


Stakeholder and Public Participation



Many stakeholders are involved in most environmental and water resources issues. These include property owners, facility operators, chemical suppliers, regulators, water purveyors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), elected officials, and consultants for many of these stakeholders. In some cases, the general public may also be involved. Each stakeholder brings their differing perspective to the issue, and often has a singular agenda. They will be involved in reviewing and commenting on documentation, providing input at stakeholder or public forums, and even overseeing field programs.

Stakeholder concerns may appear spurious and perceptions unfounded; however, their perspectives, agenda, and comments must be considered for a project to be truly successful.

Those leading such stakeholder participation programs must remember to be **LUCID** – Listen, Understand,

Collaborate, Innovate, and **D**eliver! Soliciting stakeholder involvement, managing their expectations, getting their support, and simply making them feel part of the process, will greatly improve the outcome of the project. Thus, the keys to good stakeholder and public participation and management are good planning, clear understanding, and fostering an atmosphere of collaboration.

Aquilologic staff have participated in, and managed, stakeholder and public participation programs. These have included the development of public participation plans (3Ps), conducting stakeholder and public meetings and workshops, establishing and leading stakeholder committees, soliciting public and stakeholder comments, and responding to these comments.