



American Arbitration Association
Dispute Resolution Services Worldwide

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Resolving Environmental Conflicts

Georgia Environmental
Conference
2009



The Panel

- Todd Silliman - Attorney, McKenna, Long & Aldridge, Atlanta, GA
- Robert Williams - Director, Fanning Institute, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- Chauncey Davis – Vice-President, American Arbitration Association, Atlanta, GA
- Gordon Rogers, Satilla Riverkeeper & Executive Director, Waynesville, GA



RESOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS



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What are the different ways of resolving environmental conflicts outside of the judicial system?

- Arbitration
- Mediation
- Stakeholder Dialogue Processes
- Principals sitting down to talk without counsel and without preconditions



RESOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS

In what situations might one of those approaches be more or less appropriate or successful?

- What Factors contribute to successful stakeholder dialogue.
- What can doom a process?
- What factors can allow a certain process to work better?
- Are there situations when settlement is not a viable option?



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Are conflicts over environmental resources different than other kinds of conflicts, and if so, how?



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What special challenges do environmental issues or questions or conflicts present?

- Scientific uncertainty
- Public ownership of resources/is the “owner” at the table?
- Diversity of stakeholders
- Race/class elements

Do these differences make resolving environmental issues easier or harder?



RESOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS

What have you learned about the role of individuals, their personalities, values and motivation that affects any process to resolve conflict?



RESOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS

How can we assess the effectiveness or evaluate the outcomes of any conflict resolution process?