

STATE OF MONTANA
Office of the Governor
Executive Order No. 4-78

Executive Order re-establishing a Commission on Environmental Quality to promulgate rules under the Montana Environmental Policy Act.

Section 69-6504, Revised Codes of Montana (1947), of the Montana Environmental Policy Act, directs the agencies of state government to prepare environmental impact statements analyzing the economic, social, and environmental impacts of major state actions that will have a significant impact on the environment. Subsequent cases in the Montana Supreme Court have emphasized that executive branch agencies are responsible for adopting rules to implement MEPA.

In Executive Order 4-75, dated April 30, 1975, I created a Commission on Environmental Quality to promulgate uniform rules for the implementation by state agencies of the Montana Environmental Policy Act. Recent changes in the national environmental policy act suggest that it is now time to re-evaluate and update these uniform agency rules.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS L. JUDGE, in accordance with the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby re-establish the Commission on Environmental Quality to promulgate uniform rules for implementation of the Montana Environmental Policy Act. The members of the Commission shall be: the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, the Director of the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, the Commissioner of State Lands, the Director of the Department of Fish and Game, and Lieutenant Governor Ted Schwinden, who shall serve as Chairman. I direct the Commission to work with the Environmental Quality Council and the other agencies of the executive branch and the public in promulgating revised uniform rules for adoption under the Montana Administrative Procedure Act. I also charge the Commission with the continuing responsibility of evaluating and making recommendations for changes in the rules implementing the Montana Environmental Policy Act.

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This Executive Order supercedes Executive Order 4-75 and that order is therefore rescinded.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this eighth day of March, in the year of our LORD, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-eight.



THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR
State of Montana

ATTEST:



FRANK MURRAY, SECRETARY OF STATE
State of Montana

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