



Local River Management Advisory Committees:

Compliance with Right-to-Know

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These are the very basic highlights of RSA 91-A, New Hampshire's Right-to-Know law. Please see the law itself, or the Attorney General's memo about it, for the specifics.

1. Local River Management Advisory Committees (LAC) authorized in RSA 483:8-a are likely subject to the Right-to-Know law.
2. If a LAC does not comply with the Right-to-Know law, its action may be invalidated and it may have to pay attorneys' fees.
3. Meetings must be open to the public.
4. A "meeting" is essentially any occasion involving communication of a quorum of the LAC, including emails.
5. Consultation with legal counsel, where the legal counsel is present or on the phone or video conference, is neither a meeting nor a non-public or executive session, and therefore a LAC can do this at any time outside of a meeting.
6. During a meeting, a LAC can go into "nonpublic" or "executive session" only for certain reasons and only after required procedures are followed.
7. Records associated with the LAC are likely "governmental records" that must be made available to the public.
8. LACs must provide notice of meetings.
9. LACs must keep minutes of meetings.

*Please note that this is not intended to be relied upon as legal advice.

