



MEMORANDUM

Prepared for: Oregon State Senate
Date: February 11, 2021
By: Leslie Porter, Analyst
Re: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments

LPRO: LEGISLATIVE POLICY AND RESEARCH OFFICE

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Environmental Quality Commission subject to Senate confirmation.¹

Appointees

Sam Baraso of Portland; Reappointment
Kathleen George of McMinnville; Reappointment

Term

Baraso: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024
George: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2024

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 468.010 \(2019\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Required.

Statutory Requirements³

The commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate (ADDINGTON, **BARASO**, **GEORGE**, KILE, MOSBY).⁴ Members serve four-year terms and at the pleasure of the Governor. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

Duties and Authority

It is the function of the commission to establish the policies for the operation of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in a manner consistent with the air and water quality policies and purposes established in statute.⁵

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2019\)](#), [ORS 171.565 \(2019\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2019\)](#).

³ [ORS 182.100 \(2019\)](#) for affirmative action policy and [ORS 236.115 \(2019\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 468.010 \(2019\)](#).

⁵ [ORS 468.015 \(2019\)](#).

The commission must:⁶

- adopt such rules and standards as it considers necessary and proper in performing the functions vested by law in the commission, including rules for the administration of specified programs, fees, and civil penalties;
- appoint a Director of DEQ who holds office at the pleasure of the commission and provides policy direction to the director and agency;
- administer license, permit, certification, and other authorizations related to sewage treatment and disposal, air quality, and water quality;
- administer federal air and water quality requirements;
- maintain and administer specified funds and grants;
- receive aid and advice from specified advisory committees;
- review and investigate applications and issue orders as necessary to administer air and water quality policies; and
- establish specified priorities for DEQ.

The commission may:⁷

- adopt rules for the administration of specified requirements including specified fees and standards for sewage treatment and disposal, air quality, and water quality;
- grant specified authorization to, approve specific actions by, and delegate specified duties or authorities to DEQ, the director, the Oregon Health Authority, and other specified entities;
- access any pertinent records relating to any property for the purpose of investigating either an actual or suspected source of water or air pollution or air contamination, including but not limited to blueprints, operation and maintenance records and logs, operating rules, and procedures;
- when the commission has good cause to believe that any person is engaged in or is about to engage in any acts or practices which constitute a violation of the laws administered by the commission, institute actions or proceedings for legal or equitable remedies to enforce compliance or to restrain further violations;
- conduct public hearings, issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, records and documents relating to matters before the commission, administer oaths, and make or cause to be taken depositions and receive such pertinent and relevant proof as may be considered necessary or proper to carry out duties of the commission;
- assess, remit, or mitigate civil penalties for specified violations;
- accept federal funds and assistance, grants, and gifts, and participate in federal matching fund programs;
- institute actions or proceedings for legal or equitable remedies to enforce compliance with specified provisions;
- enter into specified agreements with local units of government;

⁶ [ORS 468.020 to 468.996 \(2019\)](#), [ORS 448.407 to 448.450 \(2019\)](#), [454.030 to 454.795 \(2019\)](#), [468A.020 to 468A.820 \(2019\)](#), [468B.010 to 468B.485 \(2019\)](#).

⁷ [ORS 468.050 to 468.996 \(2019\)](#), [454.020 to 454.779 \(2019\)](#), [468A.030 to 468A.803 \(2019\)](#), [468B.030 to 468B.485 \(2019\)](#).

- suspend or revoke specified licenses, permits, and certifications; and
- grant specified variances.

Executive Appointments Board Roster

Environmental Quality Commission

Agency: Environmental Quality
Authorization: ORS 468.010
Members: Min: 5 Max: 5
Term Length: 4 years Limit: 2
Senate confirmation required? Yes

Policy Area: Natural Resources

Board Contact:
Richard Whitman
DEQ
811 SW 6th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204-1390
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Current Appointments:

Member Name and Address (Alphabetical)

Greg Addington

Position Number: 4

Term(s): 07-01-2019 - 06-30-2023
05-25-2018 - 06-30-2019

Sam Y Baraso

Position Number: 1

Term(s): 07-01-2020 - 06-30-2024
02-01-2017 - 06-30-2020

Sam Y Baraso

Position Number: 1

Term(s): 07-01-2020 - 06-30-2024
02-01-2017 - 06-30-2020

Kathleen N George

Position Number: 5

Term(s): 07-01-2020 - 06-30-2024
05-03-2017 - 06-30-2020

Kathleen N George

Position Number: 5

Term(s): 07-01-2020 - 06-30-2024
05-03-2017 - 06-30-2020

Molly L Kile

Position Number: 3

Term(s): 07-01-2019 - 06-30-2023
05-03-2017 - 06-30-2019

Wade Mosby

Position Number: 2

Term(s): 07-01-2017 - 06-30-2021
05-03-2017 - 06-30-2017