

# Department of Environmental Quality FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 Budget Request



March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Protecting NC's Water Supply

### **Emerging Compounds** **\$6,055,652 R, \$336,441 NR | 37 FTE**

- Allows DEQ to increase detection and prevention of water and air contamination.
- NR funds for a mobile lab to support hurricane response measures in impacted areas to help bring water systems back online faster.
- 31 FTE to Division of Water Resources and 6 FTE to Division of Waste Management to allow DEQ to conduct in-house sampling and analysis across the state to identify potential sources and range of contamination from per fluorinated (PFAS) compounds and other emerging compounds, pharmaceuticals that pass untreated through current wastewater treatment plants and endocrine disruptors from the disposal of unused pharmaceutical products.

### **Renovate Water and Air Quality Lab** **\$30 million NR**

- Provides funding through limited obligation bonds to renovate, expand North Carolina's 30-year old water and air quality lab at Reedy Creek.
- Lab has not been significantly upgraded since it was built in 1991.

### **Water Infrastructure Funding** **\$800 million NR**

- Provides funding through the Invest NC Bond to help begin to address North Carolina's assessed \$17-26 billion water infrastructure needs throughout the state.
- Funding will return distressed water and sewer systems to sustainable operations, mitigate damage from natural disasters, and best position NC communities for economic growth.

### **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund State Match** **\$2,646,960 R**

- Increases funding for the state match for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund in order to maximize the federal draw down.
- For every one state dollar, the state receives five federal dollars. Including existing appropriations for state match, results in \$35,734,800 from the federal government
- Provides low interest loans to local governments for wastewater infrastructure facilities.

### **Clean Water State Revolving Fund State Match** **\$829,128 R**

- Increases funding for the state match for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund in order to maximize the federal draw down.
- For every one state dollar, the state receives five federal dollars. Including existing appropriations for state match, results in \$29,645,990 from the federal government.
- Provides low interest loans to local governments for water infrastructure projects.

### **Animal Feeding Operations Outreach and Assistance** **\$228,418 R; \$125,000 NR | 3 FTE**

- Creates three positions to provide farmers at animal feeding operations direct technical assistance with regulatory compliance and wastewater management.
- NR funding is provided for grant-in-aid for qualified farmers with waste structures that may be required to do groundwater monitoring. The funding will provide up to 50% of the cost of installation.

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## Strengthening Business Services and Technical Assistance

### **Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) \$173,101 R; \$3,000 NR | 2 FTE**

- ESI works with the private sector to help businesses reduce operating costs and build a network of partners to help foster economic growth in NC.
- Funds two positions and associated operating costs to provide technical assistance and training and to expand the program to additional business sectors.
- Businesses reported over \$8 million in cost savings from ESI-promoted advice in 2017.

### **Permitting Assistance & IT Infrastructure Improvements \$163,126 R; \$500,000 NR | 2 FTE**

- Recurring funds: two positions to provide regulatory certainty and modernize permitting processes.
- Nonrecurring funds to strengthen the department's IT infrastructure in order to support automating some permitting services, growing transparency by developing a customer-focused, transparent online permitting tool.

### **Growing Technical Resources at University Energy Centers \$1,000,000 R**

- Funds energy centers offering technical expertise to grow our state's reliable, renewable energy future at NC State, NC A&T and Appalachian State; supports public and private sectors working to grow clean energy options and scale critical and energy storage.

## Strategic Coastal Resource/Program Funding

### **Shellfish Mariculture Funds \$310,000 R; \$1,180,000 NR | 3 FTE**

- Nonrecurring funds will help grow oyster sanctuaries and fund cultch plantings. Additionally, funding is provided to conduct a market analysis of shellfish mariculture products, and study the efficiency and effectiveness of the current sanctuary and planting programs to help understand the value to our state's fishing industry.
- Two FTEs to allow the Division of Marine Fisheries to deliver better technical support and faster service. Currently, DMF staffing does not provide full coastal coverage and requires significant time to move equipment and personnel from location to location.
- One FTE to augment shellfish sanitation in examining stormwater run-off and related issues. Directly ties to health of State's shellfish and associated waters, as well as public health and safety concerns.

### **Replacing Basic Tools for Marine Patrol's First Responders \$1,100,000 NR**

- Replacement of outdated Marine Patrol equipment, such as outboard motors, boat trailers, and vehicles, that cost more to repair than replace.
- Currently, there are limited recurring funds for equipment repair or replacement for the Marine Patrol.

### **Crab Pot Cleanup \$100,000 NR**

- Provides funds to the North Carolina Coastal Federation to continue the Crab Pot Cleanup Program; funds will support contracts with commercial fishermen to dispose of derelict crab pots that pose a danger to our fisheries.