

Community Advisory Group

What is a CAG?

A CAG is a group of diverse community members that voice community needs and concerns related to the Superfund decision-making process. CAGs serve as a means to foster interaction among interested members of an affected community, to exchange facts and information, and to provide, if possible, consensus recommendations to EPA.

CAGs are informal advisory groups. They are a vehicle to enhance communication between community members, potentially responsible parties, EPA, and other agencies. CAGs typically consist of members from each organization, interest group or view point at a site.

Why are They Helpful?

CAGs can enhance public participation in the cleanup process by providing a forum where representatives of diverse community interests can discuss their concerns and learn from each other. CAGs can also help the community “speak with one voice” on contentious issues, which can assist EPA’s efforts to listen to and respond to community concerns and make better decisions on how to clean up a site.

Learn more about CAGs at:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/community-advisory-groups>



Steps to Form a CAG

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can assist with forming CAGs at communities where Superfund sites are active. Typically the following steps would occur:



Establish Membership

A community member or group would work with EPA to establish a process for recruiting CAG members. EPA could provide facilitation assistance or translation services.



Agree on Operating Procedures (Ground Rules) and Leadership

CAG members will decide how the Group will run, how they will make recommendations, how often they will meet, and who will lead the Group. CAG members may benefit from some initial training. EPA could provide neutral facilitation assistance, third-party training, and translation services.



Organize, Manage and Run Meetings

The CAG will meet regularly to achieve their goals. Meetings will be open to the public. EPA could provide for meeting locations, neutral facilitation assistance, translation services, technical assistance, and administrative support.



Make a Difference

Participate to ensure your voice is heard.

For More Information

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