

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was established by the Environmental Protection and Health Act, Chapter 1, Title 39, of the Idaho Code, to protect human health and the environment. As the state's environmental regulatory agency, DEQ is responsible for implementing and enforcing delegated federal programs under the Clean Air, Clean Water, Safe Drinking Water, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Acts, as well as many state environmental laws and rules. This regulatory responsibility covers a broad range of activities to ensure Idaho's air, water, and land, and the health of Idaho citizens are protected from the adverse impacts of pollution.

The Environmental Protection and Health Act, Chapter 1, Title 39, of the Idaho Code also established the Board of Environmental Quality. The board is the administrative body that makes decisions on rules proposed by the department that are necessary and feasible to carry out provisions of this act and to enforce the environmental laws of the state. DEQ drafts rules with the assistance of the Office of the Attorney General, following a negotiated rulemaking process that involves interested stakeholders. Rules may be adopted, amended, or repealed by the board. All administrative rules adopted by the Board are subject to legislative review. The board also functions as the agency's administrative appeals board. Decisions of the agency can be appealed to the board, which may choose to hear the case or designate a hearing officer. Final determinations of the board are subject to judicial review.

Overall, DEQ's primary activities to protect human health and the environment involve monitoring, permitting, conducting inspections, performing remediation, and providing a wide range of oversight, technical assistance and outreach.

- Environmental monitoring is performed to assess conditions and ensure health-based standards are met.
- Permits are issued to facilities that manage wastes or release pollutants in order to limit the amounts to safe levels.
- Inspections of pollution sources and response to complaints are performed to ensure compliance with environmental regulations and standards. When necessary, enforcement action is taken.
- Oversight can include many different projects such as cleanups, pollution reduction, and drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.
- Finally, technical support, outreach, and education are provided to facilitate compliance with environmental requirements for air quality, water quality, and waste management.

DEQ works closely and collaboratively with a wide range of public and private partners, including the legislature; the Board of Environmental Quality; federal and state agencies; city, county and tribal governments; businesses; community organizations; and citizens. These partnerships are critical to accomplishing the agency's environmental and human health protection mission.

The agency headquarters in Boise is organized into five divisions that focus on developing and administering programs and policies, providing technical support to the divisions and regions, and providing agency-wide administrative support. The divisions are Air Quality, Water Quality, Waste Management and Remediation, Technical Services and Environmental Management and Information.

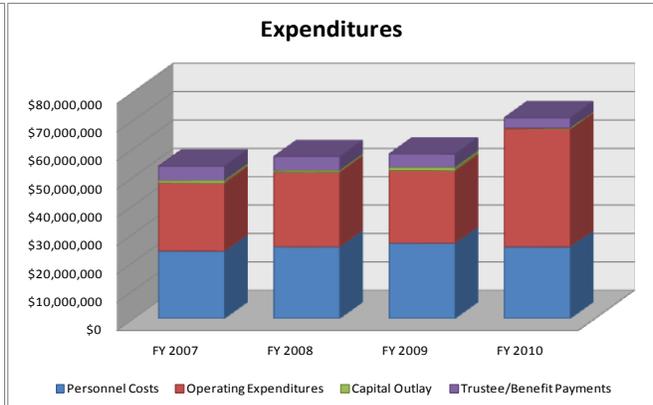
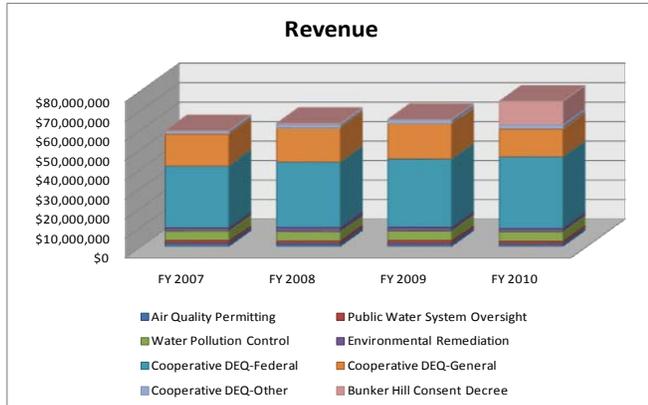
The day-to-day, on-the-ground services of the agency are provided locally by six regional offices located in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Boise, Twin Falls, Pocatello and Idaho Falls. DEQ also has three smaller satellite offices located in Kellogg, Grangeville, and McCall. The regions and satellite offices are charged with implementing agency programs and policies and providing direct services to citizens, communities, businesses, and industries.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

- **Air Quality:** DEQ assures compliance with federal and state health-based air quality standards by collecting air quality information, monitoring, developing and issuing permits, and coordinating air quality improvement efforts among communities, citizen groups, businesses, industries, other state agencies, tribes, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code, and the Clean Air Act).
- **Water Quality:** DEQ protects the surface and ground waters of the state to support beneficial uses and provide safe drinking water supplies by setting standards, certifying project compliance with standards, monitoring, reporting on quality, developing and implementing improvement plans, issuing wastewater reuse permits, and providing grants and loans for constructing drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities (Title 39, Chapters 1, 36, 64, 66, 76, Idaho Code; title 37, chapter 21, Idaho Code; and the Clean Water Act).
- **Waste Management and Remediation:** DEQ ensures management and disposal of waste generated in or entering Idaho in a manner protective of human health and the environment. DEQ responds to releases of hazardous substances to surface waters, ground waters, or soils and conducts, oversees, and negotiates cleanups of contaminated sites. DEQ works with communities to rehabilitate contaminated sites to return them to safe and developable condition (Title 39, Chapters 1, 44, 58, 65, 71, 74, 81, Idaho Code; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act).
- **INL Oversight:** DEQ oversees activities at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) to ensure compliance with legal agreements for waste treatment, remediation and removal and compliance with applicable environmental regulations. DEQ maintains an independent environmental monitoring program designed to verify and supplement monitoring programs carried out by the INL. Working with other state agencies, DEQ assists local governments statewide in planning and responding to emergencies involving radiological materials. DEQ routinely keeps the public informed about INL activities impacting Idaho's environment (Title 39, Chapter 1, Idaho Code).

Revenues and Expenditures

Revenues	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Air Quality Permitting	\$1,468,356	\$1,248,862	\$1,339,572	\$1,267,125
Public Water System Oversight	\$1,396,440	\$1,451,285	\$1,581,431	\$1,221,790
Water Pollution Control	\$4,865,609	\$4,875,022	\$4,845,733	\$4,833,508
Environmental Remediation	\$1,771,572	\$2,036,566	\$1,937,976	\$1,821,208
Cooperative DEQ-Federal	\$31,724,600	\$33,707,871	\$35,123,091	\$36,776,375
Cooperative DEQ-General	\$16,247,000	\$17,402,600	\$18,178,700	\$14,263,800
Cooperative DEQ-Other	\$1,604,831	\$1,635,900	\$1,936,115	\$2,041,727
Bunker Hill Consent Decree	\$266,046	\$763,949	\$191,267	\$12,223,468
Total	\$59,344,454	\$63,122,055	\$65,133,885	\$74,449,001
Expenditures	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Personnel Costs	\$23,722,000	\$25,239,700	\$26,495,600	\$25,173,400
Operating Expenditures	\$23,996,700	\$26,217,800	\$25,509,600	\$41,676,300
Capital Outlay	\$874,800	\$636,800	\$1,166,300	\$240,800
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$5,100,100	\$5,001,400	\$4,803,300	\$3,695,000
Total	\$53,693,600	\$57,095,700	\$57,974,800	\$70,785,500



Profile of Key DEQ Services Provided

The following table summarizes some of the key services DEQ provides to communities, businesses, industries, and the citizens of Idaho.

Key DEQ Services Provided	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Air Quality Division				
Air Quality Permits to Construct Issued	87	60	52	69
Air Quality Tier I (Title V) Permits Issued	25	24	23	17
Air Quality Tier 2 Permits Issued	10	17	19	8
Air Inspections and Evaluations Conducted	133	136	143	145
Water Quality Division				
Wastewater Grant \$ Awarded	457,234	304,775	161,405	106,885
Drinking Water Grant \$ Awarded	158,471	180,451	187,580	96,950
401/404 Water Quality Certifications Issued	576	607	311	170
Wastewater Reuse Permits Issued	12	20	30	33
Total Wastewater and Drinking Water Engineering Plan and Specification Reviews Completed	1700	1931	1191	711
Nutrient Pathogen Studies Reviewed	129	110	22	2
Source Water Assessments Completed	55	53	41	59
Drinking Water Sanitary Surveys Completed	395	366	377	384
Active Nonpoint Source Projects Administered (previous calendar year)	60	67	70	61
Nonpoint Source Projects Completed (previous calendar year)	11	22	20	27
Waste and Remediation Division				
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Cleanups Completed	26	26	23	28
Underground Storage Tank Training and Inspections Completed	373	375	468	385
Hazardous Waste Inspections Conducted (regulatory and compliance assistance)	260	221	282	274
Phosphate Mine Sites Undergoing Investigation/Cleanup	8	22	24	24
Snake River Plain Environmental Samples Analyzed (for INL)	2,852	2,613	1,772	2,730

Performance Highlights

Air Quality Division

Crop Residue Burning (CRB)

DEQ just finished its second complete year of the CRB Program. The principles of the program are to 1) protect human health, especially among sensitive populations, 2) maintain burning as a tool for growers, 3) ensure

burning is conducted using good techniques and under optimal atmospheric conditions, and 4) make burning-related information readily available to the public.

The current program is more protective of public health than previous smoke management programs. It prohibits field burning when air quality levels exceed or are expected to exceed 75 percent of any National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). Farmers wishing to burn must register their fields, obtain a permit, pay a registration fee based on the number of acres to be burned, and obtain approval from DEQ to burn on the proposed burn day. Before granting burn approval, DEQ must consider air quality conditions, number of acres to be burned, crop type, fuel characteristics, meteorological conditions, and proximity of the burn to institutions with sensitive populations, public roads, and airports. Information on burn locations, size, and type of field is accessible to the public on DEQ's Web site at www.deq.idaho.gov/crop_residue_burning.cfm.

The second year of the program saw a dramatic increase in burning in southern Idaho. An exceptionally low incidence of wildfires minimized the compounding impacts of smoke from crop residue burning and contributed to another successful year of the CRB program. A total of 55,606 acres of agricultural crop residue was burned statewide, 43% of which were in North Idaho and 57% in South Idaho. On average, 80% of the acres eligible to burn (registered and fees paid) were burned.

Legislation establishing the CRB program requires that DEQ compile an annual report. The 2009 Crop Residue Burning Program Annual Report can be accessed on DEQ's Web site and includes an analysis of program performance for the calendar year 2009 and recommendations for improvements. Overall, the second year of the program was again considered a success by both agricultural and environmental interests. Recommendations for improvements in program implementation and DEQ processes have been identified in the report and reviewed with the Crop Residue Advisory Committee. Plans to implement these improvements are in place for the 2010 fall burn season.

ARRA Diesel Emissions Reduction

DEQ received \$1.7 million in grant funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA, also called the Stimulus Act) to reduce diesel emissions statewide. With this grant award, DEQ committed to install retrofit emission control technologies on 100 privately owned medium-duty or heavy-duty diesel engine refuse trucks, retrofit 200 school buses with anti-idling technology (bus heaters) and replace, in publically owned fleets, a minimum of 25 old school buses with new school buses manufactured under 2007 (or newer) engine emission standards. These projects were chosen because they will significantly reduce diesel emissions, which will protect air quality in Idaho's critical Treasure Valley Airshed by retrofitting refuse trucks and protect the health of school children statewide by reducing school bus idling and providing funds to help school districts purchase new reduced emission buses.

The project is on track for successful completion. As of June 30, 2010, Idaho schools had purchased 13 new buses under the stimulus grant, and 235 anti-idling bus heaters had been installed. DEQ is now targeting about 35 new school buses to be partially funded by the stimulus funds, and heater installations will significantly exceed the initial commitment. On the refuse truck portion of the project, a contract was awarded, target trucks assessed, necessary parts ordered, and actual installations have begun. Meeting the refuse truck installation goal will be a challenge because the waste hauling contractor recently moved some of the target trucks out of state. However, the stimulus grant funds can be shifted to other components of the diesel emission reduction project to adequately utilize the funds for the benefit of Idaho and our state economy.

Treasure Valley Air Quality

The Treasure Valley continues to face the potential of becoming out of compliance or in "nonattainment" with federal air quality health-based standards for ground-level ozone. The Treasure Valley is expected to continue to grow at a robust pace for the foreseeable future. With this growth, air quality challenges will continue to mount as development, the number of vehicles, and emissions increase.

The legislature enacted a statute in 2008 requiring the Treasure Valley to either implement vehicle emission testing or develop an alternative plan that would result in an equal reduction of vehicle emissions. DEQ performed an analysis and identified the counties and cities in the Treasure Valley that would most benefit from a vehicle emissions testing program. Only Canyon and Ada counties are required to implement vehicle emission testing at this time. Ada County has had a vehicle emissions testing program in place since 1984 and has modified its

testing requirements to match the statute. A new DEQ-administered vehicle emission testing program was implemented in Canyon County and all incorporated cities within Canyon County on June 1, 2010.

Water Quality Division

Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements

The DEQ Drinking Water Planning Grant Program provides assistance to eligible public drinking water systems for facility planning projects designed to ensure safe and adequate supplies of drinking water. In FY 2010, DEQ awarded \$96,950 in drinking water planning grants to communities and water districts.

The DEQ Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund provides below-market-rate interest loans to help repair or build new drinking water facilities. The cumulative total of drinking water loans awarded by DEQ in the history of the program through FY2010 is \$155,824,312.

The DEQ Wastewater Planning Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible entities that are planning to upgrade public wastewater facilities. In FY2010, DEQ awarded \$106,885 in wastewater planning grants.

The Water Pollution Control State Revolving Loan Fund provides below-market-rate interest loans to help build new or repair existing wastewater treatment facilities. The cumulative total of wastewater loans awarded by DEQ in the history of the program through FY2010 is \$378,531,856.

DEQ enters into funding assistance agreements with the goal of protecting public health and water quality. The city of Tensed is a good example of a typical loan. The primary reason for issuing this loan was to enable the city to make drinking water system improvements including well pump upgrades (new booster pump to address low pressure), iron and manganese removal, chlorination, well house construction, a new generator, reservoir improvements, and distribution and flushing improvements. The loan will save the city approximately \$665,000 in loan costs compared to a conventional municipal bond obligation.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Success Stories

During fiscal year 2010, DEQ successfully committed \$38.7 million in ARRA funds to low interest drinking water and wastewater loans. (A total of \$15 million in ARRA funds had been committed by DEQ to loans during fiscal year 2009.) Due to the generous financing terms of these loans, many communities were able to afford projects that otherwise would have placed a heavy burden on their ratepayers.

For example, the city of Reubens was suffering under a long-standing public health emergency due to failure of numerous septic tanks. Raw sewage was flowing over land through open ditches. The loan enabled the city to replace aging individual septic systems with a gravity-fed collection system. The collection system will empty into lagoons, which will treat the effluent for eventual land application. The low-interest DEQ loan, with repayment of a large amount of the loan principal waived, saved the community over \$1.8 million compared to a typical municipal bond.

Another example of a successful ARRA-funded loan was to the city of Kimberly. The city used the funds to improve its existing water infrastructure and provide water conservation measures by installing meters to service connections. In addition, the city added a new storage tank, installed back-up power, made well improvements, installed energy efficient pumping, and made improvements to its distribution piping. DEQ provided \$6.6 million in funding assistance, saving the city \$4.9 million compared to a typical municipal bond.

Drinking Water System Automated Messaging Service

Emulating an established and successful business model, DEQ has implemented an automated telephone and email messaging service to benefit the owners and operators of public water systems throughout Idaho. The service reminds public drinking water system operators to monitor drinking water in their systems. The telephone-email messages are sent when database records indicate that DEQ has not received laboratory results of required monitoring. Trial runs have proven successful in assisting owners and operators in complying with Idaho's Rule for Public Drinking Water Systems. The value to these customers is improved public health through timely updates on the status of their drinking water sample results. Gains in efficiency realized by the agency will

also benefit public health protection through facilitation of better availability of staff for time-critical public inquires and needs.

Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan

In 2008, DEQ and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe finalized the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan (LMP) and submitted it to EPA under the signatures of Governor Butch Otter and Chairman James Allen, consistent with the 2002 EPA Superfund Record of Decision for the Coeur d'Alene Basin. EPA has acknowledged the LMP can prove to be an effective alternative to a superfund remedy for the lake, if effectively implemented.

Implementation of the LMP, in collaboration with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, began in fiscal year 2010 under funding authorized by the Idaho Legislature. DEQ and the Tribe are coordinating LMP implementation activities with the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission (BEIPC), adjacent counties (Shoshone, Kootenai and Benewah), and other key partners identified in the plan.

Much of the LMP implementation during FY 2010 included efforts required to transform a small scale science core program into a full scale, science-driven comprehensive management program. The science emphasis included 1) increasing the number of routine monitoring sites within the lake including addition of shallow northern bays, 2) beginning a program to survey rooted aquatic vegetation within the bays with emphasis of early detection of Eurasian water milfoil, 3) initiating a joint sampling program with the Tribe to further define nutrient loading sources within the St. Joe and St. Maries river systems, a program identified in the LMP as a 3-year nutrient inventory, and 4) learning and incorporating computer models and statistical software for nutrient loading estimates and assistance in trend analysis.

Another LMP emphasis during FY2010 was to initiate a core education and outreach program. Comment letters received during the Draft LMP development process revealed that the first outreach step should be to perform a Needs Assessment. Through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, Robinson Research of Spokane, Washington, was awarded a contract to survey communities around Coeur d'Alene Lake to identify education programs of interest that the community would participate in.

Various survey tools currently being used by Robinson Research include conducting focus group discussions, interviewing influential leaders in the community, implementing a telephone questionnaire survey, and conducting an internet-based questionnaire survey. The information collected for this Needs Assessment is expected to be available by November 2010 and will be used by DEQ and the Tribe to build an education and outreach program in FY2011.

Waste Management and Remediation Division

Brownfield Response Program

Since its inception in late-2003, the DEQ Brownfield Response Program has been involved in 157 environmental assessments at 87 properties in Idaho. These environmental assessments have removed the environmental barriers to redevelopment from 56 properties. These 56 properties, which consist of 768 acres collectively, are now ready for or engaged in redevelopment and job creation. To date, the DEQ Brownfield Response Program has helped Idaho grant applicants obtain nearly \$10,000,000 in federally funded brownfield assessment and cleanup grants. Implementation of these grants leads to direct and measurable economic development for Idaho communities and protects human health and the environment.

In 2010, DEQ completed 17 Brownfield assessments and worked with 15 communities to obtain funding and complete further investigation and cleanup. These efforts have already resulted in the return of 6 properties encompassing 13 acres to safe and developable condition.

Pend Oreille Trail Brownfield Coalition

On September 24, 2009, DEQ entered into a cooperative agreement with the Pend Oreille Bay Trail Brownfields Assessment Coalition and EPA through a Community Wide Hazardous Substance and Petroleum Brownfields Assessment Grant of \$650,000 funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Assessment Coalition partners include DEQ, the cities of Ponderay, Sandpoint, and Kootenai, and Bonner County. Each organization is committed to implementing this project and has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) establishing the Brownfield Assessment Coalition to administer the terms and conditions of the grant. DEQ has accepted the lead role and will perform the duties of grant management and reporting. The coalition signed a second MOA creating a grant Steering Committee to assist in administration of the grant.

The purpose of a Brownfields assessment is to complete an appraisal of human and environmental risks related to past industrial uses and to develop a potential cleanup strategy. Through this grant, the nature and level of contamination within the geographic area currently referred to as the Pend Oreille Bay Trail (POBT) will be assessed. Data gathered through this assessment will also be used to design land reuse strategies to remediate identified environmental impacts through creative redevelopment. Work on the initial field investigations, sampling plan development, and draft quality assurance project plans is anticipated to begin during fall 2010 and continue into 2011.

By the time the assessment and cleanup work is completed, the community will have developed a trail master plan and established a fundraising campaign to secure additional funding for acquiring easements or deeds, building the trail, and creating parks. A local support group known as the Friends of POBT is currently researching how best to establish a tax-exempt foundation for facilitating the fundraising campaign, which will likely include a mix of grants, community donations, and private contributions. DEQ assists in identifying redevelopment funding opportunities through its Brownfields Funding Resource Manual, which provides information on federal, regional, state, and local sources of funding for post-assessment and cleanup projects.

Former Priest River Landfill

This site, located near the city of Priest River, was used as an unregulated municipal landfill from the early 1900s until it was closed in 1973. The site has remained vacant and undeveloped since that time. After conducting environmental site assessments and risk evaluations in 2006 and 2007 to address potential impacts to human health and the environment from this former landfill, DEQ's Brownfield Response Program determined that the site required cleanup.

Consequently, the Brownfields Response Program commissioned an analysis of brownfield cleanup alternatives to aid in cleanup planning efforts, and the former owner, Priest River Urban Renewal Agency (PRURA), applied to EPA for a competitive brownfields cleanup grant in late-2008. Although PRURA's proposal was not selected for funding by EPA, in February 2010, the Reuse Idaho Brownfields Coalition, comprised of Idaho's six economic development districts and DEQ, selected the property for a cleanup subgrant using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. After acquiring the property from PRURA, the Priest Community Forest Connection (PCFC) entered into a Voluntary Remediation Agreement with DEQ's Voluntary Cleanup Program to clean up the former landfill utilizing the brownfield cleanup subgrant.

Once cleanup is complete, PCFC, in coordination with PRURA and the city of Priest River, will begin developing the site into a municipal community waterfront park. Cleanup of this site and conversion to a municipal community waterfront park will increase employment, engage the community in a common goal, and provide a recreation destination. Ultimately, creation of a park should increase property values, particularly in proximity to the park, and potentially attract companies/individuals looking to relocate to the community.

Coeur d'Alene Basin Remediation Program Update

In the 2009 construction season (which spanned parts of fiscal years 2009 and 2010), the Basin Yard Program remediated 1,270 residential and commercial property equivalents in the Silver Valley. Property equivalents are used to make the number of properties comparable from year to year. This is necessary because properties have significant variation in size. For example, in 2008, 347 individual properties were remediated. In 2009, 547 individual properties were remediated. This shows an increase of 155%. However, if the area remediated between the two years is compared, the 2009 season was 261% greater (149 acres vs. 57). A total of 129,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil were removed and hauled to a repository during the 2009 construction season.

The 261% increase in productivity from the 2008 to 2009 construction season was due to the addition of ARRA dollars that infused the project in July 2009. Between July and December 2009, DEQ invested over \$12 million in ARRA money into work in the remediation program. It is estimated that this influx of funding will accelerate completion of the yard remediation project in the Basin by two years.

Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Treatment of Calcine

In December 2009, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) selected hot isostatic pressing (HIP) as the technology to treat high-level waste calcine at the INL Site, fulfilling a requirement of the 1995 Settlement Agreement. In its Record of Decision, the DOE stated it will use the HIP process to convert 5,750 cubic yards of calcine to a more secure form ready to leave Idaho by 2035.

DOE continued to remove buried waste from Idaho during FY2010 in accordance with the terms of the *Agreement to Implement U.S. District Court Order dated May 25, 2006*. To date, DOE has exhumed waste from over one and a half acres of the 5.69 required and has packaged for shipment out of Idaho almost 4,000 cubic meters of the 7,485 that must be met.

DOE remains ahead of schedule in the 1995 Settlement Agreement to remove stored Transuranic waste from Idaho, having shipped out over 40,200 cubic meters.

Part II – Performance Measures

Since FY2007, DEQ has been using the same eight benchmark performance measures to track and report annual progress in meeting the overall agency goal of protecting human health and the environment. Each performance measure is defined below and includes a description of refinements that have been made to improve consistency and relevance of the measure.

Air Quality Index “Good” or “Moderate” 98% of days. The Air Quality Index is a tool to help citizens understand the severity of air pollution and potential health implications so they can take steps to protect their health and reduce their contribution to air pollution. The index is calculated using actual monitoring data compared to health-based standards. It is reported daily in selected cities on a scale of increasing pollution and health concerns, according to the following six categories: good, moderate, unhealthy for sensitive groups, unhealthy, very unhealthy, and hazardous.

Air quality permits to construct issued, on average, in 99 days. DEQ recognizes the importance of issuing timely permits to construct (PTCs) so facilities that require permits can plan and make strategic business decisions. State statute requires permits to construct to be issued within 120 days (benchmark measure for FY2006, FY2007 and FY2008). DEQ streamlined its permitting process in 2007 and now tracks the amount of time it takes to issue a permit to construct on a two-year, monthly rolling average. The new benchmark measure for issuing PTCs for FY2009 and FY2010, on average, is 99 days.

Hazardous waste permits and reviews. Permits and reviews associated with hazardous wastes are completed annually according to established schedules. Timeframes are established from a variety of sources, including federal regulations, project schedules, construction seasons, and company requests.

Brownfields site assessments. A brownfields site is a vacant or underutilized property where redevelopment or reuse is complicated by actual or perceived environmental contamination. Site assessments are completed when a lack of environmental information is complicating site redevelopment or reuse, which can minimize public health risks and contribute to the community's economic vitality.

Monitoring of Idaho National Laboratory conditions. Continuous air quality monitors and real-time radiation monitors on and around the Idaho National Laboratory must be operational 97% or more of the time to track environmental conditions.

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). DEQ is required to complete Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), or water quality improvement plans, for water bodies that are not meeting water quality standards or supporting beneficial uses. TMDLs are completed for streams/rivers based on the number of assessment units they contain and the number of individual pollutants that are impairing water quality. Idaho's streams and rivers have been categorized into 5,200 assessment units based

on Hydrologic Catalogue Units (watersheds) and stream order. These units encompass approximately 92,000 miles of streams and rivers. As an example, if a stream is made up of 3 assessment units and has 4 pollutants identified as impairing water quality, 12 assessment unit/pollutant combination TMDLs would be needed for that stream.

Reviews of drinking water and wastewater engineering plans and specifications. In 2005, the legislature established a 42-day timeframe for DEQ to review and act on engineering plans and specifications. This established a reasonable window to complete thorough evaluations while at the same time being responsive to business planning needs.

Regulating community water systems to provide safe drinking water. The total population of Idaho is estimated at 1,545,801. Idaho has 750 community water systems, serving a total of 1,098,770 people. Rigorous monitoring requirements for community water systems must be met to ensure safe drinking water is provided and public health is protected.

DEQ's annual performance on these eight benchmark performance measures is shown in the table below. Targets for 2011 are also shown.

Performance Measures	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	Benchmarks 2011
1) Percentage of days as measured by the Air Quality Index that air is in the "good" or "moderate" category.	A: 98% B: 95%	A: 99.5% B: 95%	A: 99.7 % B: 98%	A: 99.6% B: 98%	98%
2) Permits to construct issued within established timeframes (see definition).	A: 77% B: 80%	A: 88% B: 80%	A: 113 days B: 99 days	A: 133 days B: 99 days	99 days
3) Percentage of time-critical or scheduled hazardous waste permits and/or reviews completed within established timeframes.	A: 100% B: 100%	A: 100% B: 100%	A: 100% B: 100%	A: 100% B: 100%	100%
4) Number of brownfields site assessments completed.	A: 22 B: 15	A: 20 B: 17	A: 18 B: 17	A: 17 B: 10	8
5) Percentage of time that continuous air monitoring stations and real-time radiation monitoring stations are operational to monitor INL conditions.	A: 98% B: 90%	A: 98.5% B: 97%	A: 98% B: 97%	A: 100% B: 97%	97%
6) Number of TMDLs completed for assessment unit/pollutant combinations.	*	A: 230 B: 660	A: 119 B: 342	A: 88 B: 283	243
7) Percentage of drinking water and wastewater plan and specification reviews completed within 42 days of receipt.	A: 82.5% B: 80%	A: 88.7% B: 85%	A: 93% B: 100%	A: 95.9% B: 100%	100%
8) Percentage of person months that people on Community Water Systems were served drinking water that meets health-based standards.	A: 94.8% B: 92%	A: 88.2% B: 92%	A: 93.5% B: 90%	A: 95.7% B: 90%	90%

*In 2008 the method for counting completed TMDLs was changed to be consistent with EPA reporting requirements. Comparisons to previous years, therefore, cannot be made.

A = Actual Performance

B = Benchmark Performance (Target)

Performance Analysis

Looking back over the last four years, actual agency performance has met or exceeded established benchmarks for the majority of measures. Some benchmark measures (targets) have been increased from year to year where process improvements and changes in resource allocations have produced efficiencies and increased the agency's capability to commit to a higher level of performance. Examples of this include upgrading and expanding air quality monitoring (AQI measure), permit streamlining (PTC measure), and increasing resource allocation and improving processes for engineering plan and specification reviews (P & S measure).

Areas where performance has not met benchmarks from year-to-year or targets have been lowered are a result of several factors. For example, the number of brownfield assessments completed in any given year is tied to the availability of federal funding. The decrease in the TMDL benchmark measure from 2008 to 2009 and again from 2009 to 2010 is a result of the increased focus on other TMDL program components including mandated 5-year TMDL reviews and completion of the bi-annual integrated report. For FY2010, the reduction in the number of TMDLs completed is a direct result of shifting staff resources from TMDL development to focus on 5-year TMDL reviews. Additionally, during FY2010 a significant amount of time was spent by staff revising the Potential Natural Vegetation Methodology for complex temperature TMDLs. The more complex and difficult TMDLs are in progress now, as we approach the end of the judicially mandated schedule, which tend to take more time due to their complexity and the time required for Watershed Advisory Group involvement and review.

The decrease in percentage of people served safe drinking water in 2008 is a result of changes to federal drinking water standards in 2006, coupled with a data error that overestimated the number of people exposed to arsenic for the entire year. The federal drinking water standard for arsenic was lowered from 50ppb to 10ppb. A single violation, even for a short period, at one large water system significantly decreased statewide compliance percentages for the entire year and overestimated the actual exposure hazard.

The percentage of people receiving safe drinking water increased in 2009 due to a number of factors. The major component of the improvement in this measure was due to correction of a 2008 data error. A smaller component of this increase was a change in the way that some of the data points are calculated. The new calculation method is based on the duration of the exposure to contaminants and more accurately reflects the quality of drinking water served. Because this measure is based on a new calculation, it is not directly comparable to prior years. However, the actual performance for this measure has increased between FY2009 and 2010.

The above benchmark performance measures will continue to be representative of the agency's progress toward achieving the overall goal of protecting human health and the environment in 2011. Like all state agencies, DEQ has refined its focus for 2011 due to the continued economic challenges of the times. While some programs and functions have been reduced or eliminated, the agency can continue to fulfill its mandates and deliver core services as reflected in these benchmark performance measures.

For more information, please contact:

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