

Regulatory Reinvention within the DEQ continued

The Office of Regulatory Reinvention led the effort and chaired the committee. Members were charged to provide recommendations to the ORR for changes to Michigan's environmental regulations.

The committee met 33 times between June 15 and Nov. 17. The group tackled the DEQ's compendium of environmental regulations, analyzing thousands of regulations in search of rules that were outdated, no longer useful or unnecessarily burdensome to the regulated community.

DEQ staff and leaders were invited to answer questions and provide additional information and feedback on proposed changes to the way Michigan addresses environmental cleanups and regulates impacts to its air, water and soil. Several recommendations also addressed department-wide policy and procedures or non-rule regulatory actions.

In January, the ORR released the final list of 77 recommendations. The DEQ and its stakeholders are working on implementation. The goal, ultimately, is that DEQ will get to remove some burdensome and obsolete regulations, provide more clarity and certainty for the regulated community, and increase stakeholder involvement in the development of DEQ's administrative rules and policy and procedures.