
- ☑ they have been introduced to individual program contacts,
- ☑ they have an approximate predictable schedule for permit issuance assuming the submission of a complete and approvable application and fees.

# Permit Coordination – Additional Projects

## ⌘ **Transportation:**

- ☒ South Jersey Light Rail; Newark-Elizabeth Light Rail; NJ TPK widening; Goethals Bridge Replacement (NEPA); Interstate 295/42- Creek Road (EO-215); Philadelphia Airport Capacity Enhancement Program (NEPA)
- ☒ Various NJTA, ACE, GSP - NJ Transit/Amtrak - Transit villages

## ⌘ **Landfill Closure and Dredge Projects:**

- ☒ OENJ Bayonne; Bellmawr Fazio; landfill closure to solar; Cross Harbors Freight; Delaware River and New York Harbor dredge projects

## ⌘ **Innovative Technology and Energy:**

- ☒ On shore and Off-shore Wind Power Plants
- ☒ Multiple Alternative Energy Biomass projects - Ethanol Projects, Tire or vegetable waste to energy projects; desalination plants; natural gas power plants

## ⌘ **Brownfields:**

- ☒ Red Bulls Stadium - Harrison; Colgate Palmolive and Port Liberty- Jersey City; NL - Sayreville; various Roebling Sites

## ⌘ **Golf Courses:** Beneficial reuse of Wastewater

## ⌘ **Dam Removal and Stream Restoration Projects**

## ⌘ **Schools:**

- ☒ Abbott / Non-Abbott District Projects



# **Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review**



**PO Box 420, Mail Code 401-07J  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420  
Phone: (609)292-3600 Fax: (609)292-1921**

## **Guidance Documents**

**Permit Readiness Checklist**

**NEPA/E0-215 Environmental Assessments**

**<http://www.nj.gov/dep/pcer>**

**Ruth Foster, PhD, Megan Brunatti, Michelle Sebestyen , David Pepe**

# Questions?



Darin Shaffer, P.E.

NJDEP - Bureau of Dam Safety & Flood Control

609-984-0859 [darin.shaffer@dep.nj.gov](mailto:darin.shaffer@dep.nj.gov)