



2006 DEQ

Annual Report

Contents

Contents	3
Letter from Executive Director	9
Environmental Quality Board Rulemaking Activity	10
Environmental Quality Board.....	11
Air Quality Advisory Council	12
Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Council.....	13
Radiation Management Advisory Council	14
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council	14
Waterworks and Wastewater Works Advisory Council.....	15
Water Quality Management Advisory Council	15
Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel	16
Laboratory Services Advisory Council.....	16
Mission Statement and Goals	17
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality Organization Chart.....	18
ADMINISTRATION	19
Sunshine on Environmental Decision-Making: How DEQ Lawyers Foster Public Participation.....	20
DEQ Spokesperson Lends a Hand in Katrina Relief Effort	21
Awards and Special Recognition	22
Karl Heinzig Named Employee of the Year	22
Employees Earn Professional Certification	24

Contents

Larry Gales Retires as Administrative Services Director	25
Sanger Contributes at National Brownfields Forum	27
In Memory of Don Pendergraph (1957-2005)	28
Two Lifetime Achievement Awards Earned by Shields	29
Angela Brunsman Receives International Certification	30
Cantwell Photos Displayed at Smithsonian	31
Monty Elder Graduates from Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute	32
Air Quality Education Committee Provides Decade of Service to Oklahoma Citizens	32
Water Quality Staff Recognized	33
DEQ Green Team Keeps Oklahoma Beautiful	34
DEQ Partners with OKAEE to Celebrate Biodiversity	35
DEQ Launches “My Facility” Initiative	36
IT Development Team Improves Data Collection Processes	37
DEQ Participates in EPA’s Central Data Exchange Network	39
DEQ Launches New Intranet Web Site	40
DEQ Upgrades Computer Training Facility	41
New Employees Welcomed to DEQ	42
AIR QUALITY	43
Ancient Air	44
Growing Pains: NSR Revises Standards That Define “Major” Plant Modifications	44

Contents

Home Delivery	45
Regulatory Changes Affect Air Quality Facilities and Permits	46
Industries Implement Controls on Flash Emissions	47
Ponca City Phase II Toxic Monitoring Completed	48
Tulsa Air Toxic Monitoring Project	49
New Air Toxics Rule Effective in August	49
AQD Works Toward BART Adoption	50
ScienceFest 2006	51
ScienceFest Through a Child's Eye	52
Tulsa Office Protects Public from Asbestos	54
Online Excess-Emissions Reporting Now Available	55
Air Quality Enforcement Develops Alternate Policy	56
Redbud Users Have Good Reporting Experience	57
Once Again, Oklahoma Air Quality Escapes Nonattainment Status	58
Oklahoma Joins Blue Skyways Collaborative	61
Natural Gas Flash Initiative Finalized in December 2005	62
LAND PROTECTION	63
Land Protection Division Introduction	64
DEQ Completes Preliminary Tar Creek Study	65
DEQ Data Viewer Focuses on Tar Creek	66

Contents

Tar Creek Superfund Site Located in Ottawa County, Oklahoma	67
Imperial Refining Company Superfund Site	69
Tulsa Fuel and Manufacturing Superfund Site	70
Rab Valley Lumber Preserving Site Cleanup Underway	71
New Life as Industrial Park for Henryetta Superfund Site	72
Increased Controls for Radioactive Material Quantities of Concern	74
Oklahoma Among Seven States Approved to Certify Industrial Radiographers	76
Oklahoma City Urban Renewal Authority Receives Brownfield Certificate	77
BRAC Closure Benefits Oklahoma Towns	79
Canadian County Trash Fuels Brick Factory	80
OKRA: A Statewide Recycling Partnership	82
A+ for Kellyville School Playground Cleanup	83
ROTC Firing Range Cleaned Up	84
WATER QUALITY	85
Water Quality Division Activities	86
H ₂ Oklahoma Festival a Huge Success	87
DEQ Develops Regulations Working with Aggregate Industry	88
GIS Day FY 2006 at the Capitol	89
Public Access Increased to State’s Environmental Data	89
Source Water Protection Tool to Aid Local Staff, Water Systems	90

Contents

DEQ Works with City of Tulsa to Reduce Wastewater Overflows	91
Cooperating to Preserve Public Resources	93
New Certifications for Distribution and Collection Operators	94
CUSTOMER SERVICES	95
Customer Services Introduction	96
Fulfilling Public Right-to-Know, CSD Publishes Annual TRI Report	96
OKPHETS: Continued Collaboration with OSDH to Map Heart Defects	98
One-Stop Filing of Tier II Forms Offers Utility and Convenience	99
SEL Fees Receive Legislative Funding	100
DEQ Laboratory Accreditation Works Toward Incorporating National Standards	100
Making Pollution Prevention Personal: More in Your Wallet; Less from the Environment	101
DEQ Assists with Reopening Thomas Refinery	102
SBAP Partners with Marginal Well Commission to Host Workshops in Oklahoma	103
DEQ Changes Mercury Advisory Level for Fish Consumers	103
LOCAL SERVICES	105
Local Services Introduction	106
Help for a Small Town	107
Interdivision Cooperation Aims to Help Pawnee County Subdivision	108
ECLS, OCIA Foster Cooperation Within On-Site Treatment Industry	109

Contents

ECLS Complaints Office: Always There to Take the Call 110

Wellhead Protection Plans: ECLS Prepares Communities to Protect Drinking Water 111

ECLS Assists EPA With National Standards for On-Site Sewage Treatment Systems 112

ECLS and the Clean Vessel Act: An Oklahoma Success Story on the Horizon 113

ECLS Helps Muskogee Deal with a Trashy Surprise 114

Soil Profiling Leads to Better On-Site Sewage Treatment Systems 115

APPENDICES 117

Fiscal Statistics 118

Environmental Quality Report 133

Administrative Hearings 141

Criminal Enforcement Statistics 141

Solid Waste Fee Report 142

Letter from Executive Director



I just received notice from our sister federal agency that DEQ has fallen behind in a grant task. The agency attributed our tardiness to our “burdensome public participation process.”

Amazing.

Public participation is the keystone of government in Oklahoma. Our founding fathers understood and cherished the value of the public voice. Nowhere in government – neither at the state nor the federal level – does the public have greater opportunity for input into the decisions of government than in the state of Oklahoma.

Typically in the U.S., the rules by which a public agency operates are proposed and adopted by the *agency*. The public can comment, but rules are nearly always essentially and ultimately an agency product. In Oklahoma, however, rules are adopted by *representatives of the public*.

Nowhere is this more true than at DEQ. This agency may propose or draft rules, but before any rule becomes effective, it has been recommended by an advisory council, adopted by the Environmental Quality Board, and passed muster with the Governor and the Legislature. In Oklahoma, rules ultimately are the product of public thinking. At every stage of the process, the public voice is heard.

Of course, for this to work, we must have citizens who are willing to sacrifice their time and often their resources to support the process. Members of the Environmental Quality Board and advisory councils make those sacrifices to ensure that the public participates.

They also assure that the public will is reflected in DEQ’s activities. Permitting, water quality management, air program state implementation plan procedures and many other activities of the Department provide far greater opportunity for citizen input than does the federal process.

So as Oklahoma prepares to celebrate its first 100 years of statehood, let’s not forget the often unsung heroes of government – those individuals whose day-by-day engagement preserves and strengthens our right to public participation in government decision-making.

Burdensome? Perhaps. Essential to a healthy democratic process? Definitely. I, for one, consider Oklahoma’s public process a model of government at its best.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven A. Kasper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Environmental Quality Board Rulemaking Activity

The Environmental Quality Board, the rule adopting body for the Department of Environmental Quality, is a 13-member body appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Its members represent a variety of industrial, commercial, governmental and public interest backgrounds. During State Fiscal Year 2006, the Board's rulemaking actions affected 14 of the 25 chapters of DEQ regulations.

Rule proposals are presented to the Board for adoption only after having been reviewed and recommended by the appropriate advisory council. (The only exceptions are certain procedural and reporting rules that, by law, are not within the jurisdiction of an advisory council.) Nine members sit

on each advisory council. The members represent a broad range of perspectives; each has substantial interest and experience in the kinds of issues that come before the council for consideration. Before taking action, advisory councils seek written and oral comments from individuals and entities affected by and interested in the rule. The level of public participation is often high, helping to shape the final proposals presented to the Board.

To become effective, rules adopted by the Board must be affirmatively approved by the Governor and not disapproved by the Legislature. All rules adopted in FY 2006 received affirmative gubernatorial and tacit legislative approval. Several of the rule changes in FY 2006 were promulgated to

clarify language or update the incorporation by reference of federal rules as needed to allow Oklahoma to retain primacy over federally delegated environmental programs.

Below are the more notable rule actions:

- Revision of waste tire rules to correspond to significant statutory changes
- Revision of construction requirements for wastewater treatment and collection systems
- Program fee adjustments: emergency planning/ community right-to-know, laboratory services and radiation

The table below summarizes rulemaking actions taken by the Environmental Quality Board in FY 2006.

Environmental Quality Board Rulemaking, FY 2006

CHAPTER	COUNCIL ¹	SUBJECT	ADOPTED	TYPE	EFFECTIVE
20	N/A	Require "Tier II" hazardous chemical reporting to be electronic; adjust fees	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
100	AQAC	Revoke obsolete one-hour ozone standard	8/23/05	Permanent	6/15/2006
100	AQAC	Update incorporations by reference of various federal air quality rules	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
205	HWMAC	Update incorporation by reference of federal hazardous waste rules	11/15/05	Permanent	6/15/2006
300	LSAC	Update references to laboratory methods	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
305	LSAC	Adjust fees for laboratory services	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
410	RMAC	Adjust fees for the permitting of radiation machines	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
515	SWMAC	Revise waste tire rules to comport with new statute; update financial assurance requirements	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
606	WQMAC	Update incorporation by reference of federal pollutant discharge rules	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
611	WQMAC	Update incorporation by reference of federal water quality rules	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
616	WQMAC	Revise requirements for sand and gravel permits	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
631	WQMAC	Update incorporation by reference of federal public water supply rules	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
656	WQMAC	Revise and clarify wastewater treatment and collection system construction requirements	8/23/05	Permanent	6/15/2006
690	WQMAC	Update incorporation by reference of various federal rules	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006
710	WWWAC	Clarify certification requirement for licensed plumbers and contractors	2/24/06	Permanent	6/15/2006

(Footnotes)

¹ AQAC refers to the Air Quality Advisory Council; HWMAC refers to the Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Council; LSAC refers to the Laboratory Services Advisory Council; RMAC refers to the Radiation Management Advisory Council; SWMAC refers to the Solid Waste Management Advisory Council; WQMAC refers to the Water Quality Management Advisory Council; and WWWAC refers to the Water and Wastewater Works Advisory Council.

Environmental Quality Board

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
Brita Haugland Cantrell	Nonprofit Statewide Environmental Organization	Governor	1/31/2008
Mike Cassidy	Agriculture Industries	Governor	1/31/2010
Jack Coffman	Manufacturing Representative	Governor	1/31/2008
Anthony "Tony" Dark	Water Usage	Governor	1/31/2009
Bob Drake	Rural Water Association	Governor	1/31/2007
Jennifer Galvin Vice-Chair	Petroleum Industry	Governor	1/31/2009
David Griesel	Solid Waste Industry	Governor	1/31/2007
Jerry Johnston	Local Governing Board of City or Town	Governor	1/31/2010
Steve Mason Chair	Hazardous Waste Industry	Governor	1/31/2011
Sandra Rose	Nonprofit Statewide Environmental Organization	Governor	1/31/2009
Karol "Terri" Savage	Nonprofit Statewide Environmental Organization	Governor	1/31/2007
Kerry Sublette	Environmental Professional	Governor	1/31/2008
Richard Wuerflein	Conservation District Representative	Governor	1/31/2011



Brita Haugland Cantrell



Mike Cassidy



Jack Coffman



Anthony "Tony" Dark



Bob Drake



Jennifer Galvin



David Griesel



Jerry Johnston



Steve Mason



Sandra Rose



Karol "Terri" Savage



Kerry Sublette



Richard Wuerflein

Air Quality Advisory Council

MEMBERS	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
David Branecky	Utility	Governor	6/15/2013
Bob Curtis	Transportation	Governor	6/15/2007
Robert Lynch **	Higher Education	Governor	6/15/2011
Gary Martin	Local Government	Governor	6/15/2008
Sharon Myers*	General Industry	Governor	6/15/2009
Jerry Purkable	Petroleum	Governor	6/15/2012
Donald Smith	General Public	Governor	6/15/2012
Rick Treeman	Agriculture	Governor	6/15/2010
Laura Worthen	Engineering	Governor	6/15/2013

*Chair **Vice Chair

In its quarterly meetings this fiscal year, the Air Quality Advisory Council held hearings on a number of rule changes and additions. Hearings on proposed rules for the federal Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) were held in October, January and April. The BART requirements are part of the Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (SIP). Federal regulations require states to establish goals for improving visibility in parks and wilderness areas and to develop long-term strategies for reducing emissions of air pollutants that impair visibility. At the April meeting, the Council recommended that BART rules be heard at the August 2006 Environmental Quality Board meeting.

New Source Review (NSR) revisions were the topic of several hearings before the Council and of a

public work group meeting in September 2005. NSR is a preconstruction permitting program designed to ensure that air quality is not significantly degraded from the addition of new sources and modifications to existing sources. The revisions to the program are intended to simplify the method that determines what modifications are subject to major NSR. These revisions are expected to result in fewer modifications being classified as “majors,” thus fewer modifications will require a prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) permit.

Other business addressed by the Council included updating incorporations by reference for New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, and updating Appendix E, Primary Ambient Air Quality Standards,

and Appendix F, Secondary Ambient Air Quality Standards, to be consistent with recent changes to the federal ozone standard.

At the July 2005 meeting, former Council member Joel Wilson was recognized for his service to the Council. The group voted to retain Sharon Myers as Chair for a fourth term and elected David Branecky as Vice-Chair. David Branecky and Laura Worthen were reappointed to the Council for another 7-year term. Council members are appointed by the Governor.

The Air Quality Advisory Council, authorized by the Oklahoma Clean Air Act, reviews air quality issues and holds public hearings as part of the state’s rulemaking process. More information on the Council’s activities can be accessed on DEQ’s Web site at www.deq.state.ok.us/AQDnew/council_mtg/index.htm.

Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Council

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
Bob Kennedy **	Industry	Governor	03/01/2008
Kathy Martin	Nonprofit Env. Org.	Governor	03/01/2006
Bruce Elwell	Political Subdivision	Governor	03/01/2008
Wesley Anderson	Industry HW Generator	Pro Tempore	03/11/2008
Michael D. Graves	General Public	Pro Tempore	03/11/2007
Steve Tomberlin	Political Subdivision	Pro Tempore	03/11/2006
David Bradshaw, P.E.	Geology	Speaker of the House	10/22/2006
Gerald S. Ihler	Engineering	Speaker of the House	10/23/2006
Brian Correa *	Hazardous Waste Ind.	Speaker of the House	03/28/2006

* Chair ** Vice Chair

The Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Council met October 6, 2005, concerning DEQ's adoption of federal hazardous waste management regulations. The Council also elected officers, Jody Reinhart to serve as chair and Bob Kennedy as vice chair.

Members discussed revisions to Oklahoma Administrative Code (OAC) 252:205-3-2, incorporating by reference the federal hazardous waste regulations of 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) as they existed on July 1, 2005. Specifically, the Advisory Council considered (1) incorporating the federal hazardous waste regulations found in 40 CFR Parts 124 and 260-279 that were effective July 1, 2005; (2) incorporating amendments to 40 CFR taking

effect after July 1, 2005; (3) eliminating rules pertaining to revoked statutes; (4) updating regulatory citations for other DEQ rules; and (5) applying minor format modifications to simplify reading.

All Oklahoma facilities that generate, transport, treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste are affected by the changes to federal and state law. The hazardous waste manifest form used to track shipments of hazardous waste will be extensively modified and will be in use beginning September 5, 2006. Additional information is available at www.deq.state.ok.us/lpdnew/HW/manifest.htm.

Another revision adds a hazardous waste code, K181, to the lists of hazardous waste found in

Subpart D. The scope of the Universal Waste rule is being expanded to include all equipment containing quantities of elemental mercury integral to its function. Previously, only mercury-containing thermostats could be managed under the less-restrictive universal waste rules. Mercury-containing compounds, such as dental amalgam or process wastes, that exhibit a mercury characteristic are not included and must continue to be managed as hazardous waste.

In conclusion, the Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Council unanimously voted to recommend adoption of the revisions, effective June 15, 2006. See details at www.deq.state.ok.us/LPDnew/HW/hwmac.html.

Radiation Management Advisory Council

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
Karen Jennings	Env. Organization	Governor	07/01/2006
Steve Woods**	Engineering	Governor	07/01/2008
Vacant	Industry	Governor	
Eric Bartoletti	Industrial Radiography	Pro Tempore	03/03/2007
Nadine Barton	General Public	Pro Tempore	01/03/2008
George MacDurmon	University	Pro Tempore	01/03/2006
Steve Clark	Petroleum Ind.	Speaker of the House	12/01/2008
Monte Goucher	Transportation Ind.	Speaker of the House	11/17/2009
David Gooden, J.D., Ph. D.*	Medical Industry	Speaker of the House	10/22/2006

* Chair ** Vice Chair

The Radiation Management Advisory Council met twice during FY 2006. At the November meeting held in Tulsa, the Council was briefed on future rulemaking related to medical use of byproduct material, increased security measures for portable gauges, language relating to deliberate misconduct in the transportation of radioactive materials and reciprocity fees. Other topics included a federal proposal to require systems to track the inventory of radioactive material sources to reduce the possibility of theft for terrorist purposes.

In a related matter, the Council discussed the issuance of enforcement orders to selected licensees, including those licensed by state programs, to increase measures designed to thwart loss and theft of sources of concern. Members also heard a report on the status of the Central Interstate Low-Level Waste Compact.

The Advisory Council's March meeting was held at DEQ headquarters in Oklahoma City, where it voted without dissent to recommend that the Environmental Quality Board adopt the following rule changes: (1) a

clarification that any agency rule that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission incorporates by reference is also incorporated into Oklahoma Rules; (2) a revision of transportation rules to incorporate the latest version of International Atomic Energy Agency regulations; (3) an amendment to the requirements for licensees who possess and use portable gauges to require measures to reduce the possibility of theft or loss of radioactive material; and (4) additional education and training certification requirements for licensees who use radiation in the practice of medicine.

Solid Waste Management Advisory Council

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
Patrick Riley	Statewide Env. Org.	Governor	03/01/2007
Jay Stout**	General Public	Governor	03/01/2008
Ralph Triplett, Jr.	County Commissioner	Governor	03/01/2006
Elzie Smith, Jr.	Political Subdivision	Pro Tempore	03/03/2007
Steve Landers	Industry Generating SW	Pro Tempore	03/01/2005
Bill Torneten*	Geology	Pro Tempore	03/01/2006
Donald Fletcher	Transportation	Speaker of the House	06/02/2008
T.J. McCullough	SW Disposal Industry	Speaker of the House	03/07/2008
Jeffrey A. Shepherd	Engineering	Speaker of the House	10/31/2007

* Chair ** Vice Chair

The Solid Waste Management Advisory Council reviews proposed solid waste rules and makes recommendations to the Environmental Quality Board. The nine members include experts in specific sectors of the solid waste management field, appointed by the

Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives and President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Council met twice in FY 2006, reviewing and recommending minor amendments and corrections to the solid waste rules and developing new rules for waste-tire

recycling mandated by a statute change.

The Advisory Council also reviews DEQ's use of state solid waste fees annually; the accounting report and the Council's resolution as transmitted to the legislature is in the appendices of this report.

Waterworks and Wastewater Works Advisory Council

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
Carl Gray**	Higher Education	Governor	6/30/2007
Jim Pumphrey	Waterworks Operator	Governor	6/30/2008
Robert Carr, Jr.	OK Municipal League	Governor	6/30/2006
Karl Potochnik*	OK Rural Water Assn	Speaker of the House	7/08/2008
Rick Ritter	Wastewater Works Operator	Speaker of the House	6/28/2007
Allen McDonald	Waterworks Operator	Speaker of the House	6/27/2007
Donald Spence	OK Rural Water Assn	Pro Tempore	6/30/2008
Rick Stebbens	OK Water & Pollution	Pro Tempore	6/30/2006
Vacant	OK Water & Pollution	Pro Tempore	

*Chair **Vice Chair

The Waterworks and Wastewater Works Advisory Council met three times in FY 2006: September 16, January 20 and May 13. During its September meeting, the Council proposed amendments to 252:710

(Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operator Certification) that simplified, updated and corrected minor errors in existing rules. The Council also added a provision to include clarification for plumbing

contractors. During its January meeting, the Advisory Council voted in favor of these recommended changes. The Environmental Quality Board passed the rule changes at its March meeting.

Water Quality Management Advisory Council

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
Jeffrey Short**	Engineering	Governor	3/01/2007
Brian Campbell	General Public	Governor	3/01/2008
Michel Paque	Environmental Organization	Governor	3/01/2006
Cathy Cauty	Industry	Pro Tempore	3/16/2008
Joseph Warren	Oil Field Related	Pro Tempore	3/01/2004
Glen Brown	Geology	Pro Tempore	3/01/2006
Michael E. Thomas	Local Government	Speaker of the House	8/12/2007
Lowell Hobbs*	Agriculture	Speaker of the House	8/12/2007
Lyle Collins	Rural Water District	Speaker of the House	6/26/2007

* Chair ** Vice Chair

The Water Quality Management Advisory Council (WQMAC) reviews and approves water quality rules and recommends changes to the Environmental Quality Board. The Council is made up of nine members, appointed for three-year terms. Members represent local government, industry, oil and gas, geology, engineering, agriculture, rural water districts, environmental groups and

the general public. The Governor, Speaker of the House and President Pro Tempore of the Senate each appoint three members who serve until they are replaced.

The Advisory Council typically meets in January, May and October each calendar year. Additional meetings may be held to address rule changes that do not fit within the regular meeting schedule. Current

rules under WQMAC's authority include regulations for public water supply, industrial and municipal wastewater construction, treatment and discharge, pre-treatment, biosolids, drinking water state revolving fund, small public and private systems, underground injection control and implementation of water quality standards.

Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
William Wortman	General public	Governor	3/01/2003
Brett Hamm	General public	Governor	3/01/2005
Patrick K. Jaynes, Ph.D.	Small Business Owner	Pro Tempore	8/03/2009
Michael Rohlfing	Small Business Owner	Speaker of the House	1/15/2010
Tim Dowd	Small Business Owner	Minority Leader of the House	1/15/2005
Robert Henry*	Small Business Owner	Minority Leader of the Senate	11/08/2010
Matt Robison	No specific requirements	Executive Director of the DEQ	1/15/2009

* Chair

The Small Business Compliance Advisory Panel renders advisory opinions on the effectiveness of the state's Small Business Assistance Program. The panel reviews difficulties with the regulatory system that small businesses encounter. It also represents the needs and concerns of the small business community in the rulemaking process and reviews

regulatory information intended for small businesses to assure that it can be understood by the layperson. Seven citizens serve on the panel. Two are appointed by the Governor; the Speaker of the House, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Senate Minority Leader, the House Minority Leader and the DEQ Executive Director each appoint one.

During FY 2006, the panel continued in its mission of representing the needs and concerns of the small business community with respect to environmental regulatory issues. The staff of the Small Business Assistance Program of the Air Quality Division appreciate the panel's valuable contributions and opinions.

Laboratory Services Advisory Council

MEMBER	PROFESSIONAL REALM	APPOINTING OFFICIAL	TERM EXPIRES
James W. Engman	Permit holder	Governor	7/01/2004
Brian Duzan	Private Laboratory	Governor	7/01/2006
Vacant	Hydrogeology	Governor	7/01/2005
Elaine Stebler	Microbiology	Pro Tempore	9/09/2008
William J. Janacek	Public Laboratory	Pro Tempore	9/09/2007
Scott Haas	Private Laboratory	Pro Tempore	9/09/2006
Anthony Bright*	Environmental Chemistry	Speaker of the House	7/20/2006
Rodney Wiedemann	Permit holder	Speaker of the House	3/07/2008
Kenneth Crawford	Private Lab	Speaker of the House	3/07/2008

* Chair

The Laboratory Services Advisory Council held two meetings in FY 2006. Members reviewed and recommended adoption of standard language from the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC). Changes to the Laboratory Accreditation Rules (OAC 252:300) cover established scientific data quality standards and quality control for testing processes.

In the coming year, the Council plans to hold public forums to examine and discuss adoption of further NELAC standards.

In addition, the Advisory Council reviewed and approved proposed changes to the Laboratory Services Rules found in OAC 252:305. The rules provide procedures and fees for laboratory services offered by the State Environmental Laboratory (SEL) of

the Department of Environmental Quality. Fee increases were proposed based upon a review of actual costs and the fees charged for the same tests by private sector laboratories and state environmental laboratories in surrounding states. SEL fees were last updated in 2001. The Environmental Quality Board approved the changes at its February 2006 meeting.



Mission Statement

The Department of Environmental Quality
....for a clean, attractive, prosperous Oklahoma.

FISCAL YEAR 2006 GOALS

GOAL ONE:

Solve problems through effective processes and customer services approaches.

GOAL TWO:

Provide standardized, effective, timely and enforceable permitting processes.

GOAL THREE:

Provide services to citizens, businesses and local governments on issues within the Department's mission.

GOAL FOUR:

Solve problems through a responsive, equitable and timely environmental complaints process and emergency response system.

GOAL FIVE:

Provide consistent inspection, monitoring and enforcement within the bounds of the Department's statutory jurisdiction.

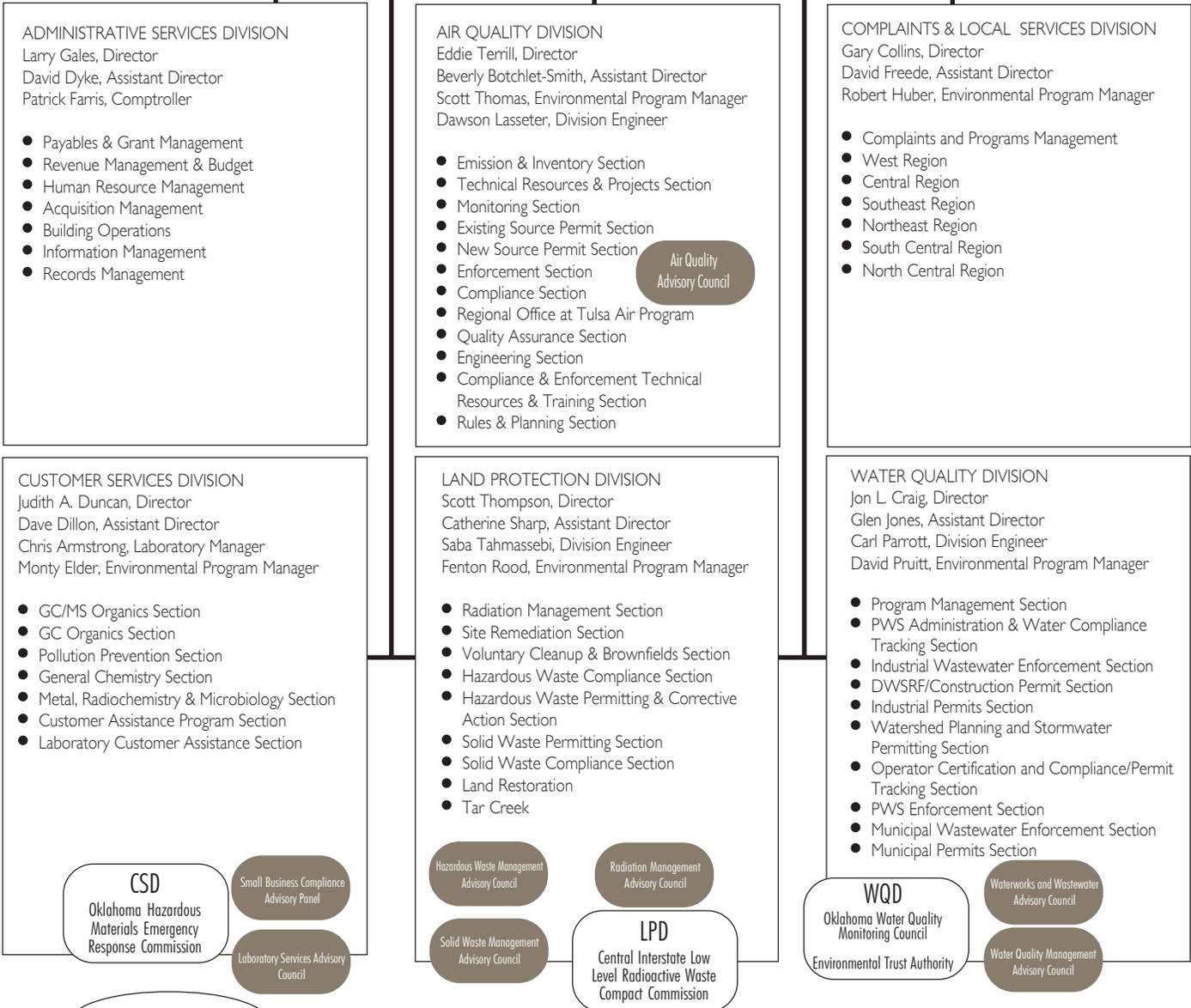
Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

Organization Chart



Environmental Quality Board

Steven A. Thompson | Executive Director
 Jimmy Givens | General Counsel
 Martha Penisten | Deputy General Counsel
 Craig Kennamer | Deputy Executive Director
 Wendy Caperton | Director of Policy & Planning
 Shellie Chard- McClary | Assistant Director of Policy & Planning



Advisory Councils

Advisory Councils recommend rules to the Environmental Quality Board.



Administration

2006

Annual Report

Sunshine on Environmental Decision-Making:

How DEQ Lawyers Foster Public Participation



One of the driving forces behind the creation of DEQ in Oklahoma, more than a decade ago, was greater public participation in the environmental decision-making process. Since then, responsiveness to the concerns of the public and enhanced customer service have been lynchpins of DEQ operations. This is especially the case in the areas of rulemaking, permitting, citizen complaints, and even enforcement. DEQ's lawyers are integral to the public participation process in all of these areas.

In rulemaking, lawyers are responsible in large measure for the behind-the-scenes preparation that goes on prior to sending proposed rules to the agency's eight advisory councils and ultimately to the Environmental Quality Board for final adoption. These preparations ensure that the public receives proper notice of rulemaking and that the public participation process is initiated in accord with the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act and DEQ's own procedural rules.

In the area of permitting, lawyers were deeply involved in establishing DEQ's single, uniform permit process for public participation. The effort began at DEQ's inception and culminated in the Oklahoma Uniform Environmental Permitting Act and related procedural rules. The Act and rules set up a three-tier system of permitting. The public participation opportunities associated with each successive tier increase as the complexity and environmental significance of the proposed permitting action increase. Currently, DEQ lawyers help each division ensure public access to permit information and public participation throughout the permit review process, in accordance with the law and rules.

In the area of complaint resolution, DEQ has always emphasized a fast and effective response, including enhanced service to its most important customers, the citizens of Oklahoma. Complaint resolution involves either formal or informal enforcement that necessarily involves the agency's

lawyers. But in addition to traditional enforcement activities, lawyers who deal with complaint-based cases also communicate routinely with the public concerning the issues raised during the complaint process. In doing so, they provide citizens an opportunity to be informed about and involved in the resolution of their environmental complaints.

The notion of customer service in enforcement is not limited to the area of complaint resolution. DEQ often provides opportunities for technical assistance prior to the need for enforcement. This type of assistance may avoid the need to escalate enforcement in the first place. It gives the regulated community more of a partnership role in solving their environmental problems. DEQ lawyers help to determine when such assistance is an appropriate alternative or precursor to enforcement.

DEQ lawyers are in a unique position to foster public participation in virtually every area of the agency's operations. They welcome those opportunities.

DEQ Spokesperson Lends a Hand in Katrina Relief Effort



Hurricane damage in Bayou la Batre, Alabama.

Monty Elder, DEQ spokesperson and program manager, was deployed to aid the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster recovery efforts in Mobile, Alabama, in October 2005. In Alabama, Elder was able to provide much-needed information to hurricane victims in Bayou la Batre and Dauphin Island. During her deployment, the critical need was to secure housing for displaced evacuees. She wrote and distributed press releases concerning housing options and met with media representatives about problems surrounding temporary living arrangements. Elder said that although she hoped her experience would never be repeated in Oklahoma, it was a

valuable opportunity to learn first-hand the difficulties in communicating with the public during a crisis.

Back in Oklahoma, the DEQ Communications Office fielded approximately 400 media inquiries from press, TV and radio reporters. The most frequent questions concerned public water supplies, particularly those in small towns. DEQ was able to reassure the public when no problems existed and alert towns when conditions required actions such as boiling water to kill bacterial contamination. Among the other topics generating media interest in FY 2006 were Oklahoma Superfund sites, including Tar Creek, and issues surrounding scenic rivers.

DEQ continues to reach out to the public in a variety of educational settings. In FY 2006, DEQ personnel gave more than 150 speeches, seminars and classes. More than 10,000 Oklahomans were able to benefit from these outreach activities. DEQ issued 56 press releases in FY 2006. Working with the media, DEQ is able to ensure that Oklahomans have the information they need to make informed choices about their environment.



Hurricane damage in Bayou la Batre, Alabama



Hurricane damage on Dauphin Island, Alabama



DEQ spokesperson Monty Elder on deployment with FEMA after hurricane Katrina.

Awards and Special Recognition

Karl Heinzig Named Employee of the Year



The Employee Recognition Committee accepts nominations each quarter of the fiscal year for DEQ employees who are recognized by their co-workers for outstanding contributions to the agency. The nominees are rated in the areas of customer service, teamwork, problem-solving initiative and leadership. The division directors then select an Employee of the Year from the four quarterly winners.

- **Karl Heinzig has been selected as the outstanding DEQ employee for FY 2006.** Karl is an Administrative Assistant in the Water Quality Division. He was chosen for Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter of FY 2006. Heinzig graduated from George Rogers Clark High School in Winchester, Kentucky, and received a football scholarship to attend Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, Tennessee. Heinzig later attended the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Heinzig moved to Oklahoma in 1980 and worked in corporate retail management for approximately 20 years. He owned his own business in Norman for 5 ½ years. He began work with DEQ in the Water Quality Division in 2002 as an Administrative Technician II, tracking the Municipal and Industrial Permitting process. After eight months, he assumed his current position of maintaining furniture and fixtures in WQD and the WQD fleet of vehicles. One



Karl Heinzig, Employee of the Year

year later, he became an Administrative Assistant and acquired the additional duties of tracking all WQD complaint referrals from ECLS and setting up and operating sound equipment for board and council meetings. Heinzig is also the WQD representative for the DEQ Document Management Subcommittee. The person nominating Heinzig stated, "I am nominating Karl because of his great attitude, sense of humor, and 'can do' way of thinking. Karl approaches his work with gusto and a smile. He is a jack-of-all-trades in the Water Quality Division and all of us have relied on him at one time or another. Karl is someone who 'gets things done' and doesn't complain about his job, the

situation or any person. He's a good role model for the saying, 'attitude is everything.'"

- **Linda Dyson, Accountant in the Administrative Services Division, was selected as Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of FY 2006.** Dyson graduated from Palo Duro High School in Amarillo, TX, and received her bachelor's degree and master of education degree from Oklahoma University. Dyson began work with the Oklahoma State Department of Health in 1976. She served in the position of stock clerk and then worked in the Environmental Health Finance Office as an administrative assistant and an accountant. When the Department of Environmental Quality became an agency in 1994, Dyson moved to the Administrative Services Finance Office, Superfund Grants. Dyson's nomination cited the following reason why she deserved the recognition: "Linda is an exemplary employee who always takes time to explain the intricacies of our individual budgets and also patiently assists us as we try to make our program needs fit our allotted funding. She is infinitely patient with us non-financial folks and extremely helpful in chaotic budgeting months. She is always willing to meet with EPA to help us communicate financial matters to our federal counterpart, which is enormously helpful."



Linda Dyson

- **Dawn Grandits, Environmental Programs Specialist in the Water Quality Division, was the Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter.** Grandits received a bachelor of science degree in Chemical Engineering from Clarkson University in New York in 1990. She received an associate in applied science degree in occupational and environmental safety from OSU-OKC in May 2001. Grandits began work at DEQ in March 2005 in the Public Water Supply Compliance Tracking Section. She serves as the Disinfection ByProducts (DBP) compliance coordinator. She determines whether systems that supply water to the public meet the requirements of the Stage 1 Disinfection ByProducts Rule. The rule applies to any public water supply system that adds a chemical disinfectant to the water. Grandits was nominated for tackling a very difficult and complicated drinking water rule that included a tremendous backlog of data and enforcement activities. In a short time, she completely organized the



Dawn Grandits

- program, wrote several hundred Notices of Violation and trained a second DBP coordinator who was hired due to the increasing workload of the program. The nominator wrote, "Grandits has a highly motivated personal work ethic, evidenced by her jumping headlong into the fray and addressing the numerous issues in the DBP program. She has refused to become discouraged and has impressed her coworkers with her pleasant personality and determination to manage her program in the right way. She is a constant flurry of activity and is a tremendous example of a dedicated and productive employee."
- **Johnnie Little, Environmental Programs Specialist in the Air Quality Division, was selected as the Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter.** Little grew up in the West Texas oilfields and graduated from Odessa High School in 1966. After serving in the U.S. Air Force four years, he attended Sacramento City College and received an associate of arts degree with honors in Administration of Justice. After working a number of years in the



Johnnie Little

criminal justice field (which included the highway patrol), he returned to the oilfields. Little worked in the oilfields on the drilling rigs and as a mud engineer until his return to college. He graduated from California State University, Chico, with a bachelor of science in biology in 1994. Little joined the DEQ Air Quality Division Enforcement Section in January 1995. In the past eleven years, he has served as the contact for open burning, continuous emissions monitors (CEMS) and asbestos. He has investigated complaints, performed compliance and enforcement inspections, worked enforcement actions, and served as the team leader for the Refinery Inspection Team. Currently, Little is the Combustion Inspection Team leader and coordinates the Stack Test Team. The person nominating Little stated, "Johnnie is a dedicated, hardworking employee. He will do whatever it takes to get the job done. He will work with a company to get a problem solved and get them into compliance."

Employees Earn Professional Certification



Sandra Hawkins



Kendall Kelton



Karla Crawford

Three Administrative Services employees earned professional certification in their field of employment in 2005. Certification distinguishes employees who complete extensive state training and either pass proficiency exams or are rated on performance and abilities.

- Sandra Hawkins, Human Resources Management Specialist II, completed Certified Personnel Professional Training in April. She attended a 4-day training program on human resource topics such as recruitment, selection, classification, compensation, training, grievances and other work place issues. She passed her comprehensive examination as required by the Administrator of the Office of Personnel Management. Eight hours of continuing education are required annually to maintain the certification.
- Kendall Kelton, Administrative Assistant, completed the requirements for Certified

Procurement Officer in September. He attended 18 hours of training and completed the procurement officer exam, demonstrating proficiency in the principles of state procurement practices, basic contracting and related issues. Eighteen hours of continuing education training are required annually to maintain this certification.

- Karla Crawford, Human Resources Manager, completed the Oklahoma Supreme Court Mediation training program, earning her certification in September. The Oklahoma State Shared Mediation Program (OSSMP) offers mediation as an alternative method of resolving work place disputes in state agencies. OSSMP's objectives are to resolve disputes early, to increase the quality of workforce communication, to maintain a productive work environment and to reduce the cost and time associated with more formal

dispute processes. Crawford uses the knowledge and skills learned in her role as DEQ's Grievance Manager and as a volunteer mediator for the Merit Protection Commission.

Crawford earned an additional certification in October, after completing Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Facilitator training. This program makes alternative dispute resolution services accessible to all state agencies and employees to resolve appeals, disputes and conflicts. ADR affords the parties to an appeal the same equity and impartiality as the hearing process, but is faster, less costly and more flexible. Crawford volunteers as an Alternative Dispute Facilitator for the Merit Protection Commission.

DEQ congratulates these three employees and appreciates the new skills and knowledge they contribute to their work place as certified professionals.

Larry Gales Retires as Administrative Services Director



Larry Gales began his public health career in 1976 as an environmental specialist with the Oklahoma State Department of Health. After serving eight years in rural county health departments as a county sanitarian and a county supervisor, Larry was promoted to District Sanitarian for northeast Oklahoma. In 1985, Larry accepted a promotion to Programs Administrator for Environmental Health Services in Oklahoma City. In 1993, he was appointed Director of DEQ's Administrative Services Division (ASD) and served in that capacity until he retired on June 30, 2006.

Larry's educational background served him well during his career. Larry obtained an associate's degree in mathematics, and bachelor and master of science degrees from Oklahoma State University. Larry also obtained Oklahoma and national certifications as a Registered Environmental and Health Specialist. He served as an officer for each certifying association. He has served as Regional Vice President of the National Environmental Health Association and chaired the Credentialing Board. In 1990, Larry received the Meritorious Service Award from the Texas Environmental Health Association and the Presidential Citation from



Larry Gales – Time to enjoy more bike trips.

the National Environmental Health Association.

Since its inception in 1986, Larry has been instrumental in implementing SARA Title III in Oklahoma, including the development and passage of Oklahoma's enabling statute. For the past 10 years, Larry has chaired the Oklahoma Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Commission and served as an advisory member of the Ad Hoc SARA Title III Advisory Committee.

As ASD Director, Larry was a key leader during DEQ's 1993 transition from a division of the State Health Department to an autonomous state agency. He was responsible for developing new staffing, policies and procedures for managing payroll, procurement and other administrative functions. He created a new human resources section and reallocated all of the new department's positions.

In 1998, Larry provided onsite management of DEQ's move to the current building. As a new agency, DEQ had no experience with managing the multitude of around-the-clock building operations. With Larry's direction and coordination, staff learned to write contracts, develop specifications and manage privatized elements of the operation. Larry recalls, "A few mistakes were made, but all in all, I am personally proud of the way a bunch of scientists, engineers and our support people pulled it off."

For 15 of the past 20 years, Larry has been Emergency Response Coordinator for the Oklahoma State Department of Health and DEQ. During his tenure, Larry represented DEQ at the State Emergency Operations Center during statewide emergency situations, represented Oklahoma on the Regional Response Team, and oversaw all

Continued on next page

response activities and training of agency personnel.

Larry received the Governor's Commendation and the EPA Notable Achievement Award for state-federal cooperation for DEQ's response to the May 3, 1999, tornadoes. Fifty-one separate tornadoes left Oklahoma to cope with 2 million cubic yards of debris, and the temporary loss of 51 public water supplies and 46 wastewater treatment systems due to interrupted electrical power. As Emergency Response Coordinator, Larry was instrumental in forming a partnership among DEQ, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). He eased the daunting task of documenting compliance with applicable federal and state environmental requirements by leading the change from a multiple-day process to one taking less than a day. The new Emergency Disposal Site Evaluation and Registry allowed local DEQ Environmental Specialists to more quickly help cities and towns select, evaluate and document compliance for emergency burning, burial and/or stockpiling sites. With Larry as central coordinator for environmental matters, all agencies followed a single-minded course of action in assisting Oklahoma's recovery from disaster.

Larry has also been a leader in human resources. DEQ implemented the new pay movement mechanisms in the Compensation, Classification and Reform Act to advance employee salaries when funds permit and the



Co-workers and friends present at Larry Gales retirement reception.

increases are strongly justified. Larry developed a realignment model to aid in conducting impact studies of positions and salaries. His effort enabled DEQ to improve salaries within the context and intent of the Act, while maintaining a reasonable pay structure.

For the last 15 years, Larry has been active in several training roles. He developed and delivered a series of training courses to help fulfill the training requirements for managers. His efforts produced more than a dozen new training sessions on topics related to supervision and management, with special emphasis on new and intermediate supervisory skill development.

Larry's other career highlights include refinement of job descriptions and development of staffing models and related performance budgeting efforts. He helped improve the state's mobile and support emergency response capabilities, ground water protection programming, and surveying and assessment methods in asbestos control. He developed



Steve Thompson presented Larry Gales his 30-year service pin during Larry's retirement party at the DEQ.

prototype modeling for community involvement in environmental decision-making and participated in national forums for implementing nationwide environmental programs.

In addition to all his achievements at DEQ, Larry is also a veteran of the Vietnam War, proudly serving our nation from 1966 to 1969. He received the Vietnam Service Ribbon, Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, Bronze Star with "V" device and the Good Conduct Medal.

Larry's post-retirement plans include catching up with "honey-dos" that have stacked up over the years. He will continue his involvement in promoting and

delivering motorcycle safety training; Larry is a nationally certified Rider Coach and conducts basic courses for beginning motorcycle riders. Larry states that “enforcement has its place, but the only solution to rising crash and fatality rates is education, both of new riders and experienced riders.”

Larry has been invaluable to the environmental well-being of the state of Oklahoma. A plaque in his office reads, “Remember whence thou came.” The plaque was presented to him more than 20 years ago by his coworkers when Larry left the northeast district for Oklahoma City. They wanted Larry not to forget lessons learned in the field. He took their advice to heart

and it has inspired his service ever since.

Larry is known for considering the impact of his decisions on all facets of the agency. Many years ago, the individuals whom Larry managed in the Northeast District advised him to “command respect, not demand it” – to consider the broad, long-term consequences of his decisions. Larry Gales has lived this maxim, and he has inspired those who work for DEQ to remember not only “from whence we came,” but to remember those who brought us. Thank you, Larry.

Larry Gales with the award he received from the Oklahoma Emergency Management Agency.



Sanger Contributes at National Brownfields Forum



Jerry Sanger, DEQ Attorney

Jerry Sanger, Environmental Attorney for the Land Protection Division at DEQ, was selected to participate in a panel discussion with Marianne Horinko, former Acting Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Sanger participated along with other EPA and U.S. Department of Justice attorneys

and private attorneys from the Washington D.C. area. The panel discussion was held at the national Brownfields Conference in Denver, Colorado, in November 2005. The panel topic was the impact of the *Aviall* decision on voluntary cleanups, *Cooper Industries v. Aviall Services*, 125 S.Ct. 577 (2004).

In Memory of Don Pendergraph

(1957-2005)



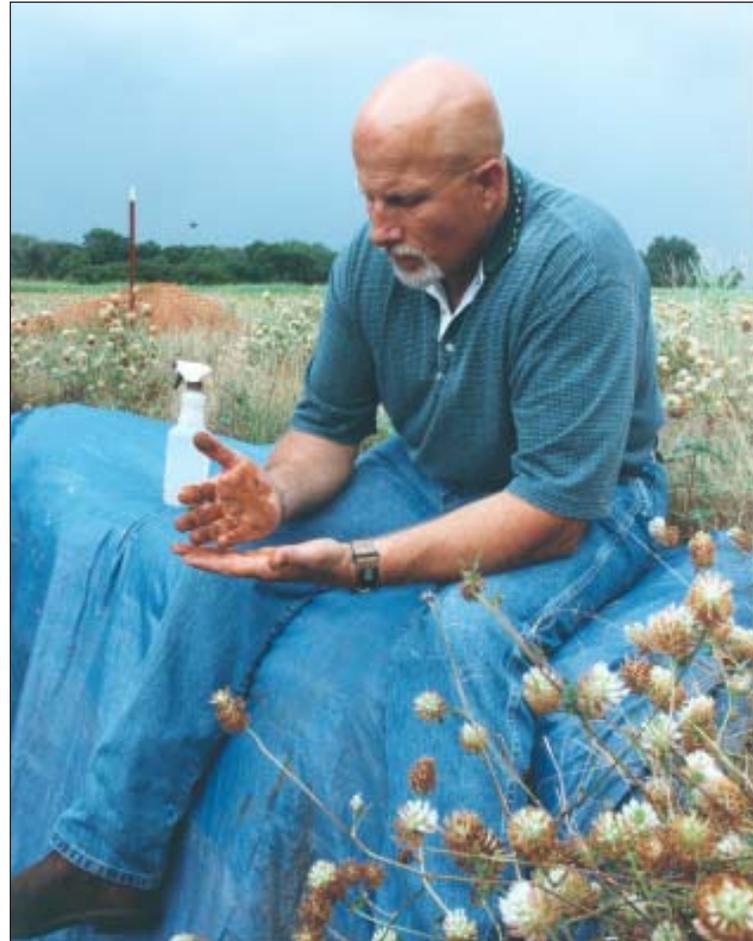
ECLS lost a dedicated employee and great friend in September 2005. Don Pendergraph, Regional Manager for Western Oklahoma, died unexpectedly, leaving behind many friends and family. Don was a devoted father and husband, a man who loved Oklahoma.

Don made his home near Snyder, Oklahoma. He entered government service in order to protect the natural beauty of his home and his state. Don began his career as an Environmental Specialist in Kiowa County. For 15 years, he worked hand-in-hand with his fellow citizens to appreciate and protect the beauty and fragility of the natural world. Then as Regional Manager, Don served for seven years as environmental guardian of Oklahoma's western counties.

Don took his duties as a DEQ employee seriously. He could often be found at the scene of accidents and natural disasters for 10, 12, or even 24 hours, working to set things right. Don bore his burdens and carried out his work without fanfare or complaint. What he accomplished has touched and helped more people than ever will be known. His perseverance earned distinguished service awards from three Oklahoma governors and recognition from the Oklahoma

Society of Environmental Health Professionals. Don did not work for awards; his motivation came from the opportunities he had to preserve the fresh, clear morning air; rolling, green Oklahoma prairies; clean, sparkling creeks. He worked for the people of Oklahoma.

More than a dedicated employee, Don was a great man, a committed husband and father, and a good friend. Don cared more about others' problems than his own, offering a hand, a little friendly advice and correction, and a spirit of celebration for every triumph you cared to share. Don saw through people's exteriors directly into their hearts. He could sense what they needed in order to succeed. If it was within his power to provide, he would see that they received what they needed. He was there to help with a move, to lend his truck, to share advice on parenting, or just to speak the



Don Pendergraph getting his hands dirty at a soil texturing class.

truth as he saw it.

Don Pendergraph's legacy of enthusiasm and commitment to this agency serves as an enduring example not only of how to succeed as a state employee, but how to succeed at life. In remembering him, we do not ask why he died; rather, we celebrate why he lived. In that, we find Don's guiding influence living on in our work and our daily lives.

Two Lifetime Achievement Awards Earned by Shields



Susie Shields, DEQ Environmental Educator, received two lifetime achievement awards in FY 2006. In February, Shields was honored at the 2006 Environmental Education Expo by the Oklahoma Association for Environmental Education (OKAEE), where she has served as president, conference chair and newsletter editor. Her hallmark publication, the *EnvironMentor* newsletter, has been an environmental education resource for more than 4,000 Oklahoma educators for nearly a decade. The newsletter covers national and statewide events, resources, grants, sustainability topics and much more. Back issues are archived at www.okaee.org.

At a separate event, the Metropolitan Environmental Trust (M.e.t.) presented Shields with a lifetime achievement award in November 2005, acknowledging her long record of behind-the-scenes work for environmental quality on behalf of Oklahomans. Ms. Shields was the Canadian County recycling and marketing director for four years before coming to DEQ, where she devotes her time to educating consumers and promoting consumption reduction and recycling. She is noteworthy for her success in motivating individuals to make lifestyle choices consistent with a sustainable future.



Susie Shields, LPD Environmental Educator, displays her two Lifetime Achievement Awards.

The M.e.t. award also recognizes Shields' history of organizational service as president of Keep Oklahoma Beautiful; founding board member, secretary, communications chair and conference co-chair of the Oklahoma Sustainability Network; and board member with the Oklahoma Consortium for

Environmental Literacy, Oklahoma Kids in Environmental Education, Inc., the OSU Center for Environmental Education, the Oklahoma Sierra Club and others. Shields is currently the president of OKRA, the Oklahoma Recycling Association, where she works to promote and encourage recycling.

Angela Brunzman Receives International Certification



Angela Brunzman, Program Manager in the Land Protection Division (LPD), received Interim Cost Consultant certification from the Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering International, in January 2006. As a LPD employee, Brunzman has also earned a Master of Science degree in Construction Administration from the University of Oklahoma, College of Architecture.

Brunzman's skills and knowledge contribute to the quality of DEQ's construction contract management, scheduling and cost estimating. Cost engineering is the area of engineering practice in which judgment and experience are used in applying scientific principles and techniques to problems of cost estimating, cost control, business

planning and management science profitability analysis, project management, planning and scheduling. This becomes especially important to DEQ when estimating costs for long-term remediation of contaminated property and for future costs of monitoring and maintaining remedies.

LPD, as lead agency for Superfund projects in the State, works closely with EPA, consultants and contractors to protect human health and the environment. Multimillion-dollar remediation projects require a strong professional understanding of established project management practices, especially cost management.

What are the objectives of professional certification?

- To raise the professional

standards and improve the practice of cost engineering by giving special recognition by their peers to those who, in fulfilling prescribed standards of performance and conduct, have demonstrated and maintained a high level of competence and ethical practices.

- To identify for employers, clients and the public, persons with a broad knowledge of cost engineering, and the capability to professionally apply the principles of total cost management.
- To establish a program with the goal of continuous improvement of individual cost engineering skills and professional development.
- To clarify the skills, knowledge and standards of conduct for the practice of cost engineering.

Angela has exhibited through education and professional testing that she has acquired and maintains these skills. She is an asset to the agency.

Angela Brunzman, LPD manager.



Cantwell Photos Displayed at Smithsonian



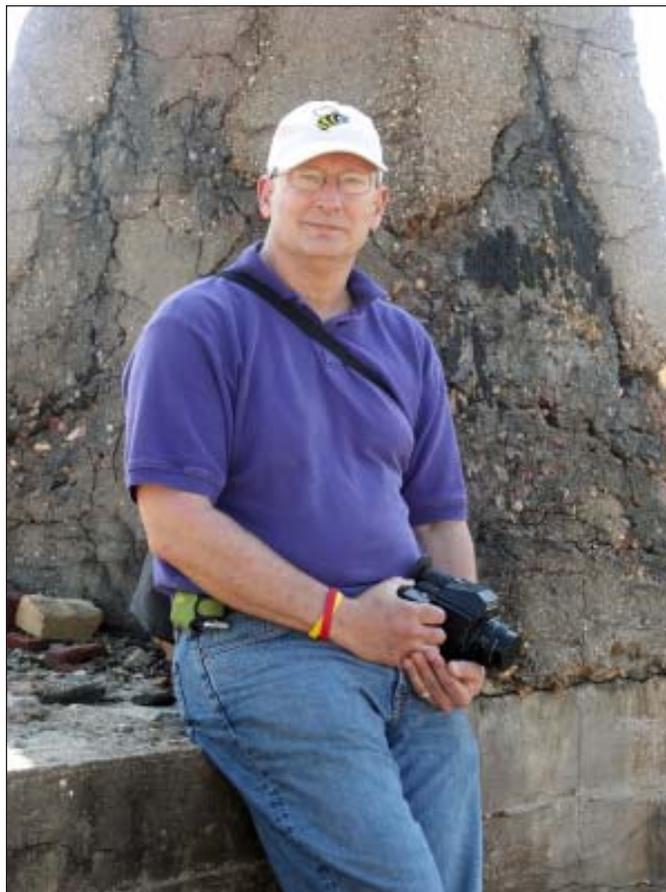
Photos exhibited at the Smithsonian – a before and after shot of the Parawax Oil Reclaiming facility in Oklahoma City.

In December 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) celebrated the 25th anniversary of the federal Superfund program, created to support the nationwide cleanup of historical and abandoned hazardous waste sites. The occasion was commemorated with an oral history capturing the experiences of those who shaped the program and a photographic history documenting Superfund accomplishments. In preparation, EPA requested photographs from all of its regions.

Hal Cantwell (Land Protection Division) submitted several he had taken at Oklahoma sites. Three were selected as Region 6 finalists. Of more than 300 total submissions nationwide, two of Cantwell's photos made the final cut and were displayed at the EPA 25th Anniversary exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington,

D.C. When the exhibit closes, the photographs will be on permanent

display at EPA Headquarters in Washington, D.C.



Hal Cantwell, LPD Environmental Specialist, in unfamiliar pose – as the subject of the photo and not the photographer.

Monty Elder Graduates from Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute



Monty Elder (center) receives her EPHLI diploma from Dr. Sharunda Buchanan and Capt. John Sarisky, both of CDC.

Monty Elder, DEQ spokesperson and program manager, was selected for the first Environmental Public Health Leadership Institute (EPHLI) sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Nationwide, 35 fellows were selected to participate in the inaugural institute. EPHLI is a competency-based program for

developing strategic visioning and direction-setting skills specific to the practice of environmental public health. Critical thinking and analysis, political effectiveness, as well as organizational and team development are emphasized. After 18 months of study, Elder graduated at ceremonies held in Atlanta on March 1, 2006.

Air Quality Education Committee Provides Decade of Service to Oklahoma Citizens



Promoting appreciation of Oklahoma's clean air is the mission of the Air Quality Education Committee. The group formed in June 1995, in response to frequent public requests for air quality presentations and educational materials. Ten years later, the committee remains committed to educating Oklahoma citizens about air quality and what can be done to keep our air clean. Air Quality Division (AQD) employees volunteer, contributing to its continuing success.

This dedicated, creative group develops hands-on activities and visually appealing educational materials that are engaging for learners. For example, *Understanding Air Pollution in Oklahoma* is a comic book that teaches school children how ambient air is monitored. The Air Quality Survivor



Students enjoy assembling the new puzzles.

Challenge is an interactive game comprised of a series of environmental challenges. Game topics include ozone, carpooling, alternative fuels, recycling, and renewable and non-renewable resources. The game has become a

teaching model for all of DEQ. Other educational materials developed by the committee include fact sheets, coloring books and puzzles. These are located on the AQD Web site at www.deq.state.ok.us/AQDnew/education/education.htm.

Every year, the Air Quality Education Committee reaches thousands of Oklahomans. Members participate in teacher conferences, conservation resource days, environmental fairs and career days, as well as conducting presentations for schools and communities. With their excellent contributions to environmental education, committee volunteers are showing their dedication to helping Oklahomans learn more about our valuable resources.

Water Quality Staff Recognized



WQD Industrial and Municipal Permitting Sections Recognized

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) presented staff of the Water Quality Division's Industrial and Municipal Permitting sections with Certificates of Achievement in February 2006 to recognize their outstanding performance in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The sections met national goals by having 90 percent of all NPDES permits current and 95 percent of all priority permits issued in FY 2005.

NPDES permitting regulates point sources that discharge pollutants into U.S. waters. The Oklahoma program ensures that pollution discharges do not compromise the water quality standards in place for receiving streams, keeping the water safe and appealing for their particular beneficial uses, such as swimming, fishing, recreation and supplying drinking water. EPA recognition is just one more way in which Oklahomans can know that DEQ's water quality programs are protecting the state's public water resources.

WQD Public Water Supply Enforcement Staff Recognized

The Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) awarded Certificates of Appreciation

to four engineers from DEQ's Water Quality Division in August 2005, in appreciation of their five years of work toward establishing the Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) for drinking water in Oklahoma. Steven Hoffman, Robert Mullins, Pratap Ganti and Public Water Supply Enforcement Section Manager, Kay Coffey, were the recipients.

In a letter of gratitude, Richard Lieberman, ASDWA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, said of the engineers, "It has been and continues to be a real honor and joy to work with such dedicated public servants as the Oklahoma AWOP team. You have all truly gone beyond the call of duty to enhance the protection of public health in your state, and those efforts have benefited other parts of the country, as well." AWOP encourages states to develop programs for optimizing particle removal and disinfection capabilities at

conventional surface water treatment plants to better protect public health.

WQD Public Water Supply Administrative Staff Recognized

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water presented a Commitment to Excellence award to WQD Public Water Supply staff at the May 2006 Association of State Drinking Water Administrators Data Management Users Conference. Public Water Supply Engineering Manager Mike Harrell accepted the award, which recognizes DEQ as the first Drinking Water Primacy Agency in EPA Region 6 to report all data using the modernized data flow. The EPA award also recognized DEQ's consistent, active participation in national drinking water data management meetings over the past several years.



Cynthia Dougherty, Director of the Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water, U.S. EPA, presents award to Mike Harrell.

DEQ Green Team Keeps Oklahoma Beautiful



The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Green Team received the first place Government Agency Award for Environmental Improvement in the Keep Oklahoma Beautiful environmental excellence competition for 2005. The out-of-state judging panel commented that the Team is an

“extremely creative group with commitment and resolve. The DEQ Green Team should be an absolute role model for all government agencies!”

The Green Team, an employee-driven group, meets at lunch to develop strategies to improve DEQ’s environmental stewardship. Team members strive to implement the best

management practices available to reduce office waste, increase energy efficiency, promote low-maintenance landscaping and provide environmental outreach to employees.

Among its most recent accomplishments, the Green Team located a recycling vendor for DEQ’s used mercury-containing fluorescent bulbs and is donating the agency’s spent coffee grounds to community garden compost projects. The Team organized an energy audit of DEQ’s main building by OU LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) students. It now is exploring green purchasing policies; already, DEQ purchases the largest percentage of wind energy allowed by the local vendor.

Every DEQ employee is invited to attend Green Team brown bag lunch discussions. Topics presented in FY 2006 included the Oklahoma Nature Conservancy, a Green Holidays Idea Exchange, the Zero-Energy House, DEQ Recycling, Commuter’s Choice Program and Composting 101.

As a reminder of its wide-ranging accomplishments, the Green Team’s Keep Oklahoma Beautiful award was displayed for several weeks, rotating among the divisions’ reception areas. The real reward for Green Team members, however, has been the positive reception given to their eco-initiatives and the agency-wide appreciation for environmental stewardship.



Head Start children and volunteers build a bin at their community garden for composting spent DEQ coffee grounds.



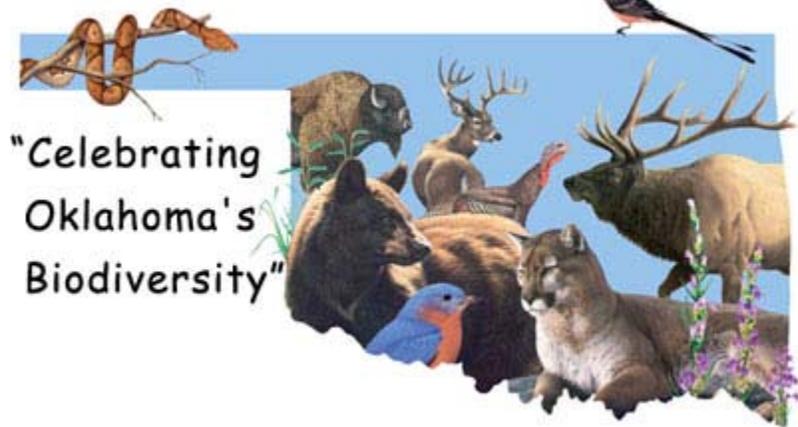
Front row from left to right: Colby Mullins, Patricia Chawla, Elena Jigoulina, Ilda Hershey, Cheryl Dirck. Back row from left to right: Jennifer Alig, Nancy Marshment, Heather Bragg, Tom Beall, Karen Milford, Melissa Sims, Karen Miles, Denise Harkins, Mark Derichsweiler, Tyler Haas, Susie Shields. Not pictured: Nancy Cain, Bernice Green, Karen Hrbacek, Bryce Hulsey, Evelina Morales, Eric Pollard, Fenton Rood, and Dianne Wilkins.

DEQ Partners with OKAEE to Celebrate Biodiversity



Each year, environmental educators gather for the Oklahoma Association for Environmental Education (OKAEE) expo. "Celebrating Oklahoma's Biodiversity" was the theme for this year's event. Participants enjoyed the variety of information sessions, gathering new educational materials from exhibitors and networking with peers.

OKAEE's mission is to support Oklahoma educators and promote environmental literacy through communication, resource-sharing, skill-building and recognition of excellence. Like OKAEE, DEQ supports environmental education programs throughout the state. The agency is instrumental in OKAEE's continuing success. In



DEQ participated with environmental educators to celebrate biodiversity in Oklahoma.

addition to exhibiting at its annual events, DEQ employees fill OKAEE leadership roles throughout the year. The partnership benefits both groups. OKAEE members benefit from DEQ's sponsorship of the annual conference and in-kind contributions. DEQ benefits from networking with other

organizations and developing new partnerships.

The annual conference brings together a diverse group of attendees. Teachers, youth leaders, school administrators, college students, nonprofit organizations, and state and federal agencies join in the shared cause. OKAEE is an affiliate of the North American Association for Environmental Education. For more information, visit the OKAEE Web site at www.okaee.org/index.php.

DEQ employees enjoy interacting with Oklahoma's educators at the annual OKAEE Expo.



DEQ Launches “My Facility” Initiative



Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staff are forging a stronger connection with the facilities they regulate. They have realized the need to better assist certain segments of the regulated community to achieve and maintain compliance with environmental regulations. In response, the agency is trying a “My Facility” approach, acting on the premise that environmental challenges faced by the regulated community are also DEQ’s problems to help solve. To that end, DEQ is providing that community and the public with a single point of contact for certain regulated activities. The Environmental Complaints and Local Services (ECLS) and Water Quality (WQD) divisions already have appointed designated contacts for water and wastewater oversight activities. The Land Protection Division (LPD) is taking similar steps,



Robert Jemison (center) of ECLS meets with representatives from the City of Sulphur to inspect a recently completed regrading and remediation project at the outfall from the City's wastewater treatment plant.

although in some cases, a regulated facility may have more than one contact.

DEQ continuously seeks to better serve its customers, especially those most in need. Smaller communities that lack resources to implement sometimes costly and complicated regulatory programs often need special assistance. DEQ project managers can

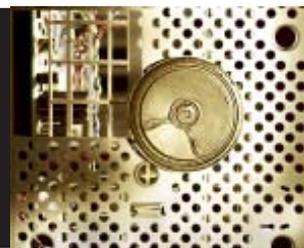
provide guidance and point toward innovative technologies and cost-saving methods worth exploring. The “My Facility” approach emphasizes opening the lines of communication, so the agency’s technical assistance is offered where it is most needed. With this approach, DEQ has helped several small communities with outstanding compliance issues. Consulting with community officials and certified operators of local water and wastewater systems frequently leads to resolution without formal or escalating enforcement action.

Given its early successes, DEQ will continue the “My Facility” initiative so that technical assistance reaches the Oklahoma communities with the most pressing environmental needs. Working together, these communities will attain compliance and the state will realize tangible benefits from DEQ’s protection of our environmental resources.



Darris Vanhooser (left) lends a hand with some regrading around the newly constructed effluent lift station at the City of Sulphur's wastewater treatment plant.

IT Development Team Improves Data Collection Processes



DEQ's Information Technology Development Section, working with the agency's divisions, has developed several enhanced data collection processes for filing, processing and accessing information. Not only are DEQ employees pleased with the results, but the regulated community is offering positive comments, as well.

Online Reporting of Excess Emissions

The Air Quality Division's (AQD) Compliance and Enforcement Sections enforce excess emissions reporting requirements. Industry personnel are to report occurrences of excess emissions no later than the next working day, and to follow up within 10 working days with a written report. In the past, immediate notifications have been made by phone or fax, and 10-day written reports have been mailed. Employees would review the data received, then manually enter the notification and 10-day report into their databases. If data submitted were incorrect or incomplete, staff would call or e-mail the facility for corrections and the entire process would be repeated.

The Compliance and Enforcement Sections worked with the IT development team to provide online reporting. The new system became available December 1, 2005. Now facilities can submit immediate

notifications on-line; if they wish, they can complete the 10-day report on-line, as well. The process is faster, more convenient, and it assures that all data are submitted correctly. Facilities receive a printable, comprehensive report to serve as proof of submission. Air Quality staff can review the data submitted online and upload acceptable data into the division's database—or they can e-mail facilities whose submissions are rejected, all with the click of a button. Staff can also list facilities, edit facility information, create company IDs and passwords and e-mail updated information. The online system has proven successful and is being widely used by industry personnel and DEQ.

Data Integration for Public Water Supply Reporting

Conducting analyses of public water supplies is a primary function of the State Environmental Laboratory. The Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS) is DEQ's data repository for information such as legal entities, contact information, water system facilities, sampling points, analytical results, and violations and enforcement actions. Recent upgrades to BACTI and AQUARIUS, the laboratory database applications for analytical

samples and results, have made it possible to integrate SDWIS data for more accurate reporting of laboratory data. This improves turnaround times for public drinking water compliance determinations which, in turn, allows DEQ to do a better job of protecting public health. DEQ customers, including federal, state and local government agencies, corporations, businesses and private citizens can get their sample results much more quickly now by using the Safe Drinking Water Information System Web page at <http://sdwis.deq.state.ok.us>.

Electronic Public Water Supply Reporting

Scheduled for release in fall 2006, the Electronic Monthly Operator Report (eMOR) is a major advance for system operators responsible for monthly reporting to DEQ on the quality and treatment of drinking water in Oklahoma communities. Reports consist of numerous hourly and daily readings. eMOR replaces the paper forms that had to be completed by hand and mailed to the agency. The electronic system automatically checks data integrity, reducing errors and omissions. Data reaches DEQ much faster, then automatically is

Continued on next page



Amie Peterson, ECLS, gets a water system operator's signature on the new electronic inspection form.

entered into the agency's data systems, saving staff time and eliminating typographical errors.

Electronic Field Inspections Application

The IT Development Section, with guidance from agency inspectors, is concluding development of an application for conducting field inspections electronically. The technology promises to save hours of manual data recording and processing time. The application is initially focused on public water supply inspections, but its uses can be expanded with only a minimal amount of programming effort. The application will run on laptops, Pocket PCs and Tablet PCs. Tablet PCs appear to offer the best platform for both programming and physical operation.

Historically, these inspections were completed with pens and paper forms. They were somewhat more complicated than a simple form can reflect, and inspectors had to rely heavily on memory and experience. In addition to being recorded on paper, inspection data had to be entered into two separate computerized data systems, one for internal tracking and



Inspection reports are printed on-site with the new Tablet PCs and portable printers.

another for reporting to EPA. The new system prompts inspectors to enter data for all inspection points and the corresponding state statutes can be displayed for reference. Because the information is electronically stored, it is then uploaded into agency data systems upon return from the field. This both ensures accuracy of the information, and saves time by eliminating the need for manual entry.

DEQ Shares Tips, Techniques at National SDWIS Meeting

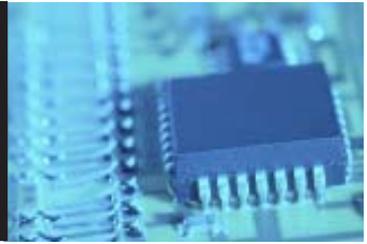
DEQ employees recently shared their tips and techniques for

customizing the Web-based Drinking Water Watch computer application at a national SDWIS State Web Release training. Drinking Water Watch gives public Internet-access to drinking water information. Oklahoma was the first state to deploy the application and is the only one displaying real-time data. Steven Wright, Professional Engineer (Public Water Supply Section, Water Quality Division), shared tips with states wanting to customize the program. Darryl Snow, Database Administrator and Application Developer (Information Technology Development), explained how to keep the Web-based water data secure. Forty-five participants attended from regional and national EPA offices and 21 states. Also attending were representatives from Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), the software development company contracted by EPA to develop SDWIS State. The session was held March 14-16, 2006, at EPA Region 7 offices in Kansas City.



Darryl Snow at the national SDWIS State Web Release

DEQ Participates in EPA's Central Data Exchange Network



The Central Data Exchange Network (CDX) is a secure Internet- and standards-based approach for exchanging environmental data and improving environmental decisions. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), state environmental departments, and U.S. tribes and territories are partnering to construct the network. The effort will increase access to environmental data and make data exchange more efficient.

CDX partners each maintain individual servers called Network Nodes. Each node is a single point of presence on the network that serves

as the exchange center for all data requests and submissions. Secure Network Nodes detect and submit requests for data from other information-trading partners, then deliver or publish the data in accord with prescribed methods. The nodes authenticate all data requests to ensure they originate from an authorized trading partner.

The power of the network lies in the technology that nodes use to transmit data among the partners. XML (Extensible Markup Language) is an open standard that describes data through simple but rigid syntax rules. It provides a

standard base from which everyone may exchange data, regardless of the computer system or platform used. In short, XML overcomes system incompatibility, translating information into a common data structure and format. With XML, existing data management systems remain in place. Data are transformed as they enter and exit each system, without changing their meaning or appearance.

DEQ has made a commitment to participate in the Central Data Exchange Network. A CDX Node was developed this year and now provides data flows for the Facility Registry System, National Emissions Inventory and Safe Drinking Water Information System, with many more systems planned.

DEQ Launches New Intranet Web Site



Kim Faulkner, Denise Harkins and Eddie Feng—Intranet Team.

DEQ employees now have individual access to the most current agency information by using the new online, in-house Intranet Web site. The site contains an agency calendar, announcements and many agency forms and documents. For example, employees have quick access to Human Resources forms, job announcements, DEQ news clippings, and articles and photos

pertaining to DEQ-sponsored programs. They can locate co-worker contact information in the DEQ phonebook and use an online program called TrackIt to report computer requests and problems. Each division maintains a section of the Intranet for posting division news, guidelines and other information to assist with employee productivity, efficiency and well-being.

The Intranet is a cooperative project developed and maintained by the Information Technology Operations and Development sections using Mambo, a content management system. Having work-related information merely a click away will be a great asset to DEQ employees. The Intranet is a most welcome addition to the DEQ family of efficient information technologies.

DEQ Upgrades Computer Training Facility



DEQ employees attend EPA training in the new computer training facility

DEQ's recent computer training facility relocation has increased the efficiency and effectiveness of employee training. The new sixth-floor space accommodates up to 22 employees, each able to work hands-on at a compact-sized computer. The former training room was equipped for only eight trainees; the only available computers were hand-me-down models from surplus

equipment. The upgraded facility will be used to train employees on software applications needed for their jobs. EPA and other external agency trainers also present classes here when new and updated procedures are required by those agencies.

The room can be divided into two smaller spaces and the computers easily moved away from the desks

when the space is needed for different types of training. New paint, carpeting and wiring have made the space more appealing and functional. The new training facility not only allows more employees to be trained per session, but the equipment assures that DEQ employees can become proficient at precisely the applications they need at their work stations throughout the agency.

New Employees Welcomed to DEQ



Melanie Leathers explains the new HR game played at the end of new employee orientation

New DEQ employees are welcomed and introduced to agency programs at day-long training sessions, held quarterly or whenever 15 new employees have been hired. Each employee receives a reference manual with details of the presentation along with the agency's

Administrative Procedures.

At the morning session, new employees meet DEQ's assistant division directors, who explain the purpose of their divisions and the responsibilities each has to the state and its citizens. In the afternoon, employees learn from Human



Robert Huber, ECLS, presents information about his division at new employee orientation

Resources staff about issues directly affecting their employment, including employee responsibilities. The day concludes with an interactive Human Resources game designed by HR Management Specialist Melanie Leathers to test their new knowledge of agency policies and procedures. The staff tries to answer all of the new employees' questions so they end the day equipped with the knowledge needed for successful employment with DEQ.