1. Deliver Excellence.

A retired auditor commended DEQ for being squeaky-clean on financial audits.

Kevin Downing was commended for his creative and concerted efforts to reduce diesel particulate pollution.

Monica Russell has been a great resource and very helpful.

House along McKenzie River had to be demolished. Drinking water impacts. No public agency had regulatory authority to help or oversee the demolition. (See newspaper article and photographs). DEQ response not proactive: “we’ll wait until it falls in to address”.

A tank cleanup on private property has cost thousands of dollars and the property owner reports frustration about trying to get help from DEQ.

It is hard to get information about permits and emissions reports. The information should all be available on the internet. Scan the historic records and enter the current data into an electronic system.

DEQ should automatically alert the public when emissions exceed permit limits.

How about coffee and donuts. (Portland).

DEQ is dropping the ball on enforcement of environmental law—not a good job.

Appreciate DEQ’s handling of incineration at Umatilla Depot.

We all support your mission of environmental protection and thank you for the efforts of all on your team.

We also urge you to continue to apply sound scientific principles to analysis of issues.
Also urge you to insist on sufficient funding to retain and recruit the excellent caliber of staff DEQ has.

Frustration about multiple agencies' jurisdiction. Who's responsible?

DEQ should be more active with urban and industrial regulation.

It's DEQ's job to enforce the environmental laws for the good of everyone. Maybe EPA could do a better job.

Commended for having this meeting. Keep coming back.

DEQ should not limit regulations to EPA standards. Exceed to protect health.

This exchange of information is much better than previous meeting formats.

### 2. Protect and Improve Oregon’s Water and Air

Have you identified the orange ooze in the Willamette River backwater in Alton Baker Park?

Tighten planning regulations regarding building proximity to water bodies.

Local planning department is not strict enough on new large developments in watersheds, wetlands, small streams.

Siuslaw watershed fish runs are less than one percent of their historic levels. Need more detailed study and restoration. (See written comments paper).

Runoff regulations in Clean Water Act have not been updated for coal plants. CO2 impacts. More water management.

LRAPA could be monitoring more than just PM2.5 and CO.
Was there any EIS done for Hynix’ new retrofit of their plant?  (Eugene).

Forest fire retardants components?  Sediment erosion into rivers—is DEQ monitoring for retardants?

DEQ doesn’t mention indoor air quality, which can be worse than outdoors.

Arsenic and creosote in fireplaces.

Don’t let new coal, gas-powered electric plants to be built.

Wood stoves need replaced, fireplaces need inserts.  Terrible air quality in the last five years.  (Eugene).

Benzene is released when gas attendants top off tanks—educate them!  Why don’t you require stage 2 vapor recovery statewide?  The equipment is available, and the petroleum industry is OK with the idea.  (Eugene).

Check vehicles for offensive smog in Eugene.

Personal vehicle emissions controls in Eugene area, please.

Crematoriums are not regulated, but are a source of mercury contamination.  They should be regulated and monitored.

Mercury is leaking from mines into water.  Do a better job of regulating mining waste.  Please learn from the work of Oregon citizen Larry Tuttle and his group “Center for Environmental Equity”.

DEQ loses credibility by issuing lenient permits.

More enforcement is needed.

Enforce on high-polluting vehicles and noise pollution (Harleys, 18-wheelers)

Air quality and global warming.  More focus on public education could lead to increased funding.
Reactive nitrogen in the atmosphere.

Point source pollution is observable and stoppable. Permits are a good value for business, but are they a good value for DEQ and the environment? What is the pass-through value for business?

A lot of air pollution is fugitive emissions, e.g., doors left open, and isn't measured or monitored.

Get California clean air standards for vehicle tailpipe emissions.

Phase in low-sulphur diesel fuel.

Two representatives from the Sierra Club delivered several hundred postcards to Stephanie regarding mixing zones.

Blue Heron permit was renewed early with no turbidity standards. Their turbidity has increased.

Turbidity standards work was paid for by industry and the result is standards in industry's favor.

People who take garbage to dumps are also disposing of contaminants, like mercury and oil.

Governments dispose of contaminants at dumps illegally, and allow others to do so, too. Need more regulation.

Some dump operators don't know how to manage waste. Bend had fires because compost (wood chip) piles weren't turned often enough.

Nonpoint source pollution is not 90% of total pollution. That's a myth.

DEQ should conduct studies to determine what portion of pollution comes from nonpoint sources and from point sources.

Cycle permit fees into solutions, such as testing the soil and water.
Propose a tax on hazardous materials to fund pollution prevention.

Water quality toxics standards. Status of EPA action, i.e., metals.

Concerned about mixing zones and PBTs.

DEQ should revise the draft TMDLs to more equitably distribute the pollutant burdens among both the municipal and industrial dischargers to the Willamette River. DEQ required higher level of temperature mitigation in Eugene/Springfield than some other municipalities.

Interested in standards for toxics in wetlands and non-navigable waters. EPA is relaxing standards for non-navigable. Releases to wetlands and dry creeks leads to water quality impacts. (State Lands issue?).

Proactive stewardship. (Cleanup).

Supports increased permit fees and inflationary increase (Blue Ribbon Committee). Report was lacking in detail. Please provide more.

UIC. Please don't give this regulatory program back to EPA. (Eugene).

Why doesn't Oregon adopt standards that are more protective than EPA's? Like the Tom McCall era?

You need species-based standards. Not just humans.

Dust blows from a wrecking yard into a residential area whenever the wind speed is greater than 30 mph.

Grain is an important crop, and fire is an important tool. Appreciate the state working with us. Regulations need to be science-based and weather-based. (Smoke management).

CAFOs. Concerned about air and water. Does DEQ or Agriculture permit them?
Coal-fired plant said they won’t upgrade until DEQ orders it. (Boardman).

Businesses along the river, and parking lot runoff is a problem, especially with pallets of chemicals stored on the parking lot.

TMDLs have a good development process, but no implementation. It’s having the effect of losing enthusiasm in the basin.

Nitrate concentration should be regulated in the Lower Umatilla Basin GWMA. No improvement in 10-11 years.

Concern about SRF for needed infrastructure.

Be more diligent about stormwater runoff.

Municipal sewage systems are past their capacity and their permits are not current. They are depositing untreated sewage on land.

There are septic systems much better than what’s being put in.

Concerned about farm and forest land being converted to residential and industrial use without adequate regulation.

With Measure 37, there is more development of isolated urban sites outside the city limits and the Urban Growth Boundary. Many of these are next to creeks. Make sure to regulate for adequate sewer systems.

More control on City of Portland CSO overflows into Willamette

More controls on auto repair shop for pollution control work

More controls on pulp & paper odors and wastewater discharges

Increase effluent monitoring, increase fines, increase technical assistance
Raise gas tax

Reduce congestion in I-5 corridor via Transportation Demand Management
Increase controls on field burning & backyard burning in La Grande

Increase controls on Boise Cascade

Reduce field burning & timber slash burning

Curtail field burning, especially grass seed

Reduce pollution from coal plants

Reduce odor from dump

Enforce wastewater treatment plant violations, especially for new technology upgrades

Test for lead in Siuslaw River (from fishing sinkers)

Better enforcement on backyard burning

Don’t permit unlined landfills

Increase controls & inspections on industry, especially along rivers & coast

Control fireplace burning & enforce ‘no trash in fireplace’

Move fairgrounds, especially animals, away from creek

Education gas station attendants to not top off tanks (thereby reducing benzene emissions)

Use red tags for spraying more effectively

Actively encourage use of biodeisel

Increase regulations on woodstove use

Stop the burning so we have better air quality. Health and visibility.
Will DEQ’s budget be trimmed to the point that we cannot monitor or enforce? And therefore standards in effect won’t matter.

CalEV standards will not do anything toward protecting the environment, and in fact, will eliminate efforts to go to bio-diesel.

Concerned about eliminating air monitors, especially with regard to diesel. Look at vehicle miles traveled—tax this?

With reduced funding, highest priority is monitoring in order to understand the problems. Jacksonville’s closest monitor is in Medofrd. Need localized data, especially in rural areas.

EPA is proposing PM course monitors only in Portland and Salem, not Medford. “Not dirty enough”.

If state adds additional monitors (to EPA’s network plan) data will not be considered.

Riparian destruction, enforcement, runoff, thermal pollution-> water quality concerns.

What would the outcome be if DEQ gave the water program back to EPA?

Hazardous waste penalties are low in Oregon, compared to our capacity to set higher penalties.

Vehicle inspection should be expanded to larger portion of region or should be statewide.

Should not “opt out” of inspections for “modern” vehicles.

Don’t adopt CA emission standards because it will take 40 years to replace current fleet on the road. Can’t buy bio-diesel vehicles under CaLEV. For best value, increase fuel tax and reduce vehicle miles traveled. Change constitution to allow vehicle taxes to be used for public transportation.
Oregon doesn't deal with heavy duty vehicles. Has requested from EQC before, with no result.

DEQ should have authority over agricultural emissions.

Methane emissions at landfill, co-gen proposal→PM emissions. Paving solution—expand.

Sulfur in fuels is the largest impediment to diesel fuel use. CaLEV does not improve diesel emissions. Low sulfur fuel and biodiesel are better solutions.

CaLEV will destroy diesel industry. Diesel is a cleaner fuel, cleaner emissions. Need legislation to reduce black smoke emitters through enforcement, thereby reducing diesel's bad name.

Put fines back into cleaning up the environment, e.g., fund diesel retrofit.

Allow alternate to fines, e.g., environmental cleanup or improvement effort instead.

Ultra-low sulfur fuel requirement goes into effect October '06 to meet fuel requirements for '07 vehicles.

As funding gets tighter, don’t let groundwater protection go unattended. Especially in new developments such as golf courses. Pesticide use. Give guidance to local planning commissions to help decision making and require helpful controls.

Future of wastewater treatment regarding re-use. Need TMDL requirements for the Rogue before can ask for local investment. DEQ's difficulty in completing TMDL is a concern. What happens if DEQ can't get it done?

Formaldehyde MACT—delayed and grandfathered industries are not covered by NSR. Need these industries to clean up, i.e., Sierra Medite in SIP. States will meet formaldehyde MACT technology.

Visible plumes are steam. Formaldehyde is from glue.
3. Protect Human Health & the Environment from Toxics

You should look at interaction with DHS regulations for disposal of medications in group homes. Regulations require that unused medications get flushed down the toilet.

DEQ needs to be more aggressive on removing mercury from dentists’ offices.

You have large gaps in toxics data. Get statewide data that’s “out there”.

Concerned about human waste containing pharmaceuticals.

Is DEQ testing water for pharmaceuticals, metals, herbicides, pesticides? Who is finding out what’s in the water?

Several commenters said that DEQ should pay more attention to health factors and protection. (Portland).

Do more to actively protect human health from harm caused by environmental toxins. Protect people not just industry.

DEQ needs to consider public health when permitting toxics to go into our air and water.

Mercury from dental offices should be regulated by requiring traps and monitoring. Mercury is causing a rise in autism in children. Governments should not use herbicide sprays. Counties should be able to put up “no spray” tags.

Mixing zones should be posted with hazard warnings, using signs on the shore and buoys in the water.

What is DEQ doing about pesticides blowing in the air?
The public doesn’t realize that people are allowed to pollute above standards and should be told.

Multicultural people are fishing in the Columbia Slough without realizing the dangers. There should be better signage, like the City of Portland’s Bureau of Environmental Services used to do. Does DEQ have the authority to install signs?

Sewage on farmland isn’t safe. Persistent pollutants, like pharmaceuticals and mercury, aren’t removed by sewage treatment plants.

There should be health benchmarks for air toxics.

The Department of Human Services monitors drinking water, but intake from air pollution isn’t monitored.

“Odor” is a euphemism. It’s a matter of human health. Fenceline monitoring is needed. (ESCO).

Two representatives from the Sierra Club delivered several hundred postcards to Stephanie regarding mixing zones. (Portland).

ESCO foundry is the source of air pollution in northwest Portland. Nobody is checking what they emit. DEQ is not protecting us.

A bicycle commuter is having lung problems attributed to breathing diesel and other emissions. DEQ should be cracking down on diesel emissions.

A DEQ air quality committee is setting benchmarks right now and it’s a disaster. There is no one on the committee representing health. It’s stacked with industry representatives. Unhappy with diesel standard coming out of this committee.

Please use California standards for air quality health benchmarks.

Transients leave messes behind. Be more proactive about cleaning up illegal dumps.
Increasing rates of all types of cancers, severe health and developmental consequences of estrogenic compounds, and the severe effects of mixing of toxins not dangerous when present alone.

Home use of pesticides is unregulated. Do pesticide vendors’ inspections of homes provide valid information?

Lane County is high on toxic levels.

Who is regulating the quality of hazardous waste going into injection wells? What is DEQ, WRD, Health Division responsibility? Basalt aquifer is used as storage, but it’s for drinking water, too.

Don’t give UIC back to EPA.

The City of Redmond relies on groundwater for drinking, and urges DEQ to not give UIC back to EPA. Also advise DEQ to accept the funding offered by ACWA. If DEQ gives UIC back to EPA, should repeal Division 34 rules, or City (Redmond) will be forced to operate illegally.

Concerned about drinking water and injection wells in the Butter Creek area. Nobody is regulating these on a regular basis. (Pendleton).

In Hermiston, wells are being drilled next to sewage treatment plant.

Salmon consumption rates are used to determine standards, and many cultures consume more than the assumed amount per day, which is less than one ounce. This is too low.

DEQ seems to be delegating regulation of drinking water and groundwater to a citizens’ committee.

In groundwater in the Umatilla Basin, some samples are many times higher than drinking water standards. DEQ is just watching. Any action planned?

Nitrates are naturally-occurring. Waterbury, CT, took care of the problem with simple filters.
Does DEQ study residential use of pesticides?

Need WQ info. for Willamette River recreational use

Control paint emissions from Freightliner

Clean up toxic sites

Support alternatives to toxics, rather than permitting toxics

Curtail herbicide applications on tree farms

Increase monitoring & improvements to underground storage tank regulations to protect drinking water

Concerned about trucking contaminated soil from Ashland cleanup site through neighborhood. Arsenic and hydrocarbons.

Airborne toxins and in groundwater from Ashland cleanup site.

DEQ should reduce toxics from all manner of human activities. Support alternatives to toxins instead of putting all effort into permitting toxins.

Prevent excess herbicide and pesticide use by residential and agricultural.

Public hearings on railroad cleanup (Ashland) were held six years ago, before our neighborhood was built.

Pesticide spraying along RR tracks next to a residential neighborhood. (Eugene) Should stop this spraying, but in the meantime, notify local residents.

Dentists should follow best management practices to reduce mercury.

Your strategic measures should say what you're removing mercury from.

PM$_{10}$ standard: is it going away until 2.5 standard is in effect? Asthma concerns. And who is in charge of this—EPA or DEQ?
DEQ should not limit regulations to EPA standards. Exceed to protect health.

Fluoride in drinking water debate—product is created from industrial waste. While fluoridation is not DEQ’s domain, the wastestream is, which would include this contaminant. DEQ should participate in this debate.

### 4. Promote Sustainable Practices

Mixing zones are affected by global warming. Studies should be done to determine whether the flow of the Willamette River can be sustained under global warming. DEQ should support Water Resources Department’s efforts in this regard.

Concern about pesticide, herbicide, insecticide use on Oregon state lands, roadways, corporate forest lands and agricultural lands. Partner with others to establish sustainable forestry and agricultural practices as standard instead of poisoning downstream and downwind communities.

Colored paper pollutes the waste stream (referring to one of the DEQ handouts).

Speed up brownfields process

Shorten compliance deadlines for industry to help reduce global warming

Adopt a population policy

The phrase “chlorine free paper” could offend some people.

### 5. Involve Oregonians in Solving Environmental Problems
Volunteerism is the way to go, be active in own homes.

Create a drop-off for waste grease for use in biodiesel fuel production.

Need programs on continual reduction of pollution into water.

There needs to be more education about medical waste.

Would like to see incentives, like pollution control tax credits. DEQ could broker the deal. The 2007 legislative session provides the opportunity.

Support more funding for environmental work. Support additional staff to do compliance and work with permitted businesses to continually reduce pollution. Strike and maintain a balanced program that continually works to find improvements with business discharges.

We need a state system to manage leftover and expired pharmaceuticals.

Why couldn’t you use voluntary sampling to augment your data?

DEQ needs to educate people about global warming.

Pellet stove incentives. Canada has hemp pellets. We should lobby to legalize hemp.

Diesel vehicle owners should receive a letter that bio-diesel is available 2 days a week in Eugene, and a new gas station will be open within a year.

Required hours for realtors should include info about low VOC carpet, finishes.

Learn how to harvest rainwater at home. Focus on solutions already available.

Trees not storm drains to capture stormwater runoff.

Rainwater harvesting, change faucets.
Why couldn’t you use volunteer air quality samplers to augment your data?

Let people help you do what you need to do. Keep this dialogue going.

Engage the public to invest in change, e.g., global warming. Consider from next generation’s perspective.

DEQ should inform people about the effects of population growth.

Partner with alliances. With investment, give Oregonians a piece of the work to do. Priority for family.

Hood River effort on lowering pesticides and doing monitoring made sense. Do that elsewhere.

Municipalities and DEQ must work cooperatively to solve challenges for which “command and control” is no longer very effective. DEQ needs to support innovative strategies, such as creating a marketplace for trading environmental credits.

Bring agencies together to solve problems, as done in the Seattle C Street project.

Communicate more with citizens, involve citizens and empower them to make changes

Monitor city more closely for water quality impacts from land use planning

Protect wetlands from development

Provide technical assistance to local governments

Want to help community to find and use recycled-content products.

More education about use of toxic substances.

Need better information about where to dispose of harmful consumer products, e.g., fluorescent lights.
Does DEQ interface with other agencies that deal with water and land issues? Include public access and informing of joint meetings.

Concerned about only two monitors for the entire valley (Medford). Would DEQ accept purchase and installation of monitors by others?

On draft priorities: Involve Oregonians through partnerships. Watershed councils have helped greatly. Why is this priority last in the draft?

Could EQC take a more proactive role and take the heat off DEQ? Example: “EQC directed DEQ to...........”

What percent of DEQ’s budget is discretionary, with federal mandates, etc.? What can DEQ really do about what we hear in these meetings? Anything?

Can DEQ give things back to EPA so that we can spend our time better on other things?

What about using fines to finance DEQ?

More control on noise pollution

Reduce noise pollution