

Draft Environmental Quality Council Work Plan Decision Matrix 2009-10

Topic	Why is this a topic?	Option A Banquet	Option B Cheeseburger	Option C Fries	Option D Fasting	Resources Allocated
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The following topics are either study bills or legislative study resolution requests that may be assigned by the Legislative Council to the EQC. (The Legislative Council meets on May 27.) Staff has identified issues that are likely to be assigned to the EQC -- this list may change.

Study biomass Poll rank: <u>2</u>	HJR 1	.3 FTE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option B • Provide extensive background and analysis of current biomass technologies (i.e. traditional boiler, gasification, flex fuel), utilization and incentives in Montana. • Review existing biomass projects, use of specific forestry and agricultural residues, funding mechanisms, and emissions characterization. • Analysis of biomass availability in MT by region, including federal, state, private lands • Provide summary analysis on role biomass could play for "firming" wind power (Staff coordinate with ETIC on analysis, discussion) • Receive updates on any federal legislation or rules related to biomass Deliverables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim report • Legislation (if any) 	.05 FTE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option C • Review statutes, policies of other western states related to promoting biomass utilization. Deliverables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White paper • Legislation (if any) 	.03 FTE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide summary of existing biomass incentives and programs. • Panel discussion. • Require reports from Department of Commerce on Biomass Energy Study. Deliverables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief summary • Legislation (if any) 	No Action	
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<p>Study fire suppression issues</p> <p>Poll rank: 5</p>	<p>HJR 30</p>	<p>.35 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide extensive background information for members who are not familiar with the jurisdictions, policies, suppression strategies, and funding mechanisms, including a comparison of the state and federal policies and an analysis of DNRC's fire suppression budget. • Ongoing analysis of how the fire suppression budget is expended. • Review the work of the Fire Suppression Committee and its predictions, conclusions, and recommendations. • Provide summary and analysis of the legislation enacted. • Provide summary and analysis of DNRC's wildland fire mitigation and suppression budget. • Provide ongoing monitoring of each of the Fire Suppression Committee's recommendations and determine whether those recommendations should be reinforced or amended. • Monitor implementation of the federal FLAME Act and use of ARRA money with regard to wildland fire mitigation and suppression. • As opportunities arise, committee members may wish to accompany DNRC fire staff on initial attack and visit fire camps. • Determine whether additional legislation or funding is appropriate. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim report • Legislation (if any) 	<p>.15 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide summary and analysis of the legislation (bills and resolutions) that were enacted. • Council members to read "Price of Flame" • Provide summary and analysis of DNRC's wildland fire mitigation and suppression budget. • Provide ongoing monitoring of each of the Fire Suppression Committee's recommendations and, through the experiences of the 2009 and 2010 wildland fire seasons, determine whether those recommendations should be reinforced or amended. • Monitor implementation of the federal FLAME Act and use of ARRA money with regard to wildland fire mitigation and suppression. • Determine whether additional legislation or funding is appropriate. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White paper • Legislation (if any) 	<p>.10 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No separate subcommittee; HJR 30 to be part of full EQC's agenda every meeting or every other meeting. • Provide summary and analysis of the legislation (bills and resolutions) that were enacted. • Provide summary and analysis of DNRC's wildland fire mitigation and suppression budget and follow expenditures. • Prioritize the Fire Suppression Committee's recommendations and monitor implementation of a certain number. • Determine whether additional funding or legislation is appropriate. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief summary • Legislation (if any) 	<p>No Action</p>	

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<p>The following topics are either study bills or legislative study resolution requests that may be assigned by the Legislative Council to the EQC. (The Legislative Council meets on May 27.) Staff has identified issues that are likely to be assigned to the EQC -- this list may change.</p>						
<p>Study recycling and solid waste recover</p> <p>Poll rank: <u>8</u></p>	<p>SJR 28</p>	<p>.2 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option B • Characterization of recyclables and economics and possible funding sources for new initiatives.. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim report • Legislation (if any) 	<p>.15 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option C • Study statutes, policies of other western states related to recycling and e-waste. • Panel discussions <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White paper • Legislation (if any) 	<p>.1 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze existing statutes, polices. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief summary • Legislation (if any) 	<p>No Action</p>	
<p>Study funding for a recreation and tourism enhancement program</p> <p>Poll rank: <u>15</u></p>	<p>HJR 15</p>	<p>.05 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option B • Analyze landowner and public interest in monetary incentives for recreation and tourism activities. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim report • Legislation (if any) 	<p>.04 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option C • Panel discussions. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White paper • Legislation (if any) 	<p>.03 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study statutes, rules related to existing block management program. • Identify possible funding sources for a new program <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief summary • Legislation (if any) 	<p>No Action</p>	

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The following topics are statutory duties or obligations of the EQC						
Water Policy	Statute	<p>.5 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All mandatory duties. • Participate in mandatory and water-related meetings. • Accept reports and select some for EQC review, analysis, and comment. • Selected water issues. • Public involvement through EQC meetings. • Review and discuss applicability of statutory responsibilities related to water policy issues. • Regular involvement and oversight on water adjudication program - DNRC and the Water Court. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update water rights and water quality handbook. • Brief report to Legislature. • Potential legislation to address statutory responsibilities 	<p>.2 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All mandatory duties. • Selected water issues. • Public involvement through EQC meetings. • Review and discuss applicability of statutory responsibilities related to water policy issues. • Basic involvement and oversight on water adjudication program - DNRC and the Water Court. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update water rights and water quality handbook. • Brief report to Legislature. • Potential legislation to address statutory responsibilities 	<p>.1 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory duties only. • Detailed updates on WPIC activities. • Coordination discussion with WPIC at each EQC meeting. <p>Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update water rights and water quality handbook. • Potential legislation to address statutory responsibilities 	No Action	

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EQC Statutory Duties	Statute	<p>.75 - 1.0 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfill all statutory requirements. • Participate in all mandatory meetings and other environmental policy meetings (e.g. Board of Environmental Review, Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission, etc.) • Rewrite and reprint <i>Our Montana Environment</i> or similar effort. • Establish MEPA training and training schedule for state employees and others. • Notify/solicit permit applicants to present MEPA concerns to EQC. • Review and comment on certain agency MEPA documents for compliance and consistency. • Review and comment as a Council on environmental reviews for selected projects. 	<p>.3 FTE - .5 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfill selected statutory requirements in greater detail. • Accept reports and select some for EQC review, analysis, and comment. • Select specific topics for further analysis or presentation. • Request trend information for each topic reviewed by EQC. • Rewrite selected segments of EQC trends publication, <i>Our Montana Environment</i>, and post on EQC website. • Provide MEPA training to state agencies on as requested basis. • Provide updated web access to MEPA database. • Review selected controversial MEPA documents/projects • Track MEPA litigation during interim. 	<p>.05 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of activity. • Solicit and accept agency reports as required. • Fulfill statutory requirements at minimal level of effort. • Select oversight topics and issues for presentation and review at EQC meetings on an ad hoc basis. • Maintain MEPA database. • Participate in meetings as necessary. • Identify and describe trends in EQC interim study work. • Update MEPA handbook as needed. • Provide MEPA handbooks to agencies and others as requested. 	No Action	
Agency Oversight	Statute	<p>.40 FTE Active EQC Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option B intensified! • Committee of the whole involved • Consistent EQC involvement encompassing a broad range of oversight issues. • In depth systematic review of a larger number of state agency programs than in Option B. • Possible report and recommendations/legislation for changes in implementation of state policy. • Active EQC review of rules and legislation. 	<p>.15 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematic oversight. • In addition to Option C, systematically evaluate and monitor a specific number of state agency programs. • More intensive review of administrative rules (Council Attorney provides synopses of significant and controversial proposed rules). • Review draft agency legislation. • Receive and comment on the compliance and enforcement report required pursuant to 75-1-314, MCA. • Systematic oversight for targeted programs. • Active EQC review of rules and legislation. • Legislation (if any) 	<p>.05 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize oversight issues before the EQC on an as requested basis. • Council members receive copies of rule notices of proposed adoption of rules. Council members responsible for notifying staff or the Council Chair if they want more information. • Review draft agency legislation. • Receive and comment on the compliance and enforcement report required pursuant to 75-1-314, MCA. • Oversight on an as needed basis. • Legislation (if any). 	No Action	

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Carryover EQC Issue: Petroleum Tank Release Fund solvency	Previous interim work			.02 FTE • Monitor implementation of SB 97 and financial outcomes. Deliverables: • Quarterly summary report	No Action	
EQC Publications	Statute and Historic Precedence	.2 FTE • Option B and C • Develop a brochure that outlines the environmental permitting process and time lines for various types of development.	.12 FTE • In addition to Option C, update the Permit Index.	.04 FTE • Update publications that require minimal effort. • Have the EQC review and approve updates		
The following environmental policy topics have been suggested by EQC council members for evaluation and study						
Study Climate Change -- focus on Energy supply recommendations	Member defined issue	.12 FTE • Review statutes, regulations, publications related to distributed energy generation, renewable energy, and greater efficiency in existing energy systems. • Examine national efforts to address distributed energy and renewable generation. • Review proposals in the West related to renewables, efficiency and distributed energy. • Panel discussions. Deliverables: • Interim report • Legislation (if any)	.05 FTE • Review MCCAC recommendations related to Energy Supply and supporting documentation with a focus on potential legislation to implement recommendations. • Panel discussions. Deliverables: • White paper • Legislation (if any)	.02 FTE • Provide overview of the current implementation of MCCAC recommendations focused on Energy Supply. • Panel discussion. Deliverables: • Legislation (if any)		
Analyze Environmental Public Health Tracking Issues				.02 FTE • Provide overview of other state efforts regarding environmental public health tracking issues. • Analyze potential resource options. • Panel discussion regarding the potential for revitalizing Montana's Environmental Public Health Tracking System . Deliverables: • Legislation (if any)		
Total Available Staff Resources						1.84 FTE

Interim FTE Equivalentents

1 Interim FTE = roughly 16 months = 2768 hrs.

.05 FTE = 136 hrs = 17 days

.10 FTE = 276 hrs = 34.5 days

.25 FTE = 692 hrs = 86.5 days

.50 FTE = 1384 hrs = 173 days

.75 FTE = 2076 hrs = 259.5 days

1 FTE = 2768 hrs = 346 days