

Date: Jan. 28, 2011

To: Environmental Quality Commission

From: Dick Pedersen, Director

Subject: Agenda item O, Informational item: 2011 budget and legislative agenda update
February 16-18, 2011, EQC meeting

Purpose of item This item updates the Environmental Quality Commission on the status of the Department of Environmental Quality's 2011-13 legislative agenda. The agenda includes the base budget, reduction options and budget policy packages that make up the Agency Request Budget and bills that were introduced by the Oregon Legislature on Jan. 10 and 11, 2011.

This informational item informs the commission of updates related to the Governor's Balanced Budget, status of the legislative bills and the latest information about the 2011 legislative session.

Background State agencies must develop legislative concepts and budget policy packages as part of the legislative and budget development process. This discussion is a continuation of a conversation on the 2011 legislative agenda from the December 2010 EQC meeting.

Key deadlines in this process include:

- Feb. 1, 2011: The Oregon legislature will reconvene and Governor Kitzhaber will release his Governor's Balanced Budget
- Feb. 15, 2011: The next state budget forecast will be released

Over 1,600 bills were introduced when the 2011 Oregon Legislature met for its organizational session Jan. 10 through 12. Legislators will reconvene Feb. 1 to begin the regular legislative session. DEQ will be tracking bills that pertain to its operations and rules, and staff will provide the commission with updates via periodic e-mails and presentations at commission meetings.

At this time, DEQ has not received direction for its budget Ways and Means process, but expects to have updates for the Feb. 16-18 commission meeting. The first agency bills will be heard by the environmental committees by the commission meeting.

EQC involvement At each 2011 commission meeting, DEQ will present updates to the commission on agency bills, reduction options, budget policy packages and the base agency budget.

Attachments None

Approved:

Division: _____

Report prepared by: Gregory K. Aldrich
Phone: (503) 229-6345