



## DEQ 2021-23 Legislative Concepts

Topic	Goal	Background	LC Concept Description
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>			
EV Rebates	Extend the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program beyond the current sunset date.	Incentivizing the purchase and lease of EVs has been shown to be effective in encouraging this choice and is a critical element of the state’s strategy to meet our EV goals. Oregon has an existing EV Rebate program – known as the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate. That program sunsets, by statute, on January 1, 2024.	The details of this proposed legislative concept are not finalized. The agency is exploring options to extend the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program and identify long-term funding.
GHG Reduction	PLACEHOLDER—Assure program effectiveness	DEQ is responsible for implementing a number of programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including regulatory programs that will cap and reduce emissions from large stationary sources and fuel suppliers.	As DEQ develops a plan for implementation of the Cap and Reduce program, the agency expects to identify needed statute clarifications to existing agency authorities. This LC is a placeholder for those modifications that may be necessary.
<b>LAND QUALITY</b>			
Modernizing Oregon’s Recycling System	Address challenges in Oregon’s recycling system	Recycling has the potential to conserve resources and reduce pollution, but Oregon’s policy framework for recycling was constructed decades ago, when the waste stream, recycling technologies, and economics were all fundamentally different. The recent collapse of export markets has exposed gaps in current policy and profound challenges to the future of recycling. A Recycling Steering Committee, convened by DEQ in 2018, has been working to develop recommendations to modernize Oregon’s recycling system, including for both policies and infrastructure.	The Recycling Steering Committee has been working to develop recommendations to modernize Oregon’s recycling system, including for both policies and infrastructure. These recommendations are currently under development with the committee. This LC will address all of the challenges identified by the committee including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>contamination by generators,</li> <li>lack of meaningful engagement by producers (including unreliable markets and unfavorable economics), and</li> <li>lack of effective oversight of processing and marketing of recyclable material</li> </ul>
Hazardous Waste Fee Structure Modernization	Restructure hazardous waste fees	DEQ’s Hazardous Waste and Environmental Cleanup Programs are operating without sufficient funds to fill current vacancies and maintain program service	DEQ proposes to raise its hazardous waste fees to more closely align with program needs and to tie fees in the future with either inflation or the consumer price index. This will provide greater

		levels. The fees are set in statute and have not been adjusted to adequately address program needs for quite some time.	stability and predictability to the program and stakeholders. Three fees are to be addressed are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous waste generator annual fee, ORS 466.165,</li> <li>• Hazardous waste permit renewal application form fee, ORS 466.045 and,</li> <li>• Hazardous waste monthly operators (disposal tip) fees, ORS 465.375, and Special hazardous waste management (disposal tip) fees, ORS 465.376. Statutory changes will aim to modernize and streamline fees and fee structures while closing the gap between program revenue and program need.</li> </ul>
<b>WATER QUALITY</b>			
Evaluation of Groundwater Quality Protection Act	Evaluation of and recommend changes related to the effectiveness of Groundwater Quality Protection Act	Since the passage of the Oregon Groundwater Quality Protection Act, there has never been an evaluation to determine the Act's effectiveness or adequacy. To ensure that Oregon's groundwater resources are protected and restored to meet current and future demands, an evaluation is needed to determine the extent to which the strategies established in the Act, and state agency efforts on implementation, are effective in achieving the intended objectives.	This LC would require DEQ to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a RFP for an evaluation of the effectiveness of current groundwater quality protection statutes, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identification of potential policy or regulatory gaps in statute or in implementation of the statute, and</li> <li>○ Identification of recommendations for any potential legislation needed to successfully achieve the state's groundwater goals; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Establish a taskforce to evaluate the study's findings, make recommendations on whether changes to statute or state regulations are needed to achieve the Act's goals</li> </ul>
<b>AGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>			
Environmental Justice	Strengthen the state's EJ work to better assist communities in preparing for the effects of climate change	Climate change affects everyone, but communities of color, rural communities, immigrants, refugees, and Native people are and have been the most impacted by climate change and environmental degradation. As DEQ works to implement our current programs and responsibilities the agency is committed to the principle that no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, municipal and commercial operations or the execution of federal, state, local and tribal environmental programs and policies.	Specific changes are still being developed through conversations with the Governor's Office, as well as the work associated with DLCD's climate adaptation framework and OHA's Climate and Health Program's Equity Workgroup.

EDMS Credit Card Convenience Fee	Process credit card convenience fee	DEQ will be charged a credit card convenience fee for each credit card transaction processed through EDMS. The agency currently does not have a mechanism for recouping those costs.	LC would provide DEQ authority to pass the credit card fee charged per transaction on to the consumer.
EDMS Maintenance Funding	EDMS Maintenance Funding	The Environmental Data Management System (EDMS) project will help DEQ to manage workflows, data acquisition, and enterprise reporting related to core agency business processes. DEQ must establish a mechanism for the ongoing costs associated with the hosting and maintenance of the product.	This LC would provide DEQ authority to recover ongoing costs by allowing a percentage fee on all invoices generated for customers using EDMS services.