N.C. DEQ Permitting Transformation Project
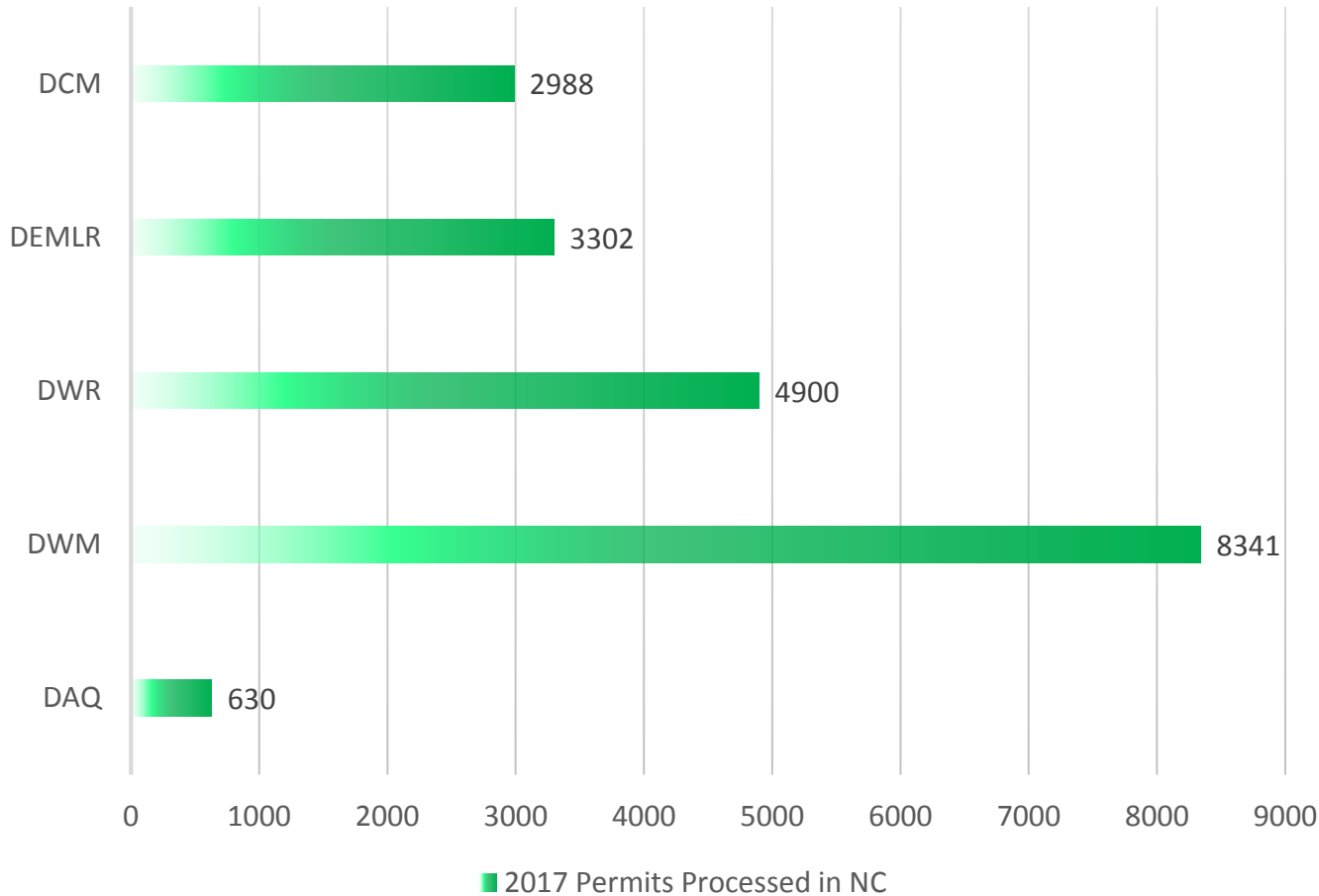
ESI CONFERENCE
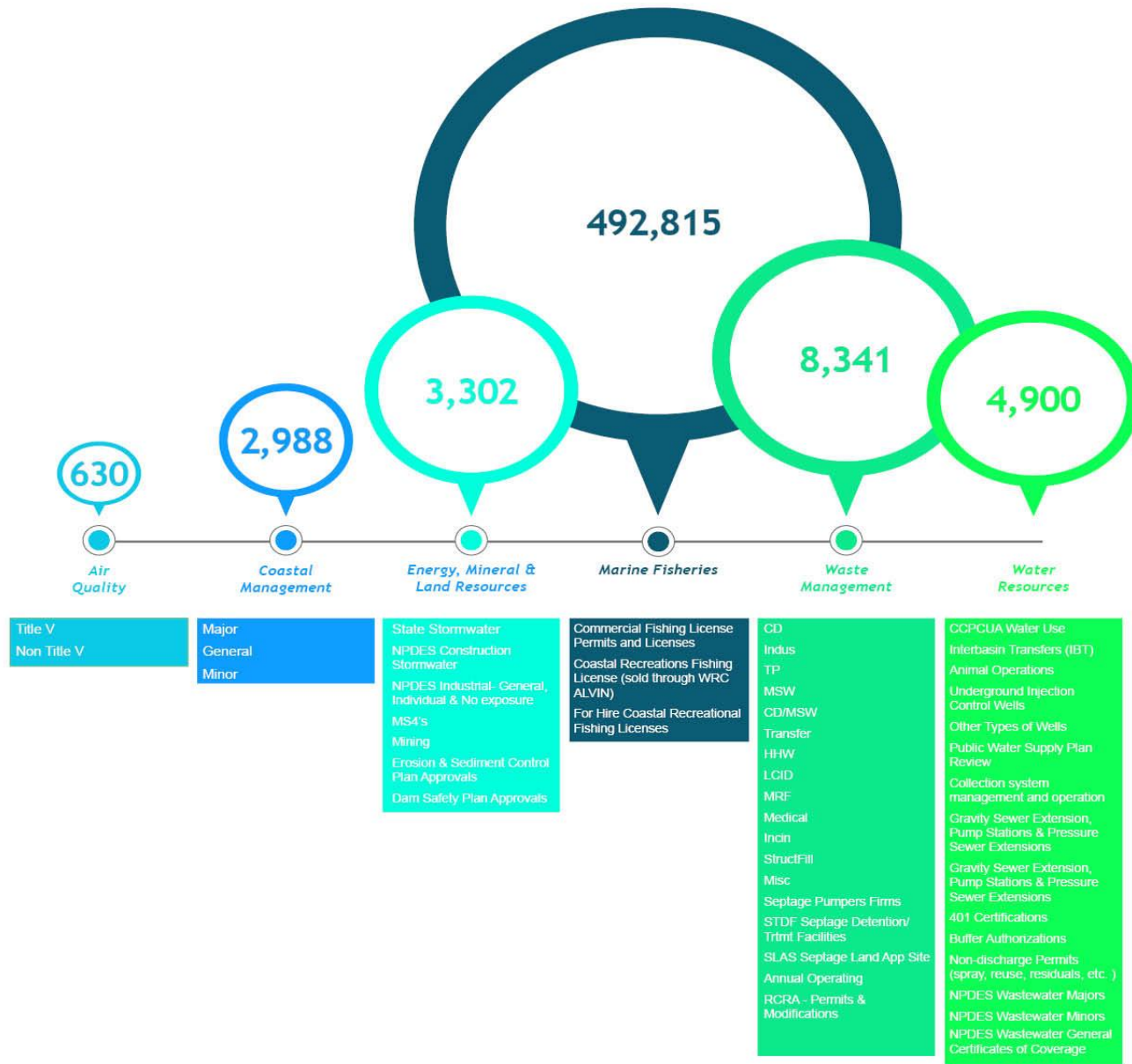
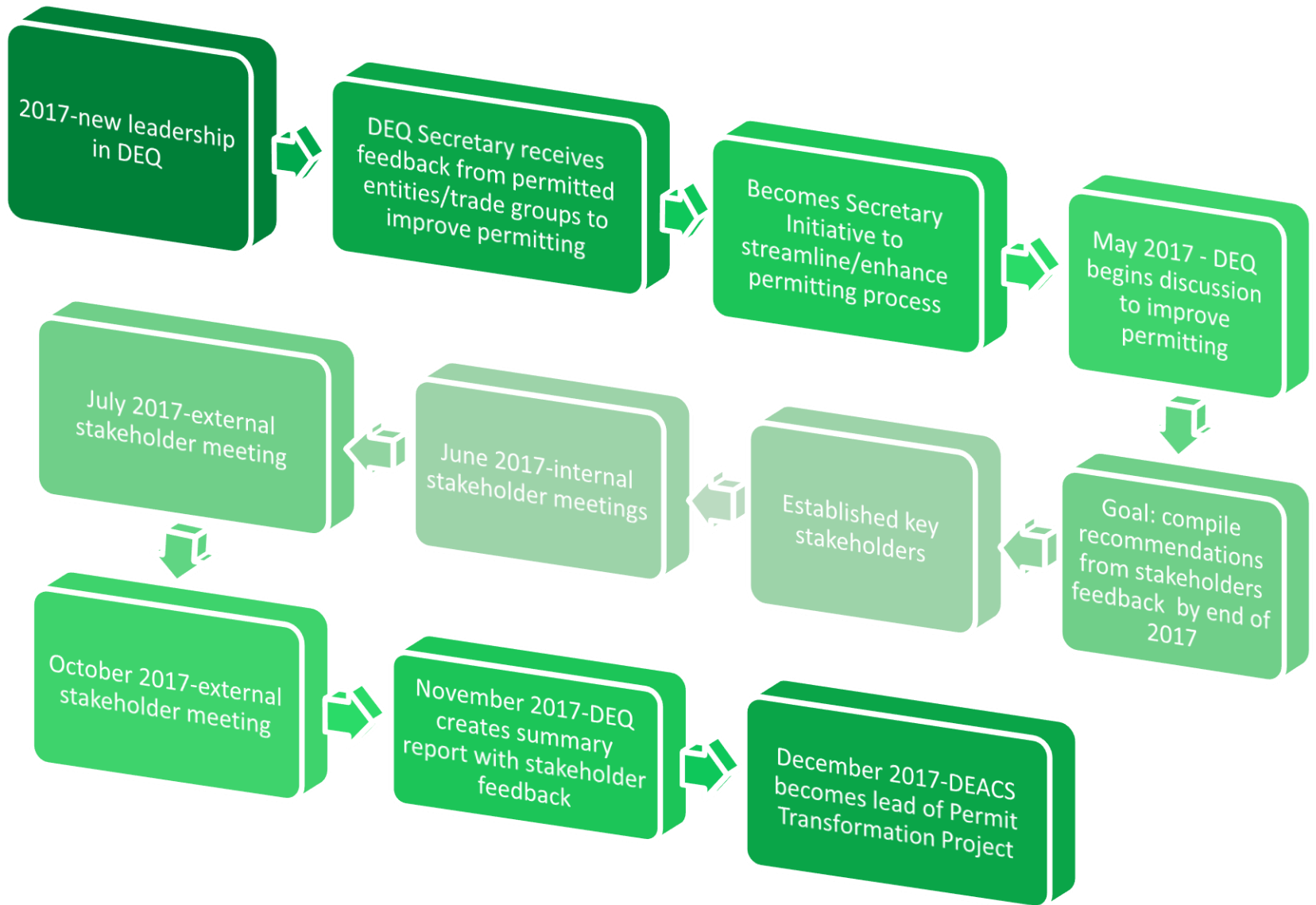RALEIGH

APRIL 25TH, 2018

DEQ Permitting in FY 2016-2017

- Over 100 permit types
- Over 20,000 permits processed
- Division of Marine Fisheries-almost 500,000 permits/licenses issued in 2017

Chart: 2017 Permits Processed in NC

Division	2017 Permits Processed
DCM	2988
DEMLR	3302
DWR	4900
DWM	8341
DAQ	630

DEQ Licenses and Permits Processed* in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 by Division

492,815

630
Air Quality

2,988
Coastal Management

3,302
Energy, Mineral & Land Resources

Marine Fisheries

8,341
Waste Management

4,900
Water Resources

Air Quality	Coastal Management	Energy, Mineral & Land Resources	Marine Fisheries	Waste Management	Water Resources
Title V	Major	State Stormwater	Commercial Fishing License Permits and Licenses	CD	CCPCUA Water Use
Non Title V	General	NPDES Construction Stormwater	Coastal Recreations Fishing License (sold through WRC ALVIN)	Indus	Interbasin Transfers (IBT)
	Minor	NPDES Industrial- General, Individual & No exposure	For Hire Coastal Recreational Fishing Licenses	TP	Animal Operations
		MS4's		MSW	Underground Injection Control Wells
		Mining		CD/MSW	Other Types of Wells
		Erosion & Sediment Control Plan Approvals		Transfer	Public Water Supply Plan Review
		Dam Safety Plan Approvals		HHW	Collection system management and operation
				LCID	Gravity Sewer Extension, Pump Stations & Pressure Sewer Extensions
				MRF	Gravity Sewer Extension, Pump Stations & Pressure Sewer Extensions
				Medical	401 Certifications
				Incin	Buffer Authorizations
				StructFill	Non-discharge Permits (spray, reuse, residuals, etc.)
				Misc	NPDES Wastewater Majors
				Septage Pumpers Firms	NPDES Wastewater Minors
				STDF Septage Detention/ Trtmt Facilities	NPDES Wastewater General Certificates of Coverage
				SLAS Septage Land App Site	
				Annual Operating	
				RCRA - Permits & Modifications	

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┌─────────────────┐      ┌──────────────────────┐      ┌──────────────────────┐      ┌──────────────────────┐
│ 2017-new        │ ───▶ │ DEQ Secretary        │ ───▶ │ Becomes Secretary    │ ───▶ │ May 2017 - DEQ       │
│ leadership      │      │ receives feedback    │      │ Initiative to        │      │ begins discussion    │
│ in DEQ          │      │ from permitted       │      │ streamline/enhance   │      │ to improve           │
│                 │      │ entities/trade       │      │ permitting process   │      │ permitting           │
│                 │      │ groups to improve    │      │                      │      │                      │
│                 │      │ permitting           │      │                      │      │                      │
└─────────────────┘      └──────────────────────┘      └──────────────────────┘      └──────────────────────┘
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2017-new leadership in DEQ → **DEQ Secretary receives feedback from permitted entities/trade groups to improve permitting** → **Becomes Secretary Initiative to streamline/enhance permitting process** → **May 2017 - DEQ begins discussion to improve permitting** ↓

July 2017-external stakeholder meeting ← **June 2017-internal stakeholder meetings** ← **Established key stakeholders** ← **Goal: compile recommendations from stakeholders feedback by end of 2017**

↓ **October 2017-external stakeholder meeting** → **November 2017-DEQ creates summary report with stakeholder feedback** → **December 2017-DEACS becomes lead of Permit Transformation Project**

4

Stakeholders

Internal Stakeholders

DEQ Secretary
DEQ Senior Management
DEQ Regulatory Divisions
DEQ Division of Environmental
Assistance and Customer Service
NC Department of Information
Technology

External Stakeholders

Permitted Entities
Manufacturers
Environmental Stewardship Initiative
Members
Industry Trade Groups
Citizen Interest Groups
Environmental Groups
Non Governmental
Organizations

Internal Stakeholder Recommendations

Redesign website to be more efficient and user friendly

ID simple permits low risk/high reward to streamline/transform

Streamline existing processes and evaluate efficiency

Evaluate resources and prioritize with current staff/teams

ID possibilities for more General Permit or Permit by Rule - risk based

Communicate with outside entities

Evaluate/redesign DEQ IT support system (current uses/future needs)

External Stakeholder Recommendations-Permitted Parties
Primary Recommendations -top rated

Clear, concise language in permits

Better communication/outreach about permits and regulatory changes

Online permit submittal/payment

Maximize mitigation options

External Stakeholder Recommendations-Permitted Parties
Secondary Recommendations

Enforcement factors should be shared up front and described; not just legal citations

Better local/state coordination of requirements for consistent application of laws

Increase speed of permitting process

Consistency/predictability of requirements

Potential development of interactive document-online tools

External Stakeholder Recommendations-
Citizen Advocacy Interest Groups
Primary Recommendations

Establish unique identifier for tracking permit related activities

Establish process for risk-based permitting

Connect enforcement and compliance information with impacts and responsible party

Ensure all self-inspection information flows back to DEQ for tracking

Transparency
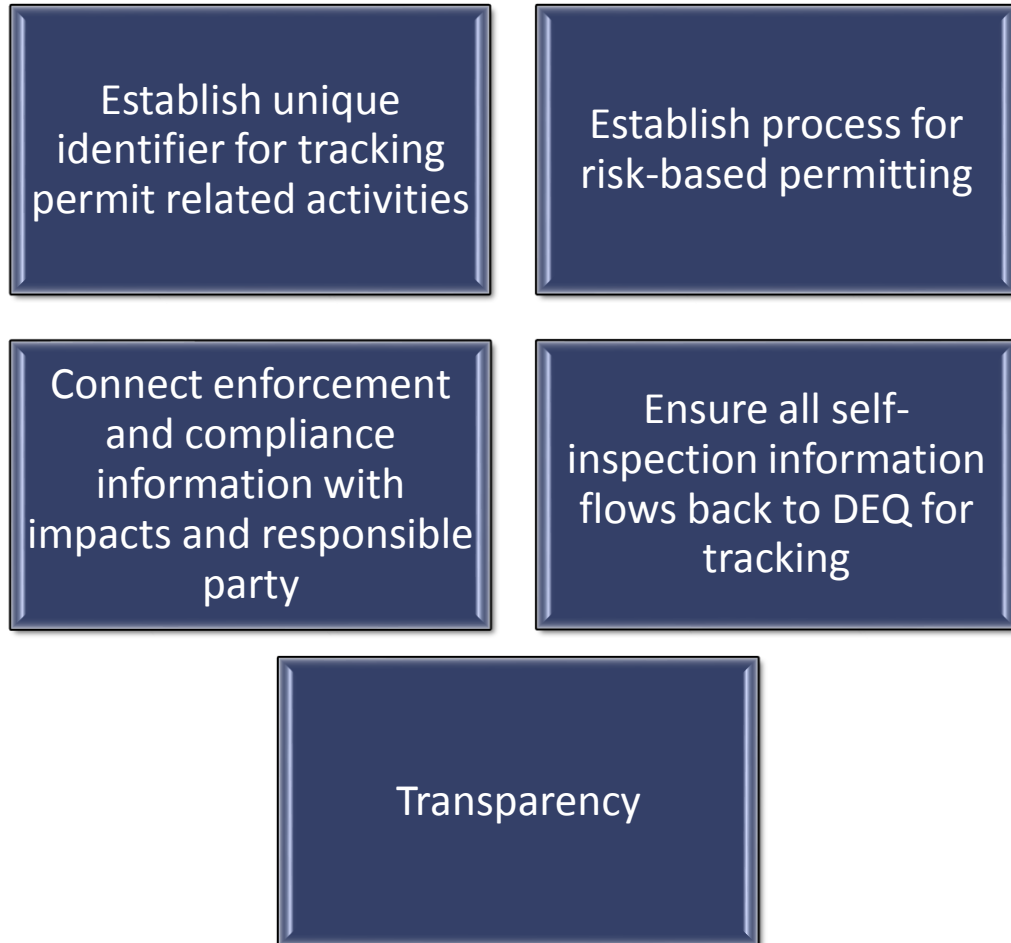
External Stakeholder Recommendations- Citizen Advocacy Interest Groups Secondary Recommendations

Supply additional staff for DEQ to eliminate backlog

Reduce flexibility on projects that may require or include mitigation

Establish training consistency for DEQ, permittees, interested parties

Make considerations for Environmental Justice matters and connect with publicly available permit records

Common Themes among all Stakeholders

Improve communication and transparency	Streamline permitting process with tracking/search functionality
Online permitting presence-payment and submittal	Eliminate Backlog

It's a lot of information.....

HANG IN THERE!

Top Goals

1 **Online Permitting Portal:** Create a web based portal for applying, tracking and paying for permit applications.

2 **Online Searchable Database:** Develop a web based searchable data "warehouse" for permit details, compliance matters and enforcement actions.

3 **Streamline Permitting Process:** Ensure a consistent and efficient permitting process throughout DEQ.

4 **Reduce and Prevent Backlog:** Improve processes and identify efficiencies

5 **Improve Communication and Transparency:** Develop outreach efforts to maintain an open dialogue between DEQ and all stakeholders.

Online Permitting Portal

- Permit Tracking

- Permit Application

- Permit Payment

- Permit Data Warehouse

- Compliance and Enforcement Actions

| Permit Submitted | Permit Accepted | Permit in Review | Permit Issued |

Where are we now?

- American Express payments for permits now accepted online
- DIT creating OPP
- Webpage for permit transformation being developed-launched before May
- PPT One Pager-available in May
- Permit Assistance Webpage updates and Form added in May
- DEQ Workgroup meeting in May

We need to
hear from
you!

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