



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 24-166**

***MODERNIZATION AND EFFICIENCY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING***

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana is committed to fostering an open business environment that supports economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development across all sectors of the economy;

WHEREAS, Louisiana is on the cusp of an economic renaissance, with significant development opportunities poised to bring an influx of new businesses and expansion of existing businesses in various sectors and industries;

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (“Department”) is this State’s leading environmental regulatory body and is a critical component of the State’s economic development framework, as businesses must obtain the necessary permits, modifications, licenses, registrations, or variances to operate;

WHEREAS, since the start of my administration, I have requested that the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality (“Secretary”) modernize the practices of the Department to streamline the granting of permits, licenses, accreditations, and other instruments;

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 30:2011, the Department is the primary agency in the State concerned with environmental protection and regulation;

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 30:2011 (D)(2), the Secretary has the power and duty to grant or deny permits, licenses, registrations, variances, or compliance schedules provided for in the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act;

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 30:2011 (D)(1) and R.S. 30:2014.2, the Secretary is charged with adopting, amending, or repealing all rules, regulations, and standards for the protection of the environment and rules which set out the qualifications and requirements for a person to be granted a permit or to acquire an ownership interest in a permit;

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 30:2014.5, the Secretary is authorized to develop and implement a program to expedite the processing of permits, modifications, licenses, registrations, or variances for environmental permit applicants who may request such services;

WHEREAS, these permits, modifications, licenses, registrations, or variances are produced upon completion of analytical research, modeling, and other scientific examination by the Department;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Department continuously seeks to improve its processes to ensure that businesses can obtain the required instruments in a timely manner, advancing economic competitiveness without compromising the integrity of environmental standards;

WHEREAS, the Department should proactively adopt technologies and operational efficiencies to strengthen Louisiana's competitiveness for new and expanding businesses without compromising environmental standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution do hereby order and direct the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality to modernize its internal systems to enhance sustainable, efficient operations in permitting and environmental standards enforcement to support growth and innovation across Louisiana's economy.

Section 1: The Secretary, in consultation with relevant public and private stakeholders, shall initiate a review of the Department's regulatory procedures and workflows, identifying priority areas for efficiency and effectiveness improvements that support timely permitting and licensing.

Section 2: The Secretary shall develop a sustainable framework to implement Executive Order JML 24-17, including conducting an independent comprehensive review of the Department's current processes for issuance of permits, licenses, accreditations, and other instruments.

Section 3: The Secretary shall develop and adopt procedures that support and advance innovative measures to resolve environmental hazards, such as waste innovation, and prepare for potential expansion of nuclear energy generation.

Section 4: No later than July 1, 2025, the Secretary shall provide a report to the Governor detailing: (1) the reforms that are planned to be introduced or that will continue in the

upcoming year and thereafter; (2) the extent to which the Department has identified and addressed existing deficiencies and increased efficiency in the Department's operation; and (3) outlining any statutory or regulatory changes that may be necessary to implement these recommendations.

Section 5: All departments, commissions, boards, offices, entities, agencies, and officers of the State of Louisiana, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate with implementing the provisions of this Order.

Section 6: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 4th day of November 2024.

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

Nancy Landry
SECRETARY OF STATE