



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Office of the Attorney General

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May 17, 2026

By Electronic Mail
Virginia Regulatory Town Hall

Re: 19 VAC 15-11 Public Participation Guidelines

Dear All:

I have reviewed the Department of Fire Programs proposed fast-track amendment to the agency's Public Participation Guidelines as identified above. In my view, as counsel to the Department, I concur that the Department has legal authority to promulgate this regulation pursuant to § 2.2-4007.02 of the Code of Virginia which requires each agency to develop, adopt, and use public participation guidelines. Additionally, the Department has the authority to adopt this regulation as a fast-track regulation pursuant to § 2.2-4012.1 of the Code of Virginia because this amendment is expected to be noncontroversial.

The regulations do not appear to conflict with the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, nor do they appear to conflict with any federal or state law currently in effect. This approval addresses legal matters only and is not intended to serve, nor should it be construed, as a comment for or against the merits of the action.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cathie F. Hutchins
Senior Assistant Attorney General