

WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §22-11B-5

§22-11B-5. Public participation in permit process, notices, public hearing.

- (a) Public notice of an application for a permit required under this article shall allow at least 30 days for public comment. The secretary shall specify the required contents of the public notice.
- (b) The secretary shall send the public notice to the applicant, who shall be responsible for publication of a Class 1 legal advertisement of the notice by a date and in a paper specified by the secretary. Upon publication, the applicant shall send the secretary a copy of the certificate of publication. The costs of publication shall be borne by the applicant.
- (c) Notice of an application for a permit shall be served to each mineral lessee, mineral owner, and pore space owner with a legal interest that involves the storage reservoir.
- (d) Notice of an application for a permit shall be served to each surface owner of land overlying the storage reservoir.
- (e) Notice of an application for a permit shall be served to any additional persons that the secretary requires.
- (f) Service of individual notices required by this section shall be through personal service, by registered mail, or by any method of delivery that requires a receipt or signature confirmation.
- (g) The secretary and/or the commission shall hold a public hearing whenever he or she finds, on the basis of requests, a significant degree of public interest of issues relevant to the draft permit. The secretary and/or the commission may also hold a public hearing at his or her discretion if a hearing may assist in clarifying one or more issues involved in the permit decision. Should a public hearing be held, notice of the hearing shall be provided in the same manner as set forth above with respect to public notice of the preparation of a draft permit.