



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Land Quality Division

GREEN REMEDIATION POLICY

I. Background

Investigation and remediation of hazardous substances can generate waste, emit greenhouse gases, and require a considerable amount of energy and other resources. While the DEQ Cleanup Program's mandate is to address unacceptable risk from hazardous substance releases, a more holistic consideration of impacts on natural resources is consistent with DEQ's implementation of the Natural Step Framework and agency sustainability goals. To advance those goals and DEQ's mission of restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water, DEQ is adopting a green remediation policy.

II. Policy Statement

DEQ's Cleanup Programs will promote, support and implement more sustainable practices that lessen the overall environmental impacts of investigation and remediation projects. This policy applies to all phases of a project: site assessment, remedial investigation, remedy selection, remedial design/remedial action, operation and maintenance, and No Further Action determinations.

DEQ will:

- **Evaluate** protocols to assess energy and natural resource use, emissions, waste generation and other potential impacts to air, land and water quality associated with cleanup work.
- **Identify** guidelines to assess a cleanup project's impacts on the environment, best management practices and other resources that DEQ staff and stakeholders can use as tools in project design and implementation.
- **Implement** as practicable green remediation strategies in investigation and remediation work performed by DEQ staff and their contractors.
- **Encourage** the regulated community to evaluate and implement greener approaches to investigation and remediation.
- **Incorporate** the efforts of other groups towards advancement of DEQ green remediation policy and guidance.
- **Collaborate** with Oregonians on implementation of this policy for a healthy, sustainable environment.

Disclaimer

This policy statement is intended solely as guidance for employees of DEQ. It does not constitute rulemaking by the Environmental Quality Commission and may not be relied upon to create a right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, by any person. DEQ may take action at variance with this policy statement.

APPROVED BY:

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DATE:

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