



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • [www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

**Eric J. Holcomb**  
*Governor*

**Bruno L. Pigott**  
*Commissioner*

August 20, 2018

Jason Dudich, State Budget Director  
Indiana State Budget Agency  
200 West Washington Street  
Room 212  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Dudich:

Re: FY20 – FY21 Biennium Budget Transmittal Letter

I am honored to submit the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Fiscal Years 2020 – 2021 biennium budget request. This transmittal letter serves as an overview of the agency, our accomplishments and challenges over the last two years, and our objectives for the next biennium. It also includes a list of the key performance indicators for our agency as identified by the Management Performance Hub, and an organizational chart. It is my hope this letter helps to explain the importance of our great agency and how our budget request supports its activities and initiatives.

## Agency Description

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) was created under Title 13 of the Indiana Code in 1985. IDEM ensures that regulated entities comply with federal and state environmental laws and rules that help protect Hoosiers and our environment. The agency is divided into six main offices, Office of Air Quality, Office of Water Quality, Office of Land Quality, Office of Program Support, Office of the Chief of Staff, and Office of Legal Counsel. Each office supports the various functions of the agency including permit programs, inspection and compliance efforts, compliance and technical assistance, enforcement, collection of samples for testing, and cleanup of contaminated sites. Each of these activities are required to fulfill the agency's responsibilities under state and federal law.

### Office of Air Quality

The Office of Air Quality (OAQ) assures that Indiana's outdoor air quality meets the federal Clean Air Act's national ambient air quality standards. The office regulates sources that emit air pollutants and verifies compliance with applicable state and federal air pollution laws and regulations.

### Office of Water Quality

The Office of Water Quality (OWQ) monitors, protects, and improves Indiana's water quality to ensure its continued use as a drinking water source, habitat for wildlife, recreational resource, and economic asset.

### Office of Land Quality

The Office of Land Quality (OLQ) prevents pollution to Indiana's land resources and protects the public from exposure to harmful contaminants on our land, ground water, surface water, and indoor air.

### *Office of Program Support*

The Office of Program Support helps the agency achieve its goal of compliance among regulated entities and helps Hoosiers understand, achieve, and exceed environmental responsibilities.

### *Office of the Chief of Staff*

The Office of the Chief of Staff supports IDEM's program areas in order to maximize efficiency and achieve the agency's mission. The chief of staff oversees Media and Communication Services, Finance Division, Information Services, Human Resources, and Office of Government Affairs.

### *Office of Legal Counsel*

The Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) provides legal advice to all program areas within IDEM on a wide variety of topics ranging from permitting decisions to enforcement activities.

## **Accomplishments & Challenges**

Over the last two years, IDEM has improved turnaround times for permitting and compliance activities. Permits are issued on time and in real time, meaning they are issued well under the required statutory timeframes. The agency also instituted metrics to reduce the time to issue compliance reports to its regulated entities. The agency has 45 days to issue inspection reports and the current turnaround time is 11 days. This ensures the regulated entities know of compliance issues faster so they can get back into compliance faster, resulting in a safer environment for Hoosiers.

Hoosiers are benefiting from the work of our Offices of Air and Water Quality. In 2018, 97.1% of the state's population live in counties that have air quality that meet all standards. Also in 2018, 98.24% of Hoosiers have excellent drinking water. This population lives in areas where the public water systems did not have any violations.

In addition to ensuring every day compliance, IDEM staff must respond to environmental issues that arise in our state. In the last two years, two major issues arose. One was East Chicago where citizens raised concerns about lead contamination at a Superfund site. Some worried that lead was not only in the soils, but also in drinking water. IDEM supplied water filters to the residents in the Superfund site, did extensive sampling to determine lead levels in city water, and offered water testing for any home whose owner wanted it. This required large amounts of man-hours from IDEM staff, taking them away from their day-to-day activities. A second was the Riverside neighborhood in Indianapolis. IDEM staff held several public meetings with residents to ensure that the public had input into the cleanup of contaminants in the area, and worked to ensure the cleanup was directed by the State of Indiana. This gave businesses and industries in the area comfort and promoted economic development.

As the agency continues to protect Hoosiers and the environment, it faces two challenges. IDEM has a committed staff that has dedicated their careers to ensuring Hoosiers live in a safe environment. Almost 40% of the employees have been with the agency for 20 years or more, with some being employed since the inception of the agency. IDEM is starting to see large numbers of retirements. To address this challenge, IDEM is working with Human Resources to develop a succession plan for positions throughout the agency.

Another challenge is the Excess Liability Trust Fund. The fund is like an insurance program in that it reimburses eligible tank owners for costs they incur cleaning up releases from underground storage tanks. The agency processes almost 3,000 claims each year representing approximately \$50 million worth of reimbursement. IDEM is working to ensure the fund operates efficiently and remains robust. IDEM is establishing a software system to track claims and costs. By September of 2019, the new software system will be in place to allow for electronic submission of documents and strong data collection.

## Next Biennium Objectives

IDEM has submitted a budget proposal that maintains permit issuance timeframes and improves compliance report issuance times.

## Key Performance Indicators

IDEM's key performance indicators are the percent of Hoosiers with Clean Air, the percent of Hoosiers with Excellent Drinking Water, permitting issuance times, and inspection report turn-around times.

## Organizational Chart

IDEM's organization chart is submitted as an attachment to this letter.

Sincerely,

Bruno L. Pigott  
Commissioner