

# Water Quality Division 101

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# Water Pollution Control Advisory Council

- The council shall act in an advisory capacity to the department on matters relating to water pollution. (MCA 75-5-221)
- This council advises the department on matters related to water pollution and the adoption of rules under the Water Quality Act. (ARM 17.30.101)
- (c) The water pollution control advisory council shall be given not less than 30 days prior to first publication to comment on the proposed action. (ARM 17.30.606 – Stream Classification)
- Prior to issuing a MPDES general permit, the department shall prepare a public notice...[and provide] direct mailing of notice to the Water Pollution Control Advisory Council (ARM 17.30.1341 – General Permits)

# DEQ's Mission

To Champion a Healthy Environment for a Thriving Montana

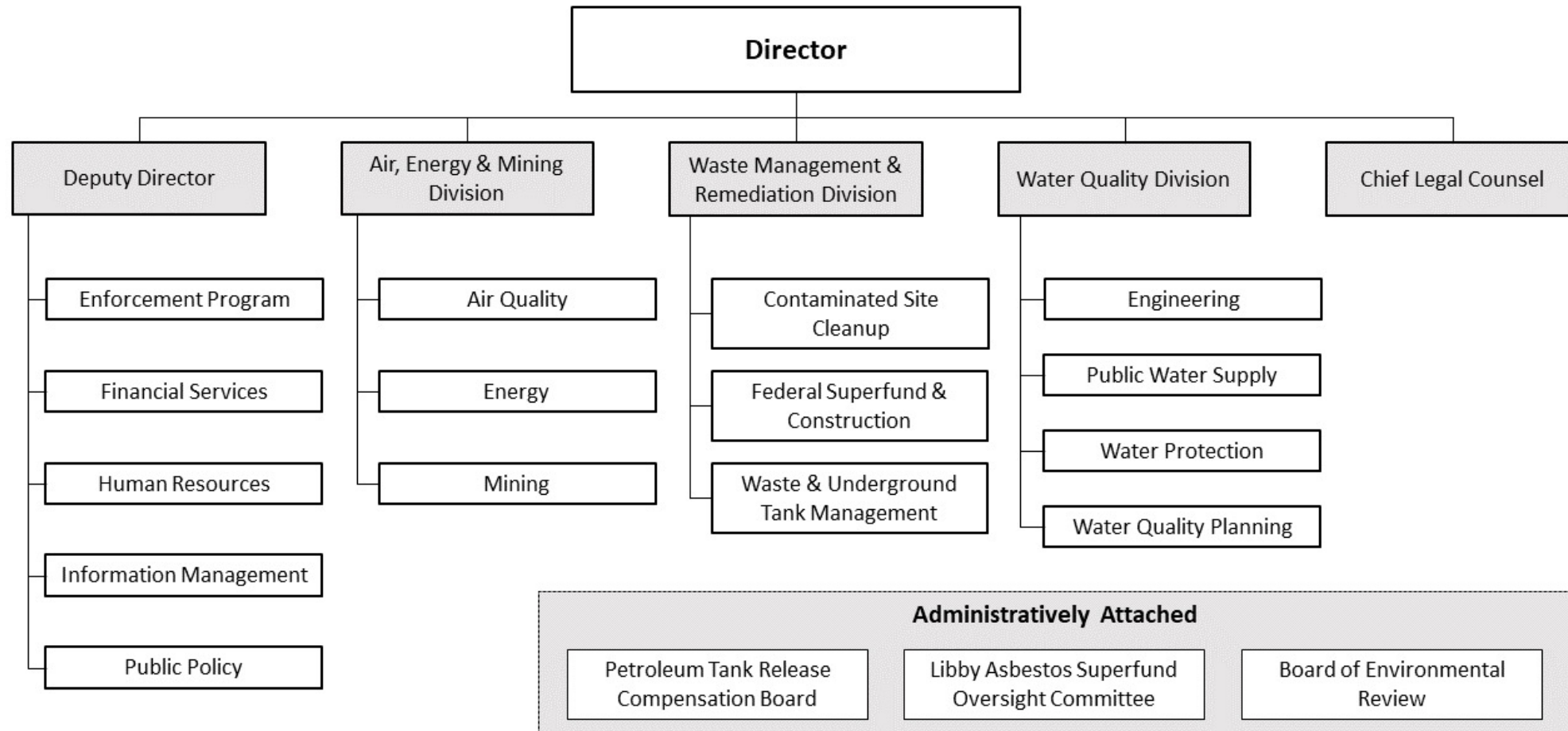
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# DEQ Structure

June 2021

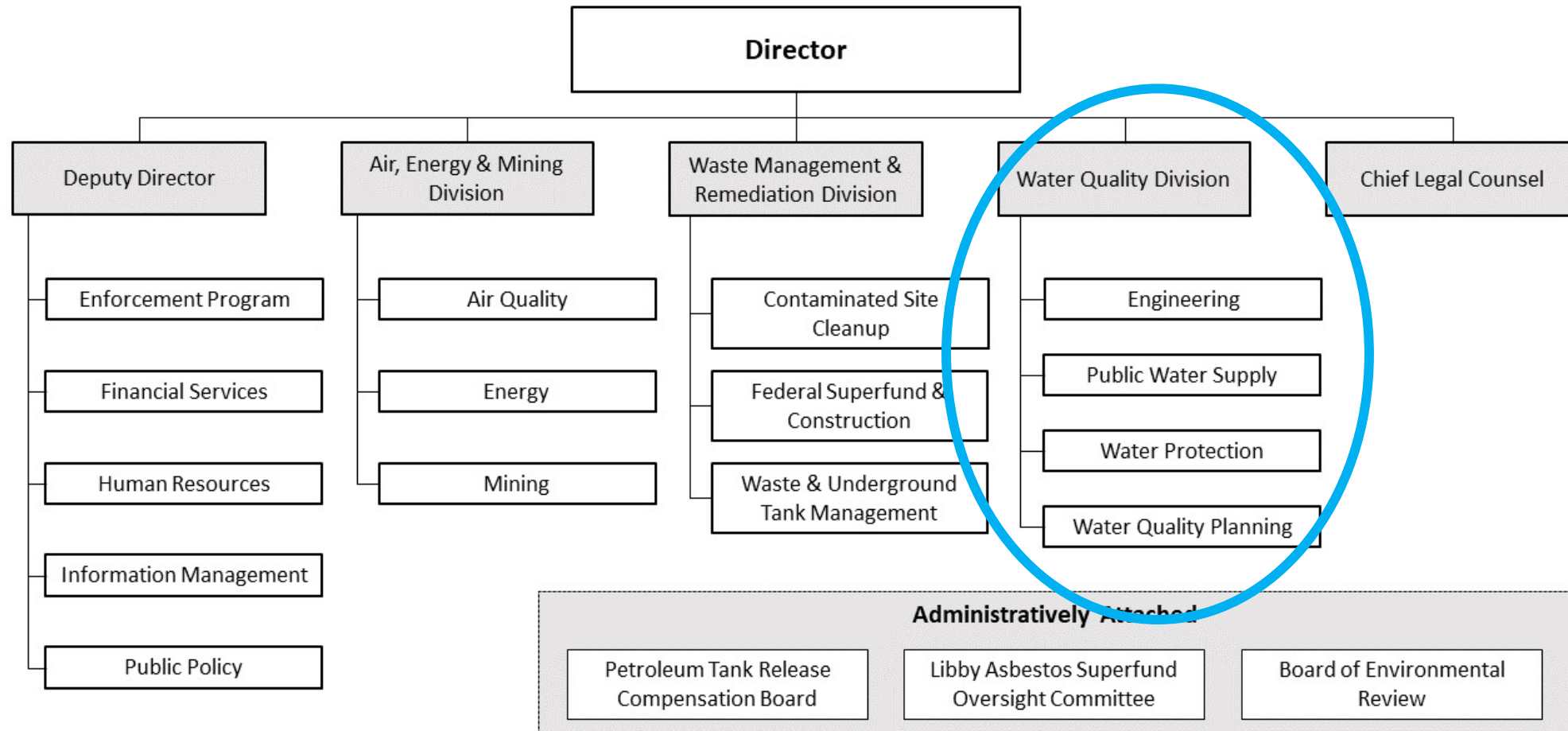
## Department of Environmental Quality



# DEQ Structure

June 2021

## Department of Environmental Quality



# Water Quality Division Vision

Clean Water from Peaks to Prairies for all Montanans



# Water Quality Planning Bureau (the Foundation)

- Water Quality Standards
- Monitoring and Assessment
- Total Maximum Daily Loads
- 319 program and nonpoint source protection/stream restoration; wetland protection



# Water Quality Standards

- Beneficial uses such as recreation, aquatic life, drinking water, agriculture
- Water quality criteria (numeric and narrative)
- Nondegradation = protection of high quality waters



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- Water quality criteria (numeric and narrative)
- Nondegradation = protection of high quality waters
- Authority under the Montana Water Quality Act (primacy under the Federal Clean Water Act)

# Water Quality Planning Bureau (the Foundation)

- Water Quality Standards
- Monitoring and Assessment
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# Water Protection Bureau (the Defenders)

- Permitting:
  - Surface water
  - Ground water
  - 401 water quality certification
    - State certification for any permit or license issued by a federal agency for an activity that may result in a discharge to state waters
  - 318 authorization
    - Temporary turbidity
- Technical assistance and wastewater system inspections
- Source water protection program



# Public Water Supply Bureau (Human Health Champions)

- Monitoring and Reporting
- Field Inspections
- Operator Certification (water and wastewater)



Authority under the Montana Public Water Supply Act (primacy under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act)

# Engineering Bureau (Nuts and Bolts)

- State Revolving Funds – DNRC administers the funds, DEQ reviews the engineering plans and specifications
  - Drinking Water State Revolving Funds
    - Public water infrastructure
  - Clean Water Act Revolving Funds
    - Wastewater infrastructure
- Public Water and Subdivision Review
  - Public water and wastewater (non-SRF) review
  - Subdivision application reviews



# Questions?

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