

**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

PS Memo #: PS96-6

TO: Stationary Sources Program and Local Agency Staff  
FROM: Dennis M. Myers  
DATE: September 12, 1996  
RE: Guidance on prioritizing (red tagging) Construction Permits

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The following policy is intended to provide guidance as to how Construction Permits (CP's) should be processed:

Normally CP's will be processed in the order that they are received and assigned to a review engineer. In certain cases though, there is a need to give priority to certain permit applications in an effort to ensure that fair economic and business development can proceed smoothly and in compliance with the air permitting requirements. In these cases, priority will be given to processing these permits more quickly, even though they were received after the CP's that are currently being processed or awaiting reprocessing.

The Division must be judicious in its decision to reprioritize permit actions to accommodate these special needs, because granting priority to newly received applications will invariably delay issuance of permits to those applicants who have accounted for the permit processing time frames in their business plans. Therefore, red tagging of CP's will only be allowed when exceptional circumstances justify this special prioritizing of a permit application, such as the following:

1. Requests from the Governor's Office for quick handling of a permit application for compelling reasons.
2. Companies that are new to Colorado, that are unfamiliar with our permitting requirements and time frames, that need to obtain a permit quickly in order to start up operations, and that represent significant employment opportunities and thus economic development to Colorado. Most of these companies will also be dealing with the State Office of Economic Development.
3. Permits for which there may be some other compelling reason to issue quickly

(needs to be issued for T5 purposes, etc).

Note that red tagging of CP's is the exception, and not the rule. Companies that are currently doing business in Colorado and currently have permits, are presumed to know the time frames involved in obtaining a permit, and must have a compelling reason before the Division will red tag their permit applications. If a company has once had a permit application red tagged, then future applications for this company should not be red tagged since it can be assumed they are familiar with the permit requirements.