

Date: April 7, 2010

To: Environmental Quality Commission

From: Dick Pedersen, Director

Subject: Agenda item Q, Informational and discussion item: Oregon Solutions
April 29-30, 2010 EQC meeting

Purpose of item This item provides the commission an opportunity to meet Steve Greenwood and Greg Wolf, co-directors of the Oregon Solutions program, and discuss the current and future status of a partnership between DEQ and the program.

Background The Department of Environmental Quality, in partnership with the Oregon Solutions program at the National Policy Consensus Center, has assigned .5 FTE, most recently Mikell O’Mealy, to develop collaborative solutions to environmental problems. This partnership has played an integral part in the success of some key Oregon Solutions projects, and has provided a structure for DEQ to leverage its own resources by working with federal agencies, local governments, other state agencies, and civic and business organizations on environmental projects. These projects have included sediment management in the lower Columbia, landscape-scale ecosystem management in the Willamette Valley, electrification of I-5 truck stops and creating a market for clean diesel fuel.

The partnership also helps DEQ build its on-staff collaborative capacity through Oregon Solutions’ nationally recognized expertise in collaborative process. Oregon Solutions has valued this mutually beneficial partnership, and is offering to continue providing these opportunities for DEQ staff.

Attachments A. Biographical information for co-directors Wolf and Greenwood

Report prepared by: Stephanie Clark, with
information provided by Oregon Solutions
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Steve Greenwood

Steve Greenwood currently serves as the Deputy Director for Oregon Programs for the National Policy Consensus Center. He has over 25 years of experience working in environmental and public policy in Oregon including seven years as Regional Administrator for Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. He holds a Masters degree in Public Administration from Harvard University, received a 1991 Fulbright fellowship to assist the government of Portugal on environmental policy, and is the former Board President of the Oregon Environmental Council.

Greg Wolf

Until his appointment as PCI/National Policy Consensus Center Director, Greg Wolf worked for seven years as the Community Policy Advisor for Oregon Governor Kitzhaber. In this capacity, he had primary responsibility for programs in the Departments of Transportation, Economic Development, Land Conservation, and Development and Housing. In the Governor's Office, he also served as the Governor's Sustainability and Dispute Resolution Advisor. Prior to this, Mr. Wolf served as the Assistant Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development. Mr. Wolf brings 30 years of experience working in state and local government and expertise in consensus processes. He co-founded Oregon's Dispute Resolution Program in 1989.