



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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Memorandum

To: Environmental Quality Council Members

From: EQC Staff

RE: EQC Interim work plan -- member identified issues

Date: May 15, 2009

At the beginning of each interim the Environmental Quality Council prioritizes its work load. The primary issues that the EQC prioritizes are: (1) Studies assigned to the EQC by Legislative Council, (2) studies assigned to the EQC as the result of a bill passed during the session, (3) statutory responsibilities, and (4) member identified areas of concern or issues.

A draft work plan and matrix that identifies all of the elements listed above is included in this mailing. A copy of the issues identified for last interim is attached for your information. This is your opportunity to forward your thoughts, ideas, and requests for member identified issues. There is a copy of the issues identified by members last interim for your review. If there is an issue that is not part of a study resolution that passed this session that you feel needs to be addressed by the EQC this interim please provide the following information:

- (1) Topic;
- (2) Amount of staff time you estimate it will take to complete the request; and
- (3) Specific elements of the issue that you would like to see addressed or studied.

It is important to remember that staff will also be handling information requests throughout the interim. Information requests must not take more than 12 hours of staff time to complete. If they do exceed 12 hours the staff member must have approval from the interim committee the staff member works for to proceed with the information request. If your issue would be more appropriately handled by an information request please identify that when you send in your suggestions.

Please send your requests in to the EQC office by Friday, May 22. We will compile all of the input and email a summary, with resource allocation options, out to you before the May 28 and 29 meeting. Sample summaries are found on page 2 of this memorandum. If you have questions or comments please contact Hope Stockwell at 444-1640 or Todd Everts at 444-3747.

Chart 1. This chart is a generic sample of how EQC member suggested topics will be summarized. Members will choose whether and how to proceed with each topic at the May 28-29 meeting, using a similar "buffet" of options.

	OPTION A	OPTION B	OPTION C	OPTION D
Suggested topic X	<p>.3 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option B. • Study statutes, policies of other western states. <p>Deliverables: Interim report Legislation (if any)</p>	<p>.25 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of Option C. • Panel discussions <p>Deliverables: White paper Legislation (if any)</p>	<p>.2 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study existing state statutes, policies. • Analyze federal statutes, polices. <p>Deliverables: Brief summary Legislation (if any)</p>	No Action

Chart 2. This chart shows the member suggested topics (and resource allocations) selected by the EQC for study in the 2007-2008 Interim.

Issue	Resource Dedication	Final Products (Deliverables)
Study climate change	<p>.4 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compile index of literature • Summary of state and federal actions on climate change • Panel discussion • Receive update of ETIC carbon sequestration study • Examine findings of the MT Climate Change Advisory Committee • Receive public comment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Report • Legislation • Staff analysis of public comments received
Update on Public Health Tracking Project	<p>0 FTE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive agency update on project • Panel discussion with DEQ and DPHHS