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NJIT TAB TIMES

June 9, 2019

NJIT TAB Conducts an Environmental Justice Roundtable for DNREC



Workshop participants provide input to NJIT TAB & DNREC on bettering communications.

At the request of the Secretary of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), NJIT designed and conducted a workshop focused on how DNREC and Environmental Justice Community residents could define, improve, and promote good communications. Held on June 8, 2019 in New Castle, Delaware, NJIT designed the interactive workshop to garner community members' ideas, suggestions, and recommendations.

As the goal of the workshop was to hear as many community voices as possible, NJIT divided the participants into small working groups allowing for each person to voice his/her views, as well as engage in meaningful discussions on the relevant topics. The small working groups participated in four NJIT- created exercises, covering a different topic under the overall theme of improving communications.

The first exercise asked participants to *"Imagine excellent, effective, and engaging two-way communication between the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and your community. What would that look like?"* Other exercises involved ways DNREC can better reach out to communities, ways communities can better connect with DNREC, and the content of such communications. NJIT TAB team members, as well as staff from DNREC and students from the University of Delaware served as facilitators and note takers for each of the small working groups.

The workshop concluded with an extensive Q & A session between community residents and DNREC Secretary Garvin. NJIT documented the workshop activities and results in a report submitted to Secretary Garvin.



Secretary Sean Garvin, DNREC speaking to workshop participants.