

Date: October 8, 2010

To: Environmental Quality Commission

From: Dick Pedersen, Director

Subject: Agenda item D, Informational and discussion item: Strategic Directions
government-to-government discussion with tribal nations
October 20-22, 2010, EQC meeting

Purpose of item This item will provide the commission with information and government-to-government discussion with the nine federally recognized tribal nations with interests in Oregon. 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 recognizes tribal nations as important governments and partners in protecting air, land and water. DEQ encourages the commission to work government-to-government with tribal chairs, natural resource and cultural resource directors on environmental issues.

Background and other information EQC Chair Bill Blosser, on behalf of the commission, invited the chairs and any other chair-selected representatives from the nine federally recognized tribal nations to participate in a government-to-government meeting and discussion. Those tribal nations are the Burns Paiute Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians, the Coquille Indian Tribe, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Confederate Tribes of Grand Ronde Community, the Klamath Tribes, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

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

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