

Guidelines for Effective Collaboration

Collaborative Processes Need to:

1. Be open, inclusive, transparent, accessible and strive for balanced representation
2. Uphold the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and all other relevant laws
3. Include representatives of all relevant and diverse interests
4. Provide meaningful opportunities for participation
5. Be driven by a common goal or shared purpose
6. Follow principles of civil discourse
7. Have honest and clear communications
8. Allow participants to maintain their independence to advocate for their goals in other forums
9. Use participant-developed and agreed-upon ground rules
10. Seek consensus (not a super majority) and fully explore issues to reach agreements
11. Be informed by best available scientific and technical information
12. Actively reach out to a broader audience for input
13. Use independent facilitators when possible

Basic Principles for Agency Engagement in Environmental Conflict Resolution and Collaborative Problem Solving are in attachment A in the Office of Management and Budget and President's Council on Environmental Quality's Memorandum on Environmental Conflict Resolution at:

<http://www.ecr.gov/ecrpolicy/policy.htm> or

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq/jointstatement.html>