

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGENCY OVERSIGHT AND EFFICIENCY**

January 23, 1997 Hearing Room H-170

1 P.M. Tapes 4 - 5

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Rep. Jane Lokan, Chair

Rep. Richard Devlin, Vice-Chair

Rep. Tom Bryan

Rep. Ryan Deckert

Rep. Steve Harper

Rep. Eldon Johnson

Rep. Mike Lehman

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Brian Griffin, Administrator

Valerie Luhr, Administrative Support

Jennifer Peck, Committee Administrator

**MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD:**

Department of Environmental Quality Vehicle Emission Inspection Program

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

Tape/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 4, A		
003	Chair Lokan	Calls the meeting to order at 1 p.m.
<u>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (DEQ) VEHICLE EMISSION INSPECTION PROGRAM</u>		
019		

	<b>Brian Griffin</b>	<b>Committee Administrator. Reviews the budget note in the 1995 DEQ budget report[EXHIBIT A] relating to DEQ's options for contracting with the private sector for operation of the Vehicle Inspection Program.</b>
<b>040</b>	<b>Greg Green</b>	<b>Air Quality Administrator, Department of Environmental Quality. Gives a brief history of air quality issues in the Portland region. Submits and summarizes written material[EXHIBIT B].</b>
<b>100</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Continues presentation.</b>
<b>147</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on use of reformulated gasoline.</b>
<b>147</b>	<b>Rep. Deckert</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on strategies of the program.</b>
<b>168</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Explains the budget note [EXHIBIT A] to Rep. Deckert.</b>
<b>184</b>	<b>Vice-Chair Devlin</b>	<b>Asks what the implications would be if we did not have this type of program.</b>
<b>188</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Explains he will answer Vice-Chair Devlin's question later in his presentation.</b>
<b>191</b>	<b>Rep. Lehman</b>	<b>Questions and discussion: * Air quality standards for Portland specify emissions levels for vehicles or establish air quality standards in attaining emission levels.</b>
<b>209</b>		<b>* Cost of obtaining drops in emissions</b>
<b>224</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Continues presentation.</b>
<b>291</b>	<b>Rep. Lehman</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on the affects of changes by the federal government to air quality standards on the Portland area.</b>
<b>307</b>	<b>Ed Woods</b>	<b>Manager, Vehicle Inspection Program. Submits and summarizes written information[EXHIBIT C] on the emissions testing programs.</b>
<b>383</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on why older vehicles are not held to the same standards as newer vehicles.</b>
<b>404</b>	<b>Woods</b>	<b>Continues presentation.</b>
<b>TAPE 5, A</b>		
<b>007</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on length of time to do an emissions test.</b>
<b>012</b>	<b>Woods</b>	<b>Continues testimony with comments about the enhanced program.</b>

067	Woods	Shows a video on Colorado's vehicle emission testing program.
111	Chair Lokan	Asks how fast a car is run during a test.
121	Woods	Explains the Bar 30 driving cycle used in Oregon.
152	Rep. Harper	Asks when the enhanced testing program will start.
162	Woods	Explains the new program as seen in the video will start in the fall of this year.
166	Chair Lokan	Asks if anyone is in the vehicle during the test.
169	Woods	Explains the procedures.
172	Rep. Lehman	Questions and discussion on who gets tested and what happens if someone does not pass the test.
185	Woods	<p>Responds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Vehicle test boundary</li> <li>* Steps to get a passing certificate</li> <li>* Inability to register vehicle with DMV</li> </ul>
212	Green	Program has been in effect for 22 years and people are familiar with the process.
220	Vice-Chair Devlin	Comments on public acceptance of the program.
243	Green	Explains some of the customer service programs to decrease wait times and the department's request for additional employees.
273	Woods	Comments on an outreach program and technician training programs.
311	Rep. Brian	Questions and discussion on testing fees, contracting out of implementation services, budget report and implementation.
318	Woods	* Testing fees are set by DEQ. Maximum fee set at \$21; current fee is \$10. Fees will cover cost of the program.
367	Woods	* Propose to continue running the program by Oregon state employees, and are requesting additional FTE.
386	Chair Lokan	Asks what states besides Colorado and Arizona have contracted out their programs.
390	Woods	

		<b>Comments the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments that mandated additional areas to have a vehicle inspection program.</b>
<b>TAPE 4, B</b>		
<b>009</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Comments on a report being prepared for the committee that will address issue of a contracted program versus a state-run program.</b>
<b>014</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Requests the total costs for installing the program.</b>
<b>020</b>	<b>Woods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Seven stations in the Portland area.</li> <li>* Sites located for five new stations</li> <li>* Equipment has been purchased with money from test fees</li> <li>* Stations are leased for ten years.</li> </ul>
<b>043</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on handling the vehicles that commute into the Portland area.</b>
<b>053</b>	<b>Woods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Program in Vancouver, Washington</li> <li>* Feasibility of testing vehicles from other areas in Oregon that commute to Portland.</li> </ul>
<b>068</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Asks how the boundaries are determined.</b>
<b>074</b>	<b>Woods</b>	<b>Explains that a committee used a method based on Census tracts.</b>
<b>082</b>	<b>Vice-Chair Devlin</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on reformulated fuel.</b>
<b>093</b>	<b>Green</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Cost five to seven cents per gallon to the consumer</li> <li>* Comes from terminals in state of Washington</li> </ul>
<b>108</b>	<b>Chair Lokan</b>	<b>Asks if we are meeting standards now with present equipment.</b>
<b>110</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>Replies yes; Oregon will not meet standards if we have another very hot summer.</b>
<b>116</b>	<b>Rep. Brian</b>	<b>Questions and discussion on federal standards.</b>
<b>122</b>	<b>Green</b>	<b>* EPA proposed new standard of .08 parts per million</b>

		<p><b>* Problems for the Portland region.</b></p> <p><b>* Violated standards for four of the last five years</b></p> <p><b>* Strategies to reach attainment status.</b></p>
147	Rep. Brian	Questions and discussion on public education.
152	Green	<b>* Public education program is the first in the nation to receive credit from the EPA as an official emission reduction strategy.</b>
172	Chair Lokan	Asks why Texas abandoned their emissions testing program.
176	Woods	<p><b>* Texas had a centralized program mandated by the EPA.</b></p> <p><b>* Cost and conflicts of interest problems</b></p>
202	Chair Lokan	Requests a follow up appearance before the committee for February 6 to discuss costs and results of the study on contracting out services.
224	Stan Sumich	Operations Supervisor, Vehicle Inspection Program. Introduces himself.
232	Chair Lokan	Asks for his analysis of the current and future processes.
234	Sumich	Oregon's current program is a model program for the rest of the country and will be carried forward to the enhanced program.
243	Chair Lokan	Questions and discussion on the training program for enhanced program at the Hillsboro test site.
247	Stan Sumich	<p><b>* Installation of an IM240 dynamometer to operate a pilot project in one lane.</b></p> <p><b>* Training of technicians</b></p>
310	Griffin	Updates the committee on the next week's agendas.
321	Rep. Brian	Request that the committee hear from private companies that provide vehicle inspection service.
332	Chair Lokan	Comments on some possible witnesses.
345	Griffin	Comments on contracted services in the state of Washington.

356	Chair Lokan	References the final report from the Radian Corporation [EXHIBIT D] as a source of technical information.
375	Vice-Chair Devlin	Requests that the committee look at as many states as possible, including those states where the program has not worked.
390	Chair Lokan	Adjourns the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Valerie H. Luhr Brian Griffin

Administrative Support Specialist Administrator

**EXHIBIT SUMMARY**

**A - DEQ Vehicle Emission Inspection, budget report and measure summary, committee staff, 9 pp.**

**B - DEQ Vehicle Emission Inspection, written material, Greg Green, 8 pp.**

**C - DEQ Vehicle Emission Inspection, written material, Ed Woods, 5 pp.**

**D - DEQ Vehicle Emission Inspection, written material, committee staff, 6 pp.**