

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Drinking Water Advisory Committee is to provide guidance and advice to the Department of Environmental Quality on issues relating to safe drinking water policy and programs for the citizens of the State of Idaho.

Goal #1: Assist the State in retaining primacy of the Drinking Water Program.

Objective 1: *Maintain adequate levels of Agency funding for the drinking water program.*

Task 1: Maintain contact with cities, counties, and other interested groups through their associations.

Task 2: Inform local representatives concerning new regulations pending, and the importance of funding programs to meet these new regulations.

Objective 2: *Review and advise on the drafting of proposed drinking water regulations.*

Task 1: Discuss proposed rules and their impact upon water purveyors prior to being drafted into final form, and actively participate in the negotiated rule making process.

Objective 3: *Evaluate the Department's implementation of public drinking water regulations and provide input back to the Department.*

Task 1: Review the impact of the implemented regulations and provide feedback to the Department.

Objective 4: *Support the Department of Environmental Quality.*

Task 1: Review and advise DEQ regarding drinking water legislation.

Goal #2: Support efforts to increase the awareness of the importance of safe drinking water and the impact of the SDWA and subsequent amendments.

Objective 1: *Provide support for programs to educate and train public water systems on the requirements of SDWA and the importance of safe drinking water.*

Task 1: Support continuation of publication of quarterly newsletters and funding of state wide training programs.

Task 2: Support ongoing dissemination of drinking water information on the DEQ Website.

Objective 2: *Increase public awareness on the importance of protecting Idaho's drinking water resources.*

Task 1: Promote National Drinking Water Week activities throughout the State.

Task 2: Encourage affiliated organizations to issue Articles in their respective newsletters.

Task 3: Encourage affiliated organizations to work with schools on educating students on environmental water issues.

Goal #3: Provide input to the Department on technical assistance needs and programs for public drinking water systems (PWS).

Objective 1: *Understand the types, quantity and quality of technical assistance available to operators and administrators.*

Objective 2: *Review the degree of Department versus private technical assistance.*

Goal #4: Provide input to the Department regarding financial assistance to public water systems (PWS).

Objective 1: *Routinely review, the status of the Revolving Loan Program for PWS upgrades, with the Department.*

Objective 2: *Explore the potential for Department grants for PWS assistance or upgrades.*

Objective 3: *Review Capacity Development regulations as they relate to PWS financial accountability and self sufficiency.*

The Drinking Water Advisory Committee is to evaluate and advise the Department of Environmental Quality on state and federal issues of drinking water policy in an effort to help enhance Idaho's Drinking Water Program and protect Idaho's water resources and the health of Idahoans served by public water systems.