

# Water Quality Roundtable

## Meeting Notes

Oct. 12, 2018

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Oregon DEQ Lloyd District Building

700 NE Multnomah Street, Floor 3

Portland, Oregon 97232

### List of attendees

Peggy Lynch, League of Women Voters of Oregon

Peter Broderick, Northwest Environmental Defense Center

Karen Lewotsky, Oregon Environmental Council

Jennifer Wigal, DEQ

Justin Green, DEQ

Michele Martin, DEQ

Rian Hooff, DEQ

Ron Doughten, DEQ



State of Oregon  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality

### Water Quality

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*DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining, and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land, and water.*

Time	Topic
10:00 a.m.	Welcome, Introductions
10:10 a.m.	DEQ and Water Quality Division Organization
10:20 a.m.	Status Update: DEQ permit backlog
10:45 a.m.	2019/21 Agency Request Budget (Overview)
11:00 a.m.	WQ Projects and priorities (MS4 Phase II Permit, Willamette TMDL, and Mercury Compliance)
11:10 a.m.	Group Discussion
11:50 a.m.	Next Steps
12:00 p.m.	Adjourn

### Comments

- Based on feedback from stakeholders and partners, DEQ is holding separate roundtables. Suggestion to combine both audiences for one or more quarterly roundtables.
- Place the DEQ organizational chart on the website.
- Links to documents discussed:
  - [Statewide Permit Issuance Work Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2019](#)
  - Fact sheet: [2019 Water Quality Permit Issuance Work Plan](#)
  - [NPDES Permit Program Enhancement Report](#)  
The purpose of the NPDES Permit Program Enhancement Report is to provide an evaluation of DEQ's organization, permitting procedures, permitting resources, and training, and identify and prioritize potential enhancements that will maximize DEQ's potential to achieve their permit issuance goals.  
DEQ will use this report as a guide for program improvements. The NPDES Permit Program Enhancement Report is a recent companion piece to the [Recommendations and Implementation Plan](#) published December 2016 (Chapters 5 and 6).

- Coordinate databases with other relevant agencies.
- Comment about public input regarding DEQ technology solutions.
- Provide a list of which water and wastewater facilities that may need either upgrade or replacement. This list could be provided to legislators with the extent of the need. DEQ may have specific information that would be helpful for stakeholders.
- Discussed hardscaping and natural solutions, and technical assistance for rural communities.
- Include Water Quality Onsite topics, e.g., wells.
- Provide more plain language information about permit information
- Provide additional information in public notice about topics using plain language to educate various audiences.
- Discuss place-based planning and communicate that topic to stakeholders.
- DEQ to look into joining water quality resource remediation conversations with other agencies and water resource groups.
- Engage in multi-agency factsheets for combined water quality solutions. This request relates to budget-related multi-agency fact sheets for advocates to use for various budget requests. The legislature deals with agency-by-agency budgets, but some "asks" need multi-agency funding in order to address the problem.
- Concerns about needed support for small communities to upgrade their systems.
- Comments regarding Legislative Work Group on Wetlands and needed coordination between DEQ and DSL.
- Provide summary factsheets about DEQ's budget, and consider holding budget talks in November/December annually.

### **Alternative formats**

For questions about accessibility or to request an accommodation, please call 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696. Requests should be made at least 48 hours prior to the event. Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email <mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us>.