

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (930)
2007-09 BIENNIUM
BUDGET INFORMATION ACCORDING TO ALC/JBC RECOMMENDATIONS

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is an executive agency whose purpose is to safeguard the air, water, and land resources of Arkansas by controlling or abating existing pollution of these resources and preventing new pollution through the adoption of regulations and the enforcement of existing state and federal regulations concerning pollution. The Pollution Control and Ecology Commission promulgates rules and regulations for the Department and provides an appeal of permitting or grants decisions rendered by the director or his delegate or of administrative enforcement or emergency actions.

TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

The total budget for the first year is \$104,683,291 and \$102,313,050 for the second year of the biennium.

FUNDING SOURCE

The budget is funded by Fund Balances, General Revenues, special revenue funds, federal funds, unfunded appropriations/Revolving Funds/Non-Revenue receipts, and trust funds. There is no increase in general revenue funding above Base Level.

II) CHANGES/APPROPRIATIONS

Increases will be provided in Capital Outlay to purchase new or replace obsolete equipment.

Increases in Conference and Travel Expenses to provide additional environmental and fiscal training and to provide necessary training to implement the Exchange Node to enhance the ability to transmit and receive environmental data with EPA and other participating agencies.

An increase in Professional Fees to procure the services of a third-party contractor to monitor compliance and permitting activities.

Increase In Capital Outlay of \$325,600 each year for continued maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Provides for 2 additional Pollution Control Inspectors.

An increase of \$100,000 each year for development of grants and promotion of electronic equipment recycling practices.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Total positions for FY 2007-2009: 416

Total positions for FY 2007-2009: 420

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- Allows four (4) temporary or part-time extra help employees for Hazardous Waste Permit Program in the Land Program.

- Provides that appropriation for capital outlay and data processing purchases for the Hazardous Waste Clean Up appropriation be used for the purchase of departmental laboratory equipment and data processing equipment and funded only through interest earnings of from the Remedial Action Trust Fund, and that the Department shall report biennially these expenditures.
- Allows any unexpended balance for Contractual Services of Hazardous Waste Cleanup to be carried forward & used for same purpose until biennium ending June'07.
- Appropriation restriction language states no expenditure from the Environmental Settlement Trust Fund for Information Technology needs may be made without prior approval of Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and review by Arkansas Legislative Council. Also, utilization of appropriation for information technology needs must be approved by Exec. Chief Information Officer and approved projects and expenditures must be reported annually to the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology.
- States fees collected for Asbestos Abatement Program in Air Program shall be used to fund operations expenses, provide and train personnel to administer asbestos program & issue licenses
- Allows carry forward of Performance-Integrated Information Systems Expenses funded from Performance Partnership Trust Fund.
- Adds quarterly reporting requirements for environmental permit applications, permit fees, applications pending, enforcement actions initiated by the department, total fines and collections and pending rulemaking activities with economic impact and environmental benefit analysis.
- Fund transfer provision to supplement general revenue with transfers from various department funds into ADEQ Fund account.
- Allows carry forward of any unexpended balances of appropriation and funds for Computer and Electronic Recycling Management Expenses or Grants from the first fiscal year into the second fiscal year.