

Agency 84 - Department Of Environmental Quality

Statutory Authority:

The Department's statutory responsibilities are based on the Nebraska Environmental Protection Act as well as numerous other statutory programs.

Vision Statement:

The Department is dedicated to its legislative purposes of ensuring and protecting the quality of the natural environment both today and for future generations.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) is to fulfill the role described by the Nebraska Legislature in Section 81-1501:

To accomplish this mission, the Legislature granted the department the authority to perform certain tasks such as issuing permits, inspecting facilities, assuring compliance with standards and regulations and to require remediation where necessary. The department believes these basic tasks are best accomplished by assembling an effective workforce which is organized and trained to carry out the agency's responsibilities. In situations where it is most effective and efficient the department will collaborate with other entities and utilize other creative approaches.

Goals:

The department will pursue the following goals:

- 1) **Effective Workforce.** The agency needs to structure and train its employees to be as effective and efficient as possible to offset declining resources.
- 2) **Timely permitting process.** Permit review and issuance needs to be streamlined and simplified to meet the needs of both the agency (effective workforce) and those in need of a permit.
- 3) **Balanced enforcement.** Enforcement means compliance with the law and a balanced approach between compliance assistance and traditional enforcement tools needs to be reached.
- 4) **Simplify regulations.** Persons and entities affected or protected by our regulations need to be able to understand the requirements with as little difficulty as possible.
- 5) **Community presence and relations.** NDEQ needs to be present in the community that it serves-Nebraska. The agency also must establish working relationships with the citizens and others that we affect.
- 6) **"Back to the basics".** We must become proficient at the fundamental things that the Legislature intended us to do - issue permits, inspect, assure compliance and require remediation where necessary.
- 7) **Assistance.** We need to assist those that we regulate so they can meet or exceed minimum standards. We must make such concepts as pollution prevention and compliance assistance a natural way of doing our job.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	3,767,374	3,635,398	3,554,243	3,578,681	3,555,923	3,689,170
Cash Fund	23,792,402	30,495,891	31,294,720	31,451,875	31,015,858	31,368,135
Federal Fund	31,319,469	34,770,300	35,206,093	35,401,471	35,195,117	35,581,979
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	58,879,245	68,901,589	70,055,056	70,432,027	69,766,898	70,639,284

Agency 84 - Department Of Environmental Quality Program 513 - Environmental Quality

Program Objectives:

The Department is dedicated to its legislative purposes of ensuring and protecting the quality of the natural environment both today and for future generations.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	3,123,918	3,330,708	3,554,243	3,578,681	3,555,923	3,689,170
Cash Fund	23,243,746	29,345,891	30,294,720	30,451,875	30,015,858	30,368,135
Federal Fund	14,633,322	14,630,300	15,066,093	15,261,471	15,055,117	15,441,979
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	41,000,986	47,306,899	48,915,056	49,292,027	48,626,898	49,499,284

Performance Measures:

Performance measures are identified in the descriptions under Program Objectives

Agency 84 - Department Of Environmental Quality Program 523 - Wastewater Loan Fund

Program Objectives:

The Clean Water Loan Fund, commonly known as the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), provides low-interest loans for construction of wastewater treatment facilities. This program also provides community assessment, planning, and small town matching grants for these activities.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	548,656	1,150,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Federal Fund	5,685,775	10,140,000	10,140,000	10,140,000	10,140,000	10,140,000
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6,234,431	11,290,000	11,140,000	11,140,000	11,140,000	11,140,000

Performance Measures:

- 1) Administer the SRF so it will exist in perpetuity as a viable source of financial assistance to communities;
- 2) Maintain an inventory of statewide wastewater needs;
- 3) Fund projects that contribute to the most significant improvement to water quality or public health and meet basin management goals and strategies;
- 4) Promote public participation in the program decision-making process;
- 5) Work with municipalities during facility planning to ensure that cost-effective and appropriate technology projects are evaluated;
- 6) Ensure compliance with all state and federal requirements.

Agency 84 - Department Of Environmental Quality Program 528 - Drinking Water Loan Fund

Program Objectives:

The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) provides low interest loans and loan forgiveness to owners of public water supply systems for construction of storage, wells, distribution, treatment and land for wellhead protection.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	11,000,372	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	11,000,372	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000

Performance Measures:

- 1) Administer the DWSRF so it will exist in perpetuity and grow to become a viable source of financial assistance to public water supply systems;
- 2) Create a statewide inventory of public water supply needs;
- 3) Fund projects that meet the most critical public health needs and further the goals of the Safe Drinking water Act;
- 4) Promote stakeholder participation in the annual program decision-making process;
- 5) Work with public water supply systems during planning to ensure that cost-effective and appropriate technology projects are considered; and
- 6) Ensure compliance with all state and federal requirements.

Agency 84 - Department Of Environmental Quality Program 585 - Low Level Waste Disposal Act

Program Objectives:

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	643,456	304,690	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	643,456	304,690	0	0	0	0

Performance Measures: