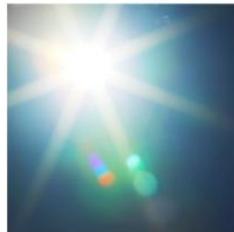


Virginia Environmental Excellence Program Workshop: Enforcement Update

Tiffany Severs

VRO Enforcement





DEQ Enforcement Overview

- Enforcement Mission and Structure
- Enforcement Tools and Process
- Enforcement Updates and Areas of Interest



DEQ Enforcement Mission

- Protect human health and the environment
- Return responsible parties to compliance
- Require appropriate corrective action from RPs
- Promote deterrence
- Promote a level economic play field for industry
- Exercise authority fairly, professionally and responsibly



DEQ Enforcement Structure

➤ Central Office

- Director of Enforcement
- Media specific enforcement managers
- Adjudications manager

➤ 6 Regional Offices

- Enforcement Manager
- 1-3 Enforcement Specialists
- Multimedia

DEQ Enforcement Data

- FFY 2017
 - 214 cases referred to Enforcement
 - 111 of these cases resolved by consent order or executive compliance order
 - \$2,365,948.00 in civil charges assessed in the orders
 - \$10,010.00 in supplemental environmental projects





Enforcement Tools and Process

Enforcement is premised on a process that escalates with severity of violation

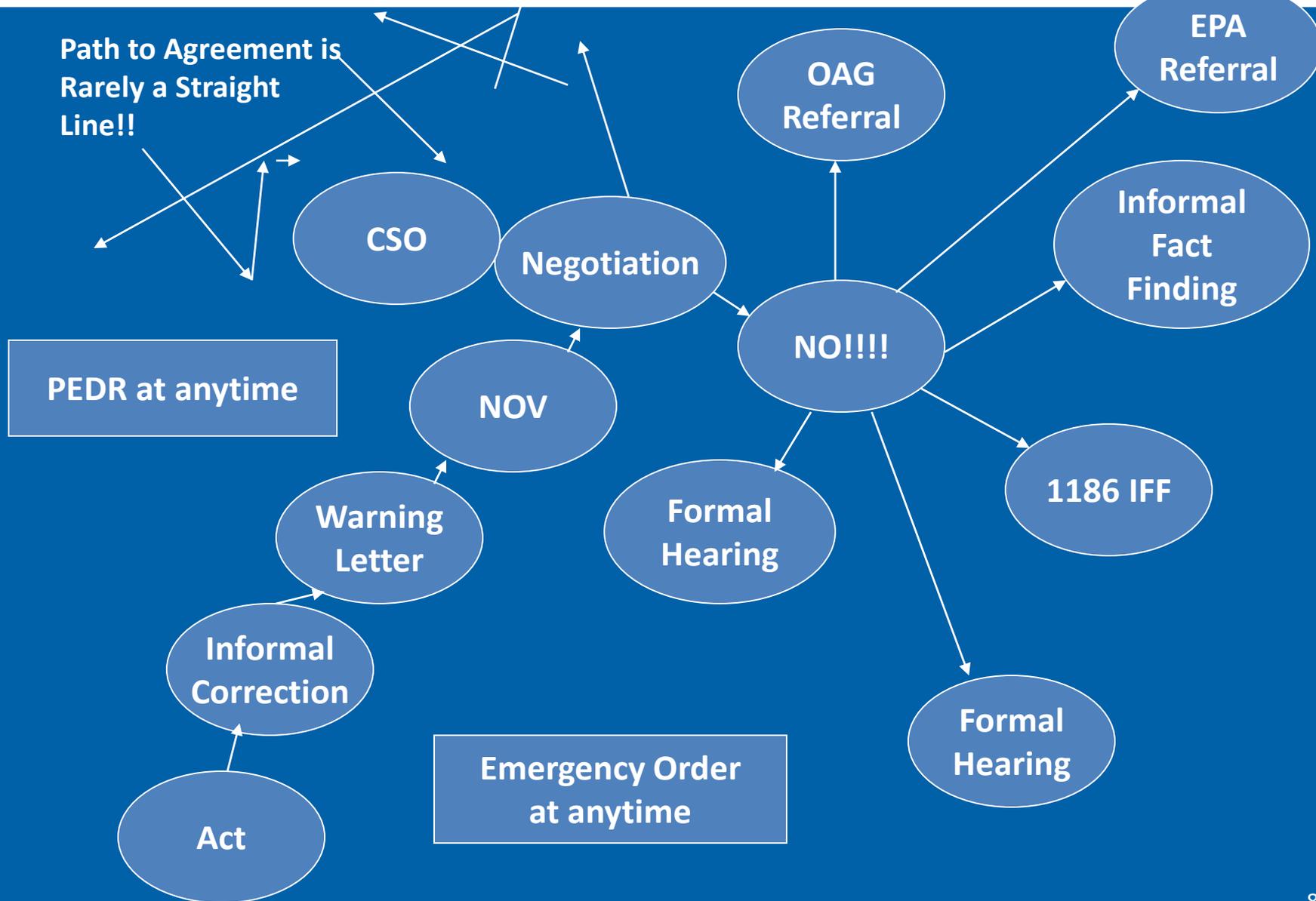
- Informal Correction
- Warning Letter
- Notice of Alleged Violation
- Letter of Agreement
- Consent Order
- Administrative Hearings
- OAG/CA referral
- EPA referral
- Permit rescission/modification



Enforcement Tools and Process

Injunctive relief and Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) often provide most significant environmental benefit

- Injunctive relief requires the Responsible Party to do something or refrain from doing something (e.g. sewer construction or upgrade to prevent overflow)
- A SEP is an environmentally beneficial project that is not otherwise required by law and generally occurs in the same area as the violation to partially settle a violation





Updates and Areas of Interest

- Enforcement Manual and Guidance updated in December of 2016
- Stormwater, Erosion and Sediment Control Program
- Natural Resource Damages Assessments
- Groundwater Resources



QUESTIONS?

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