



# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



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The **Department of Environmental Quality** was created by Executive Order No. 1995-18. This transferred environmental regulatory programs from the Department of Natural Resources to the newly created department. Subsequently, other executive orders transferred additional responsibilities to the department:

The department is dedicated to protecting human health and to preserving a healthy environment. The department will exemplify good environmental stewardship and affirm that a healthy environment is critical to our social, cultural, and economic well-being.

The department will protect human health and the environment while fostering a healthy economy by effective and efficient administration of agency programs, and by providing for use of innovative strategies. This is being accomplished in a manner that is rebuilding the integrity of the department as an environmental protection agency that carries out this mission in a professional, just, and productive manner.

The **Office of the Great Lakes (OGL)** was established in 1985 by the Great Lakes Protection Act as the lead agency within state government to develop policies and programs to protect, enhance, and manage the Great Lakes ecosystem. The OGL focuses on aquatic invasive species, reviewing diversions of water under the Great Lakes Charter, and Great Lakes restoration. The office manages Michigan's Great Lakes Protection Fund and implements the state management plan for aquatic invasive species. The OGL Director also represents the state in a number of international and inter-state organizations including the regional Great Lakes Protection Fund, the International Joint Commission's Water Quality Board, and the Great Lakes Commission. In addition, he chairs Michigan's Aquatic Nuisance Species Council.

The **Office of Criminal Investigations (OCI)** provides investigative and law enforcement services for the department. This includes conducting, supervising, and coordinating criminal investigations into suspected violations of Michigan's environmental statutes, providing investigative support for civil and administrative enforcement actions initiated by other divisions, and cooperating with other divisions, departments, and agencies. The OCI also plans and coordinates the Emergency Management and Homeland Security responsibilities of the department, and acts on behalf of the department during an emergency response and represents the Department on Michigan's Homeland Protection Board and the Homeland Security Advisory Council.

The **Office of Civil Enforcement Coordination (OCEC)** was created in October 2004 to provide for policy development, coordination and training to improve the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) overall enforcement efforts. The OCEC provides compliance and enforcement coordination and litigation expertise for the Executive Office while handling high profile and multi-media enforcement cases. The OCEC acts as the primary liaison to the Attorney General's Office and U.S. EPA on compliance and enforcement matters. The OCEC serves as the point of contact for the DEQ's multimedia coordinators located in each district and provides assistance and support to the various program enforcement staff, ensuring that enforcement cases are managed to

meet overarching department goals and objectives. Additionally, the OCEC chairs enforcement-related work groups for the drafting and implementation of new and revised compliance and enforcement-related procedures.

The **Air Quality Division (AQD)** works with business and industrial air pollution sources and with the general public to maintain compliance with state and federal air quality statutes in order to minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment. Staff members identify and reduce existing outdoor air pollution problems and prevent significant deterioration of the air quality through air emission control programs, air monitoring, control strategy planning, permit issuance, complaint response, and inspection of air emission sources.

The **Environmental Science and Services Division (ESSD)** provides a number of outreach and assistance services leading to the improvement in environmental quality, with an emphasis on pollution prevention, compliance assistance, and financial assistance. The ESSD services cover all environmental programs administered by the department. Scientific laboratory testing and certification services are provided to the public, federal, state, and local regulatory agencies to identify chemical and bacteriological contamination for environmental/health investigations. The ESSD offers assistance in the areas of regulatory compliance, pollution prevention, clean air, assistance, and site redevelopment. It administers operator certification and training programs for drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities. It also administers two environmental reporting programs, Community-Right-To-Know and Annual Wastewater Report. Financial assistance is available in the form of grants or low-interest loans for wastewater and drinking treatment facilities, water quality, coastal zone management, site revitalization, and pollution prevention. Training on environmental requirements is offered through workshops, seminars, and conferences.

The **Financial and Business Services Division (FBSD)** is the department's centralized financial operations support and business services area. The FBSD is comprised of the Office of Financial Management and the Office of Business Services. The FBSD is responsible for providing consistent financial controls, policy direction, and general operational support throughout the entire department's Lansing and field-based organizational structure.

The **Office of Geological Survey (OGS)** is responsible for assuring the efficient and orderly development of fossil fuel and mineral resources while protecting the environment, natural resources, property, and public health and safety. The OGS oversees the locating, drilling, operating, and plugging of wells used for mineral exploration; oil, gas, and brine production; underground storage; and waste disposal. The OGS regulates the operation of mines for rock products, metallic minerals, industrial sand, and coal, and assures proper reclamation after mining has ceased. The OGS also develops and distributes a variety of maps, publications, and data on fossil fuels, minerals, and groundwater for industry and public use.

The **Land and Water Management Division (LWMD)** administers a variety of programs that help protect sensitive natural resources, including inland lakes and streams, wetlands, floodplains, sand dunes, and the Great Lakes. The LWMD is responsible for promoting the best use of these resources for their social and economic benefits while protecting associated resource values, property rights, the environment, and public health and safety. The LWMD provides technical assistance and regulatory oversight over activities such as dredging or filling wetlands, streams, inland lakes, and the Great Lakes; constructing marinas, seawalls, or docks; building in a designated critical sand dune, wetland, or floodplain; and protecting underwater shipwreck resources.

The **Remediation and Redevelopment Division (RRD)** administers Part 201, Environmental Remediation; Part 213, Leaking Underground Storage Tanks; and portions of Part 215, Refined Petroleum Fund, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA). In addition, the RRD manages portions of the federal Superfund program, established under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Together, these four statutes and the related administrative rules guide the RRD's efforts in the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites throughout Michigan. The RRD oversees regulated party cleanups, addresses public health and environmental threats at sites of environmental contamination, and facilitates brownfield redevelopment. The RRD also administers the Qualified Underground Storage Tank Consultant and Certified Professional (QC/CP) Program under Part 215 and the QC/CP rules. Corrective action cleanups required at Part 213 sites must be carried out by a state-certified QC/CP. Further, the RRD coordinates DEQ implementation of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, 1996 PA 381, as amended. Act 381 provides a method to finance environmental response activities at brownfield sites through tax increment financing.

The **Waste and Hazardous Materials Division (WHMD)** administers a diverse number of prevention programs to protect the environment and the public's health through proper management of hazardous products; solid, liquid, medical, and hazardous waste; and radioactive materials. The WHMD issues licenses and oversees the operation of hazardous and solid waste disposal

areas, regulates the activities of hazardous waste and liquid industrial waste generators and transporters, oversees solid waste planning, regulates the hauling and disposal of scrap tires, and operates a grant program to address abandoned scrap tire piles. Radiological protection programs monitor radioactive materials used in medical, educational, industrial, and governmental facilities. The medical waste program regulates the handling, storage, treatment, and disposal of medical waste. The storage tank program oversees the design, construction, installation, and operations of certain underground storage tanks (USTs) and aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) storing flammable and combustible liquids, liquefied petroleum gas, and compressed natural gas for the purposes of fire safety and preventing releases of regulated materials.

The **Water Bureau** programs establish water quality standards; assess water quality; provide regulatory oversight for all public water supplies; issue permits to regulate the discharge of industrial and municipal wastewaters; and monitor state water resources for water quality, the quantity and quality of aquatic habitat, the health of aquatic communities, and compliance with state laws. The bureau is responsible for plan review and approval for public water supplies, wastewater collection and treatment facilities; campground construction; and public swimming pool construction. Bureau staff assist local health departments with public education, site condominiums, land division and subdivision on-site water supply, sewage disposal issues, and accreditation of local health departments. The bureau also provides oversight to local soil erosion and sedimentation control programs. Well driller/pump installer registration, licenses for transporting septic tank waste, and certificates for registration of water haulers and water hauling containment are provided by the Water Bureau.



## HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE REVIEW BOARD

The **Hazardous Waste Site Review Board (SRB)** was established by Section 11117 of Part 111, Hazardous Waste Management, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. The SRB was established to review and recommend issuance or denial of each hazardous waste management facility construction permit referred to it by the department.

The governor appoints a pool of individuals to serve on a rotating basis, chosen at random by the department as applications are received for each individual construction permit. The composition of the pool is prescribed by law. For each construction permit submitted, an SRB is convened consisting of 9 members and a nonvoting chairperson. Of the 10 members, 8 members are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate to serve 3-year terms, and 1 member each is appointed by the county and the municipality in which the proposed facility is located.

The 8 members appointed by the governor include 1 representative from the manufacturing industry; 1 representative from a municipality; 2 general public representatives; a chemical engineer, toxicologist, and geologist, each of whom must be on the faculty of an institution of higher learning; and an attorney who shall be a nonvoting chairperson and experienced in conducting meetings in which sworn testimony is received.

