



ArborNature Transfer Station Public Hearing Teleconference Procedures

DHEC's Bureau of Land and Waste Management is holding a **public hearing teleconference** to accept oral comments and supporting information on the draft permit for the proposed ArborNature Transfer Station. The public hearing is a formal opportunity for comments to be made verbally and transcribed by a court reporter to be included in DHEC's official record of the permit decision. **Interested persons can join or participate remotely using a phone.** The hearing is being held via teleconference to allow public involvement in DHEC's permitting process while following local, state, and federal guidelines for social distancing and avoiding large group gatherings. **In addition to the public hearing, DHEC welcomes and encourages written comments on the proposed transfer station through November 5, 2020.**

The public hearing will be held **via teleconference on October 22, 2020, with an afternoon and evening session.** The **afternoon session will begin at 12:00 pm** and will be comprised of five 1-hour segments with up to eight registered commenters per hour. Each afternoon segment may be closed after the final pre-registered commenter has spoken. The afternoon session will conclude at 5:00 pm. The **evening session will begin at 6:30 pm.** During the evening session, pre-registered commenters will be called upon first, followed by those who did not pre-register or who decided during the course of the public hearing that they would like to make a comment. The evening session will conclude after everyone who wishes to make a comment has had the opportunity to do so. **In order to accommodate everyone who may wish to provide an oral comment, each commenter will have an equal opportunity to speak one time for up to five minutes, regardless of the session in which they participate.**

Anyone may participate in the public hearing teleconference by providing an oral comment and/or listening to comments from others. Due to the anticipated high level of interest in this public hearing, DHEC is offering extended opportunities to provide oral comments. **Anyone who plans to participate in the public hearing should complete the online registration form.** Through October 20, 2020, DHEC is offering the opportunity for those who wish to comment to **indicate their preferred time to speak** on the registration form. **Due to this new expanded format, anyone who previously registered for the public hearing will need to register again to indicate their preferred time to speak.** Every effort will be made to accommodate all commenters and their requested time to speak. Everyone who completes the registration form will be provided with the call-in number for the hearing. **The call-in number, an updated pre-recorded presentation, and the approximate order of pre-registered commenters for both sessions will be posted on this webpage prior to the public hearing.**

DHEC values involvement by all interested persons in the public hearing. The hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer in a respectful and orderly manner. Guidelines for the hearing have been established as follows:

- Interested persons may listen during any portion of the hearing without commenting.
- Every effort will be made to accommodate all commenters and their requested time to speak.
- Participants may join but are not required to stay for the full length of the hearing.
- **In order to accommodate everyone who may wish to provide an oral comment, each commenter will have an equal opportunity to speak one time for up to five minutes, regardless of the session in which they participate.**
- There will be no questions or answers during the public hearing.
- There will be no formal DHEC presentation. **An updated pre-recorded presentation will be posted on this webpage by close of business on October 16, 2020.**
- All lines will be muted while a speaker is giving a comment.
- Comment times may not be deferred to another person.
- DHEC will not make a permit decision during the public hearing.

Questions about the public hearing or how to participate, should be directed to Justin Koon at 803-898-1339. Individuals with disabilities or special needs who wish to participate in the public hearing should contact DHEC at least one week in advance to discuss any special services needed. DHEC may not be able to arrange accommodations without advance notice.

DHEC welcomes and encourages written comments on the proposed transfer station through November 5, 2020. Prior to making a final permit decision, DHEC will consider all written comments and supporting information submitted during the comment period equally with any oral comments and supporting information presented at the public hearing teleconference and at the prior DHEC public meetings. Written comments may be submitted by email or US Mail to:

Justin Koon, Section Manager
DHEC Bureau of Land and Waste Management
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Email: koontj@dhec.sc.gov

The draft permit, permit application, solid waste regulations, and information pertaining to the two DHEC public meetings previously held will remain available for review on this webpage.

Please share this information with others who may be interested.