



Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

Agency name	Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation	18VAC145-11
Regulation title	Public Participation Guidelines (PPGs)
Action title	Amendment of Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals PPGs Due to Merger with the Board for Geology
Final agency action date	June 13, 2012
Document preparation date	June 15, 2012

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, Executive Orders 14 (2010) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

Summary

Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.

After a comprehensive review across state government, Governor McDonnell's Commission on Government Reform and Restructuring recommended the merger of the Board for Geology with the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals. At its 2012 Session, the General Assembly passed legislation endorsing the proposal to merge the Board for Geology with the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals, and Governor McDonnell signed the bills (HB 1291 and SB 678 – Chapter 803 of the Acts of Assembly). By statute, effective July 1, 2012, these two boards will become one. Therefore, the Public Participation Guidelines (PPGs) for the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals must be amended to reflect the new board name and will remain in effect for the newly merged board as the PPGs for the Board for Geology will be repealed.

Statement of final agency action

Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.

Pursuant to HB 1291 and SB 678 (Chapter 803 of the 2012 Acts of Assembly), the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation is filing this exempt action to amend the Public Participation Guidelines (PPGs) for the Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals to conform to the new laws becoming effective on July 1, 2012.

Family impact

Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.

A family impact has not been identified.