

What will the agency do with my complaint?

Once a complaint is filed, it will be forwarded to the appropriate party for review. If NCDEQ has jurisdiction to investigate the issues you have raised, NCDEQ's Complaint Officer will investigate all allegations and attempt to resolve the complaints. If negotiations to correct a violation are unsuccessful, enforcement proceedings may be instituted.

Who can provide Title VI information?

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality.

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality coordinates for the monitoring and enforcement of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights.

- Central Office: 877-623-6748

NCDEQ Title VI Coordinator: NCDEQ has a Title VI Complaint Officer and a Title VI Coordinator. The Coordinator provides general information and monitoring of NCDEQ Title VI compliance.

- Renee Kramer, 919-707-8292

The U.S. Department of Justice, under Executive Order 12250, coordinates the enforcement of Title VI and related statutes by all federal agencies that administer federally assisted programs.

- Coordination and Review Section: 202-307-2222

For Further Information on NCDEQ Title VI Compliance, contact:

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NCDEQ Title VI & Environmental Justice Coordinator
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1601 Mail Service Center
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Civil Rights Act of 1964

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of **race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability** be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. It is the duty of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) to ensure that any program that receives EPA funds complies with federal non-discrimination laws, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and all other related nondiscrimination laws and requirements.

**North Carolina Department of
Environmental Quality**
1-877-623-6748

What is Title VI?

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is the federal law that protects individuals from discrimination on the basis of their race, color or national origin in programs that receive federal financial assistance. Federal assistance includes the distribution of funds and/or the services they provide.

What programs are covered by Title VI?

Approximately 30 federal agencies provide federal financial assistance in the form of funds, training and technical and other assistance to state and local governments, and non-profit and private organizations. These recipients of federal assistance, in turn, operate programs and deliver benefits and services to individuals (known as “beneficiaries”) to achieve the goals of the federal legislation that authorizes the programs.

Federally assisted programs address such broad and diverse areas as:

- elementary, secondary and higher education
- health care, social services and public welfare
- public transportation
- parks and recreation
- natural resources and the environment
- housing and community development
- law enforcement and the administration of justice
- agriculture and nutrition

What is not covered by Title VI?

- It covers all forms of aid except those federally funded contracts of insurance and guaranty.
- It does not cover employment, except where employment practices result in discrimination against program beneficiaries or where the purpose of federal assistance is to provide employment. Nor does it apply to discrimination based on geographical locale or wealth.

What discrimination is prohibited by Title VI?

- There are many forms of illegal discrimination based on race, color or national origin that can limit the opportunity of persons to gain equal access to services and programs. Among other things, in operating a federally assisted program, a recipient cannot, on the basis of race, color or national origin, either directly or through contractual means:
 - Deny program services, aid or benefits;
 - Provide a different service, aid or benefit, or provide them in a manner different than they are provided to others; or
 - Segregate or separately treat individuals in any matter related to the receipt of any service, aid or benefit.

How can I file a discrimination complaint?

A signed, written complaint should be filed with the NCDEQ Title VI Coordinator within 180 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory act. It should provide:

- Your name, address and telephone number. Your complaint must be signed. If you are filing on behalf of another person, include your name, address, telephone number and your relation to that person (e.g., friend, attorney, parent, etc.).
- The name and address of the agency, institution or department you believe discriminated against you.
- How, why and when you believe you were discriminated against. Include as much background information as possible about the alleged acts of discrimination. Include the names of individuals whom you allege discriminated against you, if you know them.
- The names of any persons, if known, that the investigating agency could contact for additional information to support or clarify your allegations.

NCDEQ Environmental Justice & Title VI Coordinator

Maya Hoon

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