

Environmental Quality Budget Requests

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| **Department of Environmental Quality Business Case Requests** | | | | | |
| **Division** | **Description** | **Funding Source** | **Supplemental** | **One-Time** | **Ongoing** |
| Water Quality | Harmful Algal Bloom Fund | General Fund | $126,200 | $178,500 |  |
| Air Quality | Science for Solutions | General Fund |  |  | $500,000 |
| Air Quality | FTE-Stack Testing | General Fund |  |  | $118,700 |
| Air Quality | FTE-SIP Planning | General Fund |  |  | $118,700 |
| Air Quality | FTE-Technical Analysis | General Fund |  |  | $113,300 |
| Local Health Department Services | General Increase for Environmental Services | General Fund |  |  | $500,000 |
| Utah Mapping & Information Partnership | Multiple-Agency Effort-Funding Correction |  | $195,600 |  |  |

## Water Quality-Harmful Algal Bloom Fund

**The Division of Water Quality requests $126,000 in supplemental and $178,500 in one-time funding from the General Fund to create a rainy day fund to address the testing and coordination costs associated with harmful algal blooms.** The Division of Water Quality has identified over two dozen priority water bodies statewide that are at-risk for excessive algal growth, including harmful algal blooms (HAB). The funding will ensure that, should the need arise, the division of water quality will be able to respond to HABs with quick and efficient data collection and have critical information for the Local Health Departments to make decisions to protect public health within 24 hours of data collection. This also address constraints caused by the unbudgeted HAB responses in 2016 and 2017.

## Air Quality: Science for Solutions

**The Division of Air Quality requests $500,000 in ongoing funding from the General Fund to fund the Divisions ability to find solutions for Utah’s unique air quality challenges.** While Utah’s air quality has improved in recent years, the state’s topography, climate, and atmospheric chemistry continue to create unhealthy air conditions during certain times of the year. Utah’s unique topography and challenges requires a targeted approach for local solutions.

This would immediately fund projects to better understand:

* The impact of wood-burning on mandatory no-burn days
* The impact of ammonia emissions from diesel vehicles during winter inversions
* Improved emission inventories and air-quality modeling (in partnership with the University of Utah)

These projects help the state develop cost-effective, targeted regulations that improve air quality and avoid a federal “one-size-fits-all” approach to Utah’s unique air-quality challenges.

## Air Quality FTE: Stack Testing Auditor

**The Division of Air Quality is requesting $118,700 in ongoing funding from the General Fund to further the Divisions stack testing efforts.** [Stack testing](https://www.epa.gov/compliance/clean-air-act-national-stack-testing-guidance) directly measures emissions from industrial air-pollution sources. This testing is the only way to quantify actual emissions and verify the design and operation of air-pollution control technologies. Over the past 10 years, stack test requirements have grown in number and complexity; an additional stack test auditor will ensure DAQ can keep up with the workload and continue to provide exceptional service to our customers.

## Air Quality FTE: State Implementation Plan (SIP) Planning

**The Division of Air Quality is requesting $113,300 in ongoing funding from the General Fund to hire an additional resource to develop State Implementation Plans.** Federal law requires DEQ to develop State Implementation Plans (SIP) to achieve air quality standards. DEQ’s responsibilities for developing [SIPs](https://deq.utah.gov/Laws_Rules/daq/sip/) extends beyond the Serious PM2.5 SIP and the upcoming ozone SIP. The Division of Air Quality (DAQ) is working on a total of 9 SIPs, including those for for other criteria pollutants, including sulfur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen oxides (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO) and particulate matter (PM10). Hiring an additional environmental scientist to take on SIP development responsibilities — including the identification and evaluation of potential control strategies — would ensure the timely completion of accurate, approvable SIPs, allowing us to meet health-based air quality standards in the most economic way possible.

## Air Quality FTE: Technical Analysis Scientist

**The Division of Air Quality is requesting $118,700 in ongoing funding from the General Fund to hire an additional resource to provide technical analysis to the Division.** Recent modeling and research on air pollution episodes have pointed to ammonia as a larger contributor to the formation of PM2.5 along the Wasatch Front than previously thought. However, scientists still need to identify possible sources of this pollutant. A new environmental scientist dedicated to identifying the numerous small sources that contribute to the state’s high ammonia levels will improve our understanding of current conditions, giving us the necessary data to create more effective and cost-conscious control strategies for [PM2.5](https://deq.utah.gov/Pollutants/P/pm/pm25/).

## Local Health Department Services: Increase for Environmental Services

**On behalf of Local Health Departments, the Department of Environmental Quality requests $500,000 in ongoing funding from the General Fund** to ensure that Local Health Departments can continue to provide some of the critical environmental services needed by local communities; including review and approval of building permits, subdivision plats, wastewater disposal, septic systems, local air quality programs and other environmental services. Increasing population growth and greater demand for local health department services has depleted previous funding.

## Utah Mapping & Information Partnership

**The Department of Environmental Quality is requesting $195,600**  **in one-time supplemental funding from the General Fund to complete the work previously funded by the legislature.** Utah Mapping & Information Partnership (UMIP) is a collaborative project between 14 state agencies, local governments, and other public-sector partners to provide:

* High-resolution statewide mapping imagery
* Information sharing where data from UMIP partners can be viewed as layers in a single, map-based system to support improved management, communication, and decision making

This 3-year effort was previously funded by the legislature, however, non-lapsing authority for the initiative was inadvertently dropped last legislative session. This request will restore the funding needed to complete the effort.

## Federal Funds & Dedicated Credits

The Department of Environmental Quality has other requests for authority to collect and spend from federal funds and dedicated credits resulting from changes in our fee schedule and estimated changes in federal grants.