



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 99-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

March 19, 2018

To: Senator Chuck Riley and Representative Nancy Nathanson, Co-Chairs
Joint Committee on Information Management and Technology
Senator Betsy Johnson, Senator Dennis Linthicum
Representative Pam Marsh, Representative Mike Nearman
Cc: Sean McSpaden, Committee Coordinator

Re: Dept. of Environmental Quality Environmental Data Management System Project – **Support**

The League of Women Voters has strong positions on both water quality and quantity, as well as air quality, solid waste and hazardous waste—perhaps every program that DEQ oversees. LWVUS was active in encouraging passage of the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts and continues to advocate to protect that foundational work. We also advocate for federal funding to implement that legislation, an issue of grave concern today. In Oregon, members have studied these issues, recognizing the value of having clean air, clean water and land for public health for today and generations to come.

We support multi-agency work to be efficient in accomplishing the missions of our natural resource agencies. The Environmental Data Management System Project is one of those efficiencies. We appreciate the legislature’s review of informational technology systems and believe your review will result in support of this project. In the hearing on the DEQ budget, we provided the following:

Agency Management (POP 140): We are pleased that the agency has moved toward Stage Gate 3 and the software being considered is an off-the-shelf product already being used by 11 other states in order to update their electronic data management system. **Data-driven policy decisions will provide the best outcomes and help focus limited state dollars on the programs that will help us meet the goal of abundant clean water and clean air for all in the future.** We understand that this system will, in some way, connect with other agency data systems and/or provide data accessible to other agencies that may help with other agency permitting responsibilities. It is important that the information is accessible to all, including the general public.

We encourage your support for this important program. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman Turrill".

Norman Turrill
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy Lynch".

Peggy Lynch
LWVOR Natural Resources Coordinator

Cc: Richard Whitman, Director, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Senator Kathleen Taylor and Representative Jeff Reardon, Co-Chairs Ways and Means Natural Resources Subcommittee