

# OBTAINING AN AIR PERMIT QUICKLY AND PREDICTABLY

Understanding the permit reviewer's job and how to make it easier

# Agenda

- What do you want out of the process?
- Air Permitting Basics
- A constructive approach to air permitting
- A successful application
- Hot topics and issues

# Your [and your client's] Goals

- A permit that is issued quickly
- A predictable and efficient process
- A predictable and defensible outcome [a good permit]

# What should you worry about?

- Permitting can be a critical path item
- You can only control part of the process
- Air permitting regulations are the stuff of lore
- Air permitting allows the agency to dictate more than just end of pipe controls
- It's more than getting a permit – it's building a record

# Air Permitting Basics

- *Construction* and *changes* can trigger 3 programs
  - IDEM minor new source review
  - Major new source review
  - Operating permits and permit revisions
- You have to wait for your permit before you can act
- Your wait time varies by permit

# Types of permits

	IDEM Minor NSR	Major NSR	Operating permits and revisions
New plants	✓	✓	✓
Upgrades to existing equipment	✓	✓	✓
Changes in operation	✓	✓	✓
Changes in requirements			✓
Time to get permit	45 – 120 days	120 - 270 days	0 – 270 days
Pre-construction allowed	Some	No	N/A
Operation allowed	No	No	Sometimes

# What's in a permit



Descriptive  
information

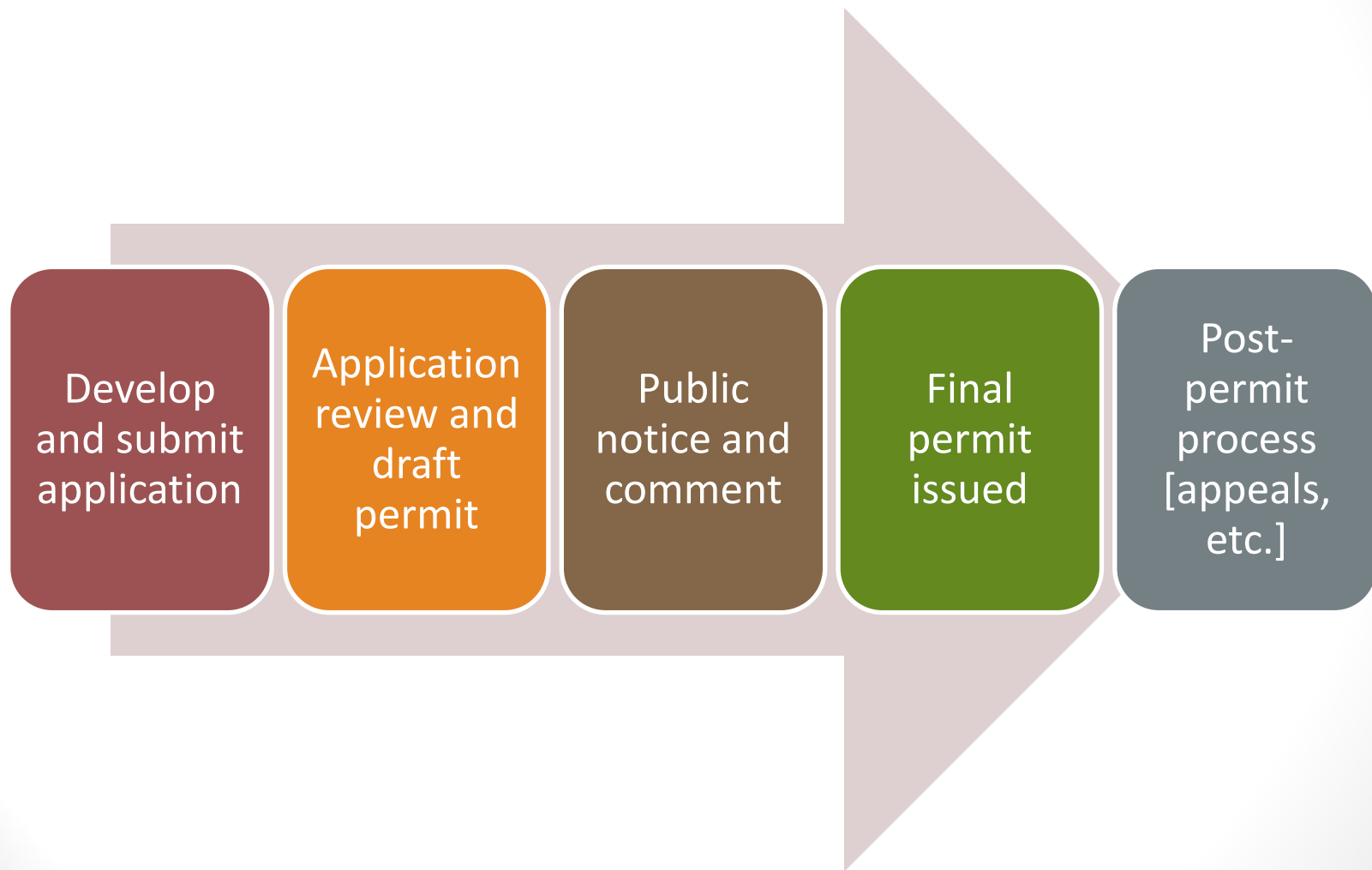
Emission  
limits and  
controls

Compliance  
monitoring

Record  
keeping and  
reporting

Procedural  
elements

# The permitting process





# Who calls the shots?

	The applicant	IDEM	External forces
Application development	✓		
Agency review and draft permit		✓	
Public comment	✓		✓
Final permit		✓	
Appeals and petitions	✓		✓

# Effective permitting strategies for sources

- Application is the only thing you can control
- Pre-application meeting with IDEM is crucial
  - Up-front understanding
    - Application requirements [emissions, controls, modeling]
    - Timing
    - Likely permit requirements
- Make the permit reviewer's job easier
- Help build a defensible administrative record
  - Technical Support Document

# The permit reviewer's job

- Review your emission estimates
- Determine type of permit needed
- Determine applicable CAA requirements
- Determine if any negative air quality impacts
- Write the permit requirements
- Write the Technical Support Document

# A winning application – based on anticipating agency needs

- Project description
- Emission estimates – with best available info
- Regulatory analysis
  - Kind of permit needed
  - Applicable requirements
  - Case-by-case technology determination
  - Dispersion modeling
- Proposed compliance determination/monitoring

# Emerging issues

- Permitting for greenhouse gases
- New one-hour NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS
- New nonattainment areas coming
- End of PM<sub>2.5</sub> surrogate policy