

## COVID-19 Environmental Enforcement Discretion Policies: U.S. EPA & 50-State Guide

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The chart below summarizes the COVID-19 environmental enforcement discretion policies in the 50 states as well as their reactions to [U.S. EPA](#)'s COVID-19 policy.

	Summary of State Policy	Date Implemented and Date Expiring	Links to Policy
<p><b>U.S. EPA/Federal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">National Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>U.S. EPA <a href="#">recognizes</a> that there may be potential worker shortages due to the COVID-19 pandemic. U.S. EPA will take the COVID-19 pandemic into consideration in any review of a state compliance and enforcement program, but entities should make every effort to comply with their environmental compliance obligations.</p>	<p><u>Implemented: 3.13.20</u> (retroactive) Expires: U.S. EPA will assess the continued need for and scope of this temporary policy on a regular basis and will update it if the U.S. EPA determines modifications are necessary.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">COVID-19 Implications for U.S. EPA's Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Program</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">COVID-19 Enforcement and Compliance Resources</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Alabama</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) <a href="#">has not announced</a> any change to its operations or enforcement policies. It has also not officially responded to U.S. EPA's COVID-19 policy.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Alabama Department of Environmental Management Press Releases webpage</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Alaska</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) has issued several COVID-19-related regulatory guidance policy <a href="#">documents</a>, which prioritize adherence to COVID-19 precautions. It is possible for members of the regulated community to acquire waivers in order to delay air stack testing, groundwater and surface water monitoring, underground storage tank auditing, and other mandated compliance requirements.</p>	<p>Expired/Expires: 6.1.20 (Water); 7.1.20 (Air); Ongoing (Solid Waste)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Department of Environmental Conservation COVID-19 UPDATES</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Arizona</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>In response to U.S. EPA's COVID-19 policy, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) <a href="#">announced</a> that it “is aligning with the EPA’s memo” providing for potential enforcement leniency where compliance with certain environmental regulations is reasonably impractical due to the pandemic. ADEQ has provided further <a href="#">guidance</a> about how it will implement U.S. EPA’s COVID-19 policy to the entities it regulates. However, ADEQ’s facility inspections and work to issue permits will continue uninterrupted. As of June 1st, ADEQ “is continuing to closely monitor guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS).”</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Arizona Department of Environmental Quality memo on compliance and enforcement implementation during COVID-19</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Arkansas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment (ADEE) issued a Provisional COVID-19 Enforcement Guidance <a href="#">document</a>, which contains information on how ADEE may respond to instances of noncompliance that are verifiably caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency.</p> <p>This guidance will apply retroactively, beginning March 17th, 2020 (the date of Gov. Hutchinson’s <a href="#">Executive Order 20-06</a>).</p>	<p><u>Implemented: 3.17.20</u></p> <p>Expires: ADEE will assess the continued need for and scope of this temporary guidance and will update it as needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Enforcement Guidance</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Licensing Programs</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>California</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) issued a <a href="#">direct response to U.S. EPA's COVID-19 policy</a>, stating that its enforcement authority “remains intact” in spite of the U.S. EPA memo. Sam Delson, the agency’s deputy director for external and legislative affairs, <a href="#">said</a> that “CalEPA expects compliance with environmental obligations, especially where failure to follow the law creates an imminent threat or risk to public health.” The agency acknowledges that some companies might need enforcement relief, but regulated entities should contact CalEPA before falling out of compliance.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>☆ <a href="#">CalEPA Issues Statement on Compliance with Regulatory Requirements During the COVID-19 Emergency</a></p>
<p><b>Colorado</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Colorado’s Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) <a href="#">has not released</a> a position on U.S. EPA’s COVID-19 policy. In a <a href="#">March 25th letter</a>, CDPHE stated that it “intends that the majority of scheduled regulatory and policy activities continue as planned” despite receiving “several letters requesting that the department pause its environmental regulation and policy activities” during the outbreak.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>☆ <a href="#">Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment memo regarding received requests for pause on environmental regulatory and policy work</a></p>

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<p><b>Connecticut</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>In <a href="#">response to the pandemic</a>, Connecticut’s Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) states that regulated entities are expected to comply with Connecticut’s environmental laws during the public health emergency. Should, however, extenuating circumstances associated with the COVID-19 emergency prevent a regulated entity from fully complying with environmental laws, CT DEEP recommends that the regulated entity document the details and communicate in writing with DEEP as soon as practicable with regards to the entity’s inability to achieve full compliance.</p>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">COVID-19 response</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Extension of continuous emissions monitoring reporting</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Land and Water Resources application information</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Joint Waiver of Reid Vapor Pressure Regulations</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Delaware</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Delaware’s Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) <a href="#">has not announced any changes</a> to its enforcement policies.</p>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control coronavirus response</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>District of Columbia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The District of Columbia Department of Energy &amp; Environment (DOEE) <a href="#">has not announced any changes</a> to its enforcement policies and has not officially responded to U.S. EPA’s COVID-19 policy. While DOEE’s approach to enforcement of violations appears to be unchanged at this time, DOEE has <a href="#">noted</a> that its office closure and teleworking staff will have impacts on permitting and inspections.</p>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment UST-LUST requirements during COVID-19</a></li> </ul>

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<b>Florida</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <a href="#">Home</a>	The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) <a href="#">has not made a public announcement</a> about any change in enforcement efforts, nor has it responded directly to U.S. EPA's COVID-19 policy.	N/A	☆ <a href="#">FDEP Press Releases Page</a>
<b>Georgia</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <a href="#">Home</a>	On March 31st, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GEPD) issued a formal <a href="#">response</a> to U.S. EPA's COVID-19 policy, stating that GEPD will follow the guidance and procedures set by U.S. EPA for both federal and state permits, rather than issue separate guidance. GEPD did note that it retains the right to adjust the termination date of the memo policy with regard to enforcement, but it will post a notice to this effect on the website seven days before the date of termination.	N/A	☆ <a href="#">Georgia Department of Natural Resources response to questions about compliance and enforcement</a>
<b>Hawaii</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <a href="#">Home</a>	Hawaii's Office of Environmental Quality Control (HOEQC) <a href="#">has not announced any changes</a> to its enforcement policies.	N/A	☆ <a href="#">Hawaii Department of Health COVID-19 webpage</a>

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<p><b>Idaho</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) appears to be <a href="#">aligned with U.S. EPA's COVID-19</a> policy, stating that it is “working with regulated entities to provide flexibility where possible” amid the pandemic, including “temporarily limiting some routine activities.” IDEQ has published a series of <a href="#">guidance documents</a> to assist regulated entities in certain compliance areas in responding to COVID-19. The guidance recognizes that compliance in certain regulated areas such as <a href="#">wastewater</a>, <a href="#">hazardous waste</a> and <a href="#">underground storage tanks</a> may become impracticable due to the pandemic, but it generally encourages regulated parties to document any noncompliance, how COVID-19 was the cause of the noncompliance, and best efforts to comply.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Idaho Department of Environmental Quality drinking water guidelines during COVID-19</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Idaho Department of Environmental Quality wastewater guidelines during COVID-19</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Idaho Department of Environmental Quality hazardous waste guidelines during COVID-19</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Illinois</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) <a href="#">has not made</a> a public announcement about any change in enforcement efforts or responded directly to U.S. EPA’s COVID-19 policy.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">IEPA News Feed</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Indiana</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) <a href="#">recognizes</a> that some regulated entities may be experiencing difficulties in maintaining normal operations due to reduced workforces at some facilities. IDEM has not identified any regulatory requirements that should be generally waived as a result of workforce impacts due to COVID-19. Rather, all regulated entities are encouraged to take all available actions necessary to ensure continued compliance with environmental regulations and permit requirements to protect the health and safety of Hoosiers and the environment. However, in the instance that noncompliance is unavoidable directly due to impacts from COVID-19, IDEM will exercise enforcement discretion as appropriate.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>☆ <a href="#">Indiana Department of Environmental Management statement on Enforcement Discretion</a></p>
<p><b>Iowa</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Iowa’s Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has provided <a href="#">guidance</a> on enforcement and compliance protocol during the pandemic. It covers an array of areas, including solid waste, air quality, and wastewater, among others. IDNR exercised its enforcement discretion from March 20th through April 30th.</p>	<p><u>Implemented: 3.20.20</u></p> <p>Expired: 4.30.20</p> <p>☆ <a href="#">Iowa Department of Natural Resources Enforcement and Compliance Protocol</a></p> <p>☆ <a href="#">Iowa Department of Natural Resources COVID-19 response</a></p>

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<p><b>Kansas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has <a href="#">stated</a> that it expects the regulated community to continue to implement environmental regulations and permit requirements to the best of their ability. KDHE will provide as much flexibility as possible. Permittees should call KDHE or notify the department by email.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Kansas Department of Health and Environment resource center</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Kansas Department of Health and Environment COVID-19 guidance</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Kentucky</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Kentucky's Energy and Environment Cabinet (KEEC) <a href="#">will not conduct regular inspections at some facilities</a> during the Coronavirus health emergency, unless necessary to prevent or mitigate an imminent threat or risk to human health, safety and the environment. Each of KEEC's Departments, Divisions, and Commissions provides some amount of additional information on the KEEC's COVID-19 <a href="#">webpage</a>.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Department of Environmental Protection blog post on closures and services</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Louisiana</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has <a href="#">not yet responded to U.S. EPA's COVID-19 policy</a> or announced any changes to its enforcement discretion during the pandemic, but its <a href="#">current order</a> takes a few steps to provide deadline relief to the regulated community.</p>	<p><a href="#">Implemented: 3.27.20</a> <a href="#">Expired: 4.27.2020</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality declaration of emergency and administrative order</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Maine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Maine’s Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) <a href="#">expects</a> the regulated community to continue to meet state and federal legal obligations but will make case-by-case determinations on issues related to COVID-19.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Maine Department of Environmental Protection coronavirus webpage</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Maryland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) <a href="#">understands</a> that there may be a need to exercise some discretion and flexibility in enforcement, but this will only be done on a limited, case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Maryland Department of the Environment coronavirus update</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Maryland Department of Health COVID-19 dashboard, FAQ, and other resources</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Massachusetts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) <a href="#">has not released any updates</a> regarding its enforcement policies.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection COVID-19 webpage</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Michigan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (MEGLE) <a href="#">recognizes</a> that disruptions to standard operations may create challenges for regulated entities to meet some legal obligations. To address these challenges, EGLE has established an email address (<a href="mailto:EGLE-EnforcementDiscretion@Michigan.gov">EGLE-EnforcementDiscretion@Michigan.gov</a>) to accept requests for regulatory flexibility from entities who face unavoidable noncompliance directly due to the COVID-19 emergency. In response to those requests, EGLE may consider extending reporting deadlines, waiving late fees, and otherwise exercising enforcement discretion. Requests must meet the <a href="#">listed requirements</a>.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>☆ <a href="#">Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy process for handling enforcement discretion</a></p>
<p><b>Minnesota</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) <a href="#">“is aware</a> that regulated entities may be impacted from a reduced workforce necessary to maintain normal operations at some facilities.” The MPCA has developed a <a href="#">regulatory flexibility process</a> for those regulated entities that may have an unavoidable noncompliance situation, directly due to impact from COVID-19.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>☆ <a href="#">Minnesota Pollution Control Agency response to COVID-19</a></p>

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<p><b>Mississippi</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (“MDEQ”) <a href="#">recognizes</a> that regulated entities may have reduced work forces due to illness and social distancing restrictions. MDEQ therefore provides <a href="#">this guidance</a> to the regulated community. Regulated persons and facilities are expected to take all reasonably practicable steps to operate in compliance with permit terms and conditions and applicable regulatory and statutory requirements including, but not limited to, all applicable air emission and water discharge limitations. Deviations from such terms and conditions and limitations must continue to be reported to MDEQ per existing requirements. MDEQ will make a case-specific evaluation and exercise appropriate enforcement discretion in addressing noncompliance.</p>	<p><u>Implemented: 3.14.20</u></p> <p>Expires: The Department will update its guidance when it deems it necessary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality COVID-19 website</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality guidance on compliance and regulatory requirements</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Missouri</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has created an email address to accept requests for</p> <p>Department enforcement discretion. Regulated entities should email <a href="mailto:regulatory.inquiry@dnr.mo.gov">regulatory.inquiry@dnr.mo.gov</a> with this <a href="#">listed</a> information.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Missouri Department of Natural Resources Regulatory Relief Statement</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Montana</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) <u>will exercise discretion on a case-by-case basis</u>. The MDEQ Solid Waste Program has <u>suspended</u> inspections until further notice.</p>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Montana Department of Environmental Quality COVID-19 webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Montana Department of Environmental Quality enforcement discretion guidance</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Nebraska</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Nebraska's Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) <u>expects</u> the regulated community to comply with Nebraska's environmental laws, regulations, and permits to the best of their ability. NDEE will provide as much flexibility and assistance as lawfully possible in these difficult times. Any Nebraska facility facing difficulties complying with environmental requirements in their operations should call or notify NDEE by email.</p>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy letter to communities</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Nevada</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Nevada Department of Conservation &amp; Natural Resources (NDCNR) <u>expects continued compliance</u> and has not indicated that it will exercise discretion.</p>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Nevada Division of Environmental Protection COVID webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Department of Conservation and Natural Resources COVID updates</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>New Hampshire</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) <a href="#">remains operational</a>, however, to reduce the possibility of COVID-19 transmission, their buildings in Concord and Pease are closed to the public. It has <a href="#">not released</a> any other enforcement-related information.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Emergency order from the Governor</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>New Jersey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has issued <a href="#">Environmental Compliance and Enforcement alerts</a> providing guidance to DEP-regulated entities that may be experiencing compliance obstacles due to resource constraints and virus containment measures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The alerts emphasize NJDEP’s commitment to its mission of protecting the public health and environment but also acknowledge that unique circumstances and widespread constraints arising from the COVID-19 crisis may create limitations on regulated entities and that regulatory flexibility may be required. Regulatory enforcement relief will be case specific and will require early and continued engagement with NJDEP.</p> <p>On May 14, 2020, the New Jersey Legislature passed COVID-19 amendments (A3919/S2346) to the Permit Extension Act. The amendments toll the term of approval of certain permits issued by state, county or local agencies. The amendments are aimed at preserving construction or development projects which may be halted due to the COVID-19 emergency by preventing permits from expiring while projects are on hold. As of June 8, 2020, the bill is awaiting Governor Phil Murphy’s <a href="#">signature</a>.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Department of Environmental Protection guidance for public water systems</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Department of Environmental Protection sampling guidance</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Department of Environmental Protection information for wastewater dischargers</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">New Jersey Legislature bill (A3919/S2346) extends certain permits, approvals, and deadlines during COVID-19 emergency</a></li> </ul>

Summary of State Policy		Date Implemented and Date Expiring	Links to Policy
<p><b>New Mexico</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>New Mexico's Environment Department (NMED) <a href="#">has not</a> indicated that the outbreak will alter its regulatory activity.</p>	N/A	<p>☆ <a href="#">New Mexico Environment Department resources for COVID-19, including resources for restaurants, employers and employees, solid waste management facilities, and on COVID-19 and drinking water</a></p>
<p><b>New York</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The <a href="#">New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYDEC)</a> has not relaxed enforcement discretion in response to the pandemic. To the contrary, the NYDEC <a href="#">tweeted</a> the following response, criticizing U.S. EPA's COVID-19 policy: "EPA rollback will result in more air pollution in New York's communities, more respiratory illnesses, and more New Yorkers dying because of increased air pollution. New York State will continue to fight EPA in court and work to implement the stringent California standards allowed by the federal Clean Air Act. The COVID-19 public health crisis makes it clear that policy must follow sound science."</p> <p>NYDEC is allowing expedited project review and issuance of an <a href="#">emergency authorization</a> in certain circumstances.</p>	N/A	<p>☆ <a href="#">The state of New York's coronavirus webpage</a></p>

	Summary of State Policy	Date Implemented and Date Expiring	Links to Policy
<p><b>North Carolina</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>On March 30th, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) issued a <a href="#">press release</a> regarding its enforcement authority during the COVID-19 pandemic. NCDEQ stated that it “will work with regulated entities to ensure they remain in compliance and in instances of non-compliance, pursue enforcement actions on a case-by-case basis.”</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Enforcement Memo</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>North Dakota</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>If <a href="#">compliance with state environmental law or rule is a challenge</a>, it is important that the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) be contacted to ensure actions allowing alternative compliance actions are documented.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality COVID-19 information (including announcement of office closure until April 20)</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Ohio</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Operators and permittees remain obligated to comply with permits and regulatory requirements. However, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) has established an email account, <a href="mailto:EPA.COVID-19REGFLEX@epa.ohio.gov">EPA.COVID-19REGFLEX@epa.ohio.gov</a>, to receive requests to the OEPA director for regulatory flexibility where an “unavoidable noncompliance situation, directly due to impact from the coronavirus” has occurred.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Ohio Environmental Protection Agency COVID-19 webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Ohio Environmental Protection Agency page on enforcement discretion</a></li> </ul>

	Summary of State Policy	Date Implemented and Date Expiring	Links to Policy
<p><b>Oklahoma</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Oklahoma’s Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) <a href="#">will continue to work with regulated communities on a case-by-case basis</a> to ensure compliance with applicable environmental requirements.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality COVID-19 webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality page on enforcement discretion</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Oregon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>All applicable Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) requirements remain in effect. However, ODEQ will exercise reasonable <a href="#">enforcement discretion</a> within its authority when deciding whether to pursue potential violations caused by pandemic-related disruptions. ODEQ requests that regulated entities document the pandemic-related disruptions to their operations.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Oregon Department of Environmental Quality COVID-19 response webpage</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Pennsylvania</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>On March 31, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) <a href="#">announced</a> that Gov. Tom Wolf was temporarily suspending regulatory requirements and permit conditions “where strict compliance will prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the COVID-19 emergency.” To request a suspension, PADEP provided a <a href="#">form</a> to be completed and submitted to <a href="mailto:RA-EPCOVID19SuspReq@pa.gov">RA-EPCOVID19SuspReq@pa.gov</a>.</p> <p>It should be notes that PADEP lacks authority to suspend federal requirements.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection COVID-19 response webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Request for Suspension of Regulatory Requirements</a></li> </ul>

Summary of State Policy		Date Implemented and Date Expiring	Links to Policy
<p><b>Rhode Island</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Rhode Island’s Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) is “<a href="#">not providing any broad relief measures</a> or policies.” Businesses and other regulated entities are encouraged to contact RIDEM with any specific issues that they are encountering that relate to regulatory compliance. Requests for relief will be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>	N/A	<p>☆ <a href="#">Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management COVID-19 webpage</a></p>
<p><b>South Carolina</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The South Carolina Department of Health (DHEC) Office of Environmental Affairs <a href="#">announced</a> that it was “prepared to address” situations in which “non-compliance is unavoidable directly due to impact from COVID-19 and/or related legal restrictions (federal/state/local declarations or orders).” Requests for regulatory relief consideration should be sent: <a href="mailto:environmentalcompliance@dhec.sc.gov">environmentalcompliance@dhec.sc.gov</a>.</p>	N/A	<p>☆ <a href="#">South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control COVID-19 webpage on regulatory assistance and enforcement flexibility</a></p>
<p><b>South Dakota</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>South Dakota’s Department of Environment and Natural Resources <a href="#">has not released</a> any compliance-discretion-specific guidance.</p>	N/A	<p>☆ <a href="#">South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources FAQ on COVID-19 and water quality</a></p>

	Summary of State Policy	Date Implemented and Date Expiring	Links to Policy
<p><b>Tennessee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has <a href="#">adjusted</a> its operations and is exercising discretion, when possible, to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Regarding inspections and enforcement, TDEC notes that many of its personnel are working remotely and are unable to perform site inspections and other routine fieldwork because travel is restricted. Monitoring visits and non-emergency complaint investigations have also been deferred until they can be safely performed. Despite these challenges, TDEC intends to work with the regulated community to monitor compliance remotely. TDEC has stated, “Where we need to make modifications and adjustments in order to be responsive to authorities, directives and good judgment required by these extraordinary times, TDEC’s environmental programs will seek to do that.”</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation COVID-19 response and resources</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Bureau of Environment operations</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Texas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>)</li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has <a href="#">issued</a> a policy stating that it will exercise enforcement discretion for certain reporting requirements by regulated entities. For now, that enforcement discretion is limited to extending certain reporting deadlines that fall between March 31 and April 30, so that any such reports submitted before April 30 will be considered timely. While TCEQ has not published guidance on other aspects of enforcement, TCEQ notified regulated entities that it would be exercising enforcement discretion for other events of noncompliance that are unavoidable directly due to impact from COVID-19. Regulated entities requesting enforcement discretion on that basis should email <a href="mailto:OCE@tceq.texas.gov">OCE@tceq.texas.gov</a> and <a href="mailto:Ramiro.Garcia@tceq.texas.gov">Ramiro.Garcia@tceq.texas.gov</a> and provide the <a href="#">listed information</a>.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Texas Commission on Environmental Quality COVID-19 webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Reporting Requirements for Regulated Entities</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Utah</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) stated in a <a href="#">press release</a> that it will adhere to the U.S. EPA's <a href="#">pandemic policy</a> and “will work with regulated communities on a case-by-case basis to determine reasonable exemptions to environmental rules.” In keeping with the U.S. EPA policy, enforcement of regulations that directly affect human health will take priority in Utah. “We are living in unprecedented times. As an agency, our mission to safeguard and protect Utah’s air, land and water has not changed,” said Utah DEQ Executive Director Scott Baird.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>☆ <a href="#">Utah Department of Environmental Quality COVID-19 Page</a></p>
<p><b>Vermont</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared (1, 2)</a></li> </ul> <p> <a href="#">Homes</a></p>	<p>Vermont’s Agency of Natural Resources (VANR) has issued new environmental enforcement and permit compliance <a href="#">guidance</a>. This guidance will expire at the end of the Governor’s state of emergency declaration. Permittees are required to continue to comply with their permits for the duration of the COVID-19 State of Emergency. If a permittee cannot comply with the terms of a permit, certification, or rule during the COVID-19 State of Emergency, the Agency may consider exercising enforcement discretion on a case-by-case basis, provided the permittee meets <a href="#">certain requirements</a>.</p>	<p><u>Implemented: 3.31.20</u> <u>Expired: 5.15.20</u></p>	<p>☆ <a href="#">Vermont Agency of Natural Resources COVID-19 emergency webpage, including information on enforcement</a></p>

	Summary of State Policy	Date Implemented and Date Expiring	Links to Policy
<p><b>Virginia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>On March 31st, The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) issued a <a href="#">statement</a> in response to U.S. EPA’s COVID-19 policy, which says, in part, that “[a]ll regulated entities are expected to make every effort to comply with environmental compliance obligations, adhere to permit limits, and maintain the safe and environmentally protective operation of their facilities.”</p> <p>VDEQ also said that the agency will consider noncompliance issues resulting from COVID-19 on a “case-by-case basis, but by no means does this crisis equal a free pass for the regulated community.”</p> <p>VDEQ advises that if full compliance is not possible, permit holders should continue to act responsibly, identify and document noncompliance, note how COVID-19 was the cause of noncompliance and return to compliance as soon as possible.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Response to COVID-19</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Compliance and enforcement guidance</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Washington</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>Washington’s Department of Ecology (WDE) said “<a href="#">all applicable state requirements remain in effect</a>” but that it “will exercise reasonable discretion ... when deciding whether to pursue potential violations that may be linked to the current COVID-19 pandemic.” A full breakdown of how the department’s regulatory activities are affected by the outbreak is available on its <a href="#">website</a>.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Washington Department of Ecology on regulatory flexibility</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>West Virginia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Back to Table of Contents</a></p>	<p>A day after the U.S EPA COVID-19 policy was announced, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) issued a <a href="#">statement</a> declaring that “all rules, regulations and permitting requirements under the jurisdiction of WVDEP will remain in full effect.”</p> <p>However, the agency also “recognizes and acknowledges the potential compliance challenges the regulated community may face due to the COVID-19 restrictions” and stated that it “is committed to working cooperatively with the regulated community to ensure environmental compliance and public safety standards are properly addressed during this pandemic.”</p> <p>The WVDEP said that it “expects facilities to continue to be operated in a manner that fully protects human health and the environment,” and that such includes “continued operation and monitoring pollution control devices, record-keeping, maintenance, testing, and reporting compliance.” If permittees find certain compliance requirements “not reasonably practicable,” they should contact the agency.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">West Virginia Department of Environmental Quality enforcement notice</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">WVDEP develops new NPDES reporting code to be used during COVID-19 pandemic</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Wisconsin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of Emergency Declared (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>, <a href="#">3</a>)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>In Wisconsin, where regulated entities will have an <a href="#">unavoidable noncompliance situation</a>, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) recommends the <a href="#">identified steps</a>.</p>	<p>Implemented: <a href="#">3.13.20</a> (Retroactive)</p> <p>Expires: Remains in effect until such time it is rescinded</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources COVID-19 webpage</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources environmental compliance process</a></li> </ul>

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<p><b>Wyoming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">State of Emergency Declared</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Home</a></p>	<p>The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality has provided <a href="#">guidance</a> indicating that it may exercise temporary administrative relief and enforcement discretion. A valid request for discretion is conditioned on meeting <a href="#">certain requirements</a>.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☆ <a href="#">Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality COVID-19 Page</a></li> <li>☆ <a href="#">Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality temporary guidance on enforcement and compliance</a></li> </ul>