Delegation Agreement Initiative

Proposed improvements to delegation agreements for Solid Waste, Drinking Water and Groundwater Protection

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Project Background

Project scope established:

*Improve timely ADEQ feedback and assistance to the delegated authorities*

Why? In their delegated actions, local authorities are an extension of ADEQ.

A focus group of county and city representatives met in June 2018:
- Graham
- Maricopa
- Mohave
- City of Casa Grande
Please partner with us to help make two key improvements in our shared mission to protect public health and the environment:

1. *Routine Performance Evaluations*
2. *Monthly Electronic Reporting of Leaner Data*
1) Routine Performance Evaluations

Purpose:
To help ensure consistent, efficient implementation of delegated ADEQ programs statewide

ADEQ staff from each program will provide guidance and forms to our delegated partners and visit facilities on a regular basis to evaluate performance, identify needed training and discuss how we can improve.

*When?*
Each delegated program will be visited by ADEQ approximately once every three years. For counties and cities with multiple delegated programs, we’ve done our best to accommodate those who prefer the program representatives to visit together on the same day or separately.
ADEQ has developed standard work for conducting performance evaluations to help ensure the most efficient use of your time and add value for all involved.

General process:

1. ADEQ makes initial contact with local authority
2. Meeting date is set; local authority submits questionnaire in advance
3. ADEQ reviews responses
4. Performance evaluation visit is conducted
5. Draft report sent for local authority review/comment
6. Final report sent to local authority (within 16 weeks of evaluation visit)
2) Monthly Electronic Reporting

With input from the focus group, we have improved the reporting we’re asking you to send.

Instead of data that takes extra work for you to summarize, and for us to interpret, we will ask for raw metrics more meaningful to both parties and more directly tied to our shared mission.

Option 1: New online form found at azdeq.gov/final-delegation-agreements

Option 2: Provide data files that correspond with the format in the reporting form, along with explanation of any fields that may not be self-explanatory.
This model of reporting will help ADEQ and local authorities assess our performance as a collective team.

And, it is more closely tied to the types of metrics we already use to self-evaluate.
Agreement Amendments

Each delegation agreement will need to be amended to:

1. Incorporate new monthly data reporting
2. Include other improvements identified by ADEQ and our delegated partners
3. Reflect standard state contract language

Proposed agreement wording changes are coming soon. Thank you for your patience.

An updated delegation agreement template will be used. ADEQ will provide a letter to each local authority, listing every particular change (identified jointly by ADEQ and delegated partners) to the previous fully-executed agreement.
What would you like to get from these evaluations?

ADEQ also welcomes your:

1. Recommendations for training county staff on the new reporting forms
2. Suggestions for amendment process steps
3. Suggestions for coordinating these initiatives with other departments within your county which share delegated functions