The 20th Anniversary of the Environmental Quality Act and ADEQ: Assessing and Protecting the State’s Water Quality

Retrospective on Two Decades of Water Quality Consulting with ADEQ: Lessons Learned and Future Challenges

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Lessons Learned

Good Science + Stakeholder Collaboration = Sustainable Environmental Policies
Good Science

• Reliance on good science was a cornerstone tenet of ADEQ’s philosophy but adherence to that principal has varied

• Do not need to recreate the wheel
  – Benchmark other programs
  – Identify the best
  – Modify to fit Arizona conditions
Stakeholder Collaboration

- Arizona does this better than anyone and should keep it up!
- Success examples:
  - Soil Cleanup Task Force
  - Groundwater Cleanup Task Force
  - Unified Water Quality Permitting Rewrite Project
  - Voluntary Remediation Program
Sustainable Environmental Policies
Future Challenges

• ADEQ staff retention and funding
• Sustainable fee structures for new and existing permitting programs
• Increasing the pace of WQARF clean-ups
• Continued improvement in Arizona’s environmental programs in partnership with stakeholders
Questions?