State of Oregon

Department of Environmental Quality

Memorandum

Date: Sept. 26, 2011

To: Environmental Quality Commission

From: Dick Pedersen, Director

Subject: Agenda item L, Informational item: Clean Water Services mass load allocation

request

Oct. 20-21, 2011, EQC meeting

Purpose of item

This item will provide the commission with information about a proposed mass load allocation increase request for Clean Water Services. DEQ plans to present that request for commission action at the December 2011 EQC meeting. The content of the item will be presented at the October commission meeting, and this report is only an outline of the informational item.

Why this is important

Clean Water Services is a water resources management utility serving approximately 520,000 customers in the Tualatin River watershed. It has 12 member cities and owns and operates four wastewater treatment facilities in the Tualatin River basin. All four facilities discharge to the Tualatin River and are subject to the watershed-based DEQ NPDES permit issued in 2004.

Due to population growth in the basin and Washington County, Clean Water Services has requested an increase to its mass load allocation for two of its treatment plants to increase treatment and management capacity. DEQ is reviewing that request to modify the organization's NPDES permit with these increased allocations.

Next steps and commission involvement

DEQ and Clean Water Services will give a joint presentation on this matter at the Oct. 20-21, 2011, EQC meeting. DEQ will describe the process and criteria it uses to evaluate the mass load increase request. Clean Water Services will present details on the current and anticipated future operations at its treatment plants.

Attachments None

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Report drafted from DEQ and Clean Water Services information