



DEQ Reorganization

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has recently made some internal changes to our organization structure. Our focus with these organization changes is on making sure we optimize the tools, systems and structure in place for us to continue our work to protect, sustain, and improve a clean and healthful environment.

Our new organization structure is focused on integration of related work units, enhanced communication, resource capacity and flexibility, fostering employee and program innovation, and fully using staff expertise across the agency.

Our new organization structure has been implemented and consisted of moving the Waste and Underground Tank Management Bureau to the Remediation Division to better link similar functions, stakeholders and skill sets. This means that all of the tank programs are now in one division. This division is called the Waste Management and Remediation Division, headed by Jenny Chambers.

Public Water Supply will become part of the Planning Division, bringing together all the water-focused bureaus in one division. This Division is now the Water Division with Christian Schmidt as the Division Administrator.

The Energy Bureau will move to the former Permitting and Compliance Division, joining the Air Quality Bureau, the Environmental Management Bureau, and the Industrial & Energy Minerals Bureau. This new division will be the Air, Energy and mining Division and we are recruiting to fill the Division Administrator position.

A new Centralized Services Division will include the Offices of Information Technology, Human Resources, and Financial Services, and the existing functions of Emergency Response, Continuity of Operations, and Safety. This gives us an opportunity to link support services common across the department with a focus on effectiveness and best use of our resources, and ideally serving as a vehicle for innovation.

Improved interaction with our stakeholders and external publics remains a key objective for DEQ. We are creating a culture of continuous improvement and always looking at opportunities to do our work better.