

New North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality Established

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) was officially established effective April 29. This is the first state agency created since 2009.

During the 2017 legislative session, lawmakers passed Senate Bill 2327, separating the Environmental Health Section from the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) to create NDDEQ. The agency's mission remains the same: to conserve and protect the quality of North Dakota's air, land and water resources following science and the law.

"Preserving our natural resources is a top priority," said Governor Doug Burgum. "In the spirit of reinventing government, this new agency gives our environmental team the autonomy it needs to be more efficient, flexible and better able to implement federal regulations."

To create efficiency in state government, NDDoH and NDDEQ are continuing to share services such as human resources, payroll and accounting.

"The team has been working hard for the past two years to make the transition to NDDEQ," said Mylynn Tufte, State Health Officer. "We look forward to continuing to work together as Team ND to make a difference in the lives of North Dakotans."

NDDEQ Director Dave Glatt said, "We are grateful for the working relationship we have with the Department of Health and value this partnership as we strive to safeguard our state's environmental resources for current and future generations."

For more information about the NDDEQ, visit www.deq.nd.gov.

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