



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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TODD EVERTS, Legislative Environmental Analyst

May 24, 2011

To: EQC Members
From: Hope Stockwell, Research Analyst
Re: Additional duties assigned to EQC by 2011 Legislature

The 2011 Legislature has assigned additional duties to the Environmental Quality Council.

- **HB 142** requires the EQC to review the statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of DEQ, DNRC, and DFWP to make recommendations to the next legislature on retention or elimination of any advisory council or required reports. (see separate HB 142 memo)
- **HB 613** establishes a series of performance benchmarks (listed below) for the DEQ to meet in resolving petroleum tank release sites. The DEQ must report to the EQC on its progress after the passage of each date. If the DEQ does not meet the benchmarks, HB 613 states that money appropriated for petroleum tank release prevention will not be included in the department's base budget in the next budgeting cycle.

Date	Total # of Resolved Sites
Dec. 31, 2011	45
July 1, 2012	90
Dec. 31, 2012	135
July 1, 2013	180
Dec. 31, 2013	225
July 1, 2014	270
Dec. 31, 2014	315
July 1, 2015	360

- **SJ 26** recommends and requests that the EQC conduct interim monitoring of:
 - (a) DFWP's goals and objectives for the migratory bird and upland game bird programs and the agency's study of brucellosis in elk; and
 - (b) DEQ and, on at least an annual basis, the cleanup progress at the KRY site (Kalispell) and the progress toward petroleum tank site closures (overlaps with HB 613).
- **HB 533** requires that on or before September 1, 2011, January 1, 2012, April 1, 2012, June 1, 2012, September 1, 2012, and January 1, 2013, the Dept. of Labor and Industry shall report to EQC on jobs created by changes to coal leasing laws.
- **SB 307*** requires that each interim committee, during at least one public meeting in the first year of a biennium, provide an opportunity for members of the public to recommend terminating or privatizing any program administered by an executive branch agency or entity subject to the committee's oversight. For the EQC, this would include DEQ, FWP, and DNRC.

*SB 307 was vetoed by the governor; lawmakers will be polled on whether to override that veto.

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