



by David Brogan  
Vice President,  
Environmental Issues

# At Issue

## NJBIA Is Helping You Comply with DEP Rules

As one of the most highly regulated states in the nation, especially in the area of environmental rules and regulations, New Jersey poses a particularly difficult challenge to employers. The morass of regulatory requirements can be daunting for any business owner who is trying to comply, and severe penalties can result from a failure to submit a report or meet a permit requirement.

As part of our never-ending quest to help our members in this area, the New Jersey Business & Industry Association has recently updated and republished its Environmental Compliance Digest, the only handbook of its kind for New Jersey employers.

This latest edition was put together with input from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and from many private-sector environmental professionals. The Digest is not a voluminous document designed to answer every question regarding permitting. Rather, it is a quick reference guide designed to provide the reader with the salient points of the many different permit requirements that have been established by the DEP. Furthermore, the digest contains references to Web sites within the DEP that provide additional information.

Does your business have a boiler, generator, oven, heater or dryer? Does your business store chemicals on site? Do you recycle glass, plastic or metal? Do you have a manufacturing operation? Do your operations emit odors or visible smoke? If the answer is “yes” to any of these questions, it is likely that your business needs an environmental permit. Whether you have a permit or need to renew a permit, you will find our Environmental Compliance Digest to be a very useful guide.

The Compliance Digest will be officially released this month at NJBIA’s November 15 seminar, “How to Comply with

State Environmental Regulations.” This seminar, held at the Forsgate Country Club, addresses many compliance issues and provides businesses with an overview of New Jersey’s permit requirements. Everyone attending the seminar will receive a copy of the Digest.

The seminar speakers, who will present an easy-to-understand overview of the essential elements of environmental compliance in New Jersey, are all experts in their respective fields. They will give insights into the various program areas based on actual experiences with the DEP, and they will answer any questions that you might have. The topics will include air, water, solid and hazardous waste, chemicals and right to know, OSHA, site remediation, and land use. Furthermore, two DEP assistant commissioners, Nancy Wittenberg and Wolfgang Skacel, will be on hand to discuss “hot topics” and answer your questions.

NJBIA continues to provide members with practical information you can use in your day-to-day operations. The Compliance Digest and the seminar are two examples of these efforts. Furthermore, NJBIA lobbies Administration officials and the Legislature to ensure that your voice is heard in Trenton.

DEP Commissioner Lisa Jackson has indicated a willingness to work with the private sector to create a less onerous, more streamlined regulatory system. Also, Governor Jon Corzine has a goal of expanding economic growth opportunities in the State and wants to make New Jersey “business friendly” once again. While these are laudable goals, and ones that we advocate on a daily basis, we still have a long way to go. Rest assured: NJBIA will be there every step of the way.

If you are interested in receiving my regular e-mail environmental update, which provides the latest information on proposed regulations and compliance news, you can give me a call at 609-393-7707, ext. 236 or send an e-mail to me at [dbrogan@njbja.org](mailto:dbrogan@njbja.org). 📧