

**Date:** October 8, 2010

**To:** Environmental Quality Commission

**From:** Dick Pedersen, Director

**Subject:** Agenda item C, Informational and discussion item: Strategic Directions EPA discussion  
October 21-22, 2010, EQC meeting

**Purpose of item** This item will provide the commission with information and discussion with Dennis McLerran, EPA Region 10 administrator, regarding DEQ's Strategic Directions and EPA Region 10's priorities. The information and discussion will prepare the commission for its November 2010 retreat, in which it will consider and recommend updates to DEQ's Strategic Directions.

**Why this is important** DEQ implements EPA's programs in Oregon, and the working relationship between DEQ and EPA Region 10 is important to maintaining development and implementation of federal and state laws that protect Oregon's air, land, water and public health.

**Background and other information** McLerran began as regional administrator in February 2010, and oversees the implementation and enforcement of the federal environmental rules and regulations in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska, including 271 tribal governments in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.

Before moving to EPA, McLerran served as Executive Director of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, a state chartered regional agency that adopts and enforces air quality standards that protect the health of 3.5 million Washington residents. As executive director, he led the development of an innovative strategy to reduce emissions at the ports of Seattle, Tacoma and Metro Vancouver. Prior to that, he served as City Attorney for the City of Port Townsend and Director of the Seattle Department of Construction and Land Use. McLerran has over 20 years experience as an advocate, attorney and administrator.

McLerran received his bachelor's degree from the University of Washington and a J.D. from the Seattle University School of Law.

**Next steps** EQC will meet in November 2010 for a special meeting and retreat focused on the 2012 update to DEQ's Strategic Directions. The information and discussions shared during this, and other, items will help inform the

commissioners about Oregonian's concerns and priority work for DEQ over the next six, 10 or 20 years. After the commission meets in November, DEQ will begin a process to draft and share its proposed updates throughout 2011 for final EQC review and approval by late 2011.

**Attachments**      None

Report prepared by: Stephanie Clark  
Phone: 503-229-5301

*Biographical information taken from EPA Region 10's website*