



Colorado General Assembly  
Joint Budget Committee

# JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE STAFF FY 2024-25 BUDGET BRIEFING SUMMARY

## *Department of Public Health and Environment – Environmental Programs*

The Department of Public Health and Environment's environmental divisions administer programs related to environmental health, including air pollution control, water quality control, hazardous materials and waste management, food distribution inspections, and school inspections for harmful environmental pollutants. The Department's FY 2023-24 appropriation represents approximately 2.0 percent of statewide operating appropriations and 0.9 percent of statewide General Fund appropriations.

### FY 2023-24 APPROPRIATION AND FY 2024-25 REQUEST

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT						
	TOTAL FUNDS	GENERAL FUND	CASH FUNDS	REAPPROPRIATED FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	FTE
FY 2023-24 APPROPRIATION:						
SB23-214 (Long Bill)	808,083,100	115,954,005	295,300,422	66,298,363	330,530,310	1,848.6
Other legislation	26,371,471	22,357,576	435,745	3,578,150	0	33.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$834,454,571</b>	<b>\$138,311,581</b>	<b>\$295,736,167</b>	<b>\$69,876,513</b>	<b>\$330,530,310</b>	<b>1,881.7</b>
FY 2024-25 REQUESTED APPROPRIATION:						
FY 2023-24 Appropriation	\$834,454,571	138,311,581	\$295,736,167	\$69,876,513	\$330,530,310	1,881.7
R1 Public health infrastructure	15,014,300	15,014,300	0	0	0	83.0
R2 Stationary Sources Control Fund	5,900,000	0	5,900,000	0	0	0.0
R3 Health facility licensure funding	2,591,934	2,189,180	402,754	0	0	1.8
R4 State syphilis response	1,971,961	1,971,961	0	0	0	3.8
R5 State lab operating	2,659,000	1,291,100	1,367,900	0	0	0.0
R6 Tuberculosis program infrastructure	305,702	305,702	0	0	0	2.0
R7 Environmental justice	908,940	908,940	0	0	0	7.4
R8 Lead testing support	1,261,155	1,261,155	0	0	0	2.7
R9 Office of Health Equity and Environmental Justice	3,396,753	193,738	1,115,938	1,964,493	122,584	10.4
R10 Office of health equity tribal relations	(65,629)	142,876	0	0	(208,505)	0.9
R11 Technical adjustments	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
R12 Common policy provide rate adjustment	343,974	304,988	38,986	0	0	0.0
Annualize prior year legislation	9,845,564	(12,014,608)	20,744,996	1,115,176	0	(98.3)
Centrally appropriated line items	8,440,523	1,858,408	16,426,403	(8,072,757)	(1,771,531)	0.0
Non-prioritized decision items	2,154,221	1,504,927	(60,809)	708,494	1,609	0.0
Indirect cost assessment	1,082,062	268,738	290,008	82,867	440,449	0.0
ARPA Fund source adjustments	0	0	(16,164,667)	0	16,164,667	(0.2)
Annualize prior year budget actions	(14,797,070)	(5,785,161)	(2,902,115)	(427,763)	(5,682,031)	6.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$875,467,961</b>	<b>\$147,727,825</b>	<b>\$322,895,561</b>	<b>\$65,247,023</b>	<b>\$339,597,552</b>	<b>1,901.7</b>
<b>INCREASE/(DECREASE)</b>	<b>\$41,013,390</b>	<b>\$9,416,244</b>	<b>\$27,159,394</b>	<b>(\$4,629,490)</b>	<b>\$9,067,242</b>	<b>20.0</b>
Percentage Change	4.9%	6.8%	9.2%	(6.6%)	2.7%	1.1%

**R2 STATIONARY SOURCES CONTROL FUND:** The Department requests \$5,900,000 in ongoing cash fund spending authority from the Stationary Sources Control Fund (SSCF). The Department also seeks legislation allowing for the

transfer of \$30 million from the Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC) Cash Fund into the Stationary Sources Control Fund. The goal of this transfer, coupled with fee increases, is to bring the Stationary Source Control Fund into solvency. This appropriation from the SSCF does not require legislation, but an appropriation to the SSCF is necessary for funds to be available and any transfer from the ECMC fund would require legislation. For additional information, see the issue briefing in this document.

**R7 ADVANCING EJ IN ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE:** The Department requests \$908,940 General Fund and 7.4 FTE in FY 2024-25. The request annualize to \$918,772 and 8.0 FTE in FY 2025-26 and ongoing to address environmental inspection and compliance capability in disproportionately impacted (DI) communities.

**R8 LEAD TESTING SUPPORT:** The Department requests \$1,261,155 in General Fund and 2.7 FTE for FY 2024-25 to expand testing and investigation into childhood lead poisoning across the state. Presently, the state of Colorado only conducts lead tests on 23.0 percent of children aged 12 to 24 months enrolled in Medicaid, Child Health Plan Plus or the Colorado Indigent Care Program, with this testing being a federal requirement. Additionally, the testing rate for all children under the age of six in the state is only 7.0 percent annually. The proposed funding would be used to purchase additional equipment to expand lead testing capacity, as well as increasing staff levels to allow for in-home environmental investigations for children identified as having higher levels of lead. The request annualizes to \$950,482 General Fund and 3.0 FTE for FY 2025-26 and ongoing.

**R9 OFFICE OF HEALTH EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:** The Department requests \$3,396,753 in funding, including \$193,738 in General Fund, \$1,115,938 in cash funds, \$1,964,493 in reappropriated funds, and \$122,584 in federal funds, to establish the Office of Health Equity and Environmental Justice (OHEEJ) within the Administration and Support Division of CDPHE. This office would house the staff of the Environmental Justice Program (EJP. long-term stability of funding, transparency of EJP actions and increased efficiency in workflow.

**R11 TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS:** The Department requests approval for several technical changes to the Long Bill including:

- Combining all of the Family Planning Program lines in the Long Bill into one line called “Reproductive Health Program” and rename the subcategory (1) Women’s Health to (1) Community Health.
- Transferring LPHA funding for programs delegated by Division of Environmental Health and Sustainability out of the Administration and Support Division; and
- Adding a letternote for the Mobile Sources program within the Air Quality Division, to identify an estimated \$1,385,405 from the Clean Enterprise Fleet Fund is for informational purposes only.

*This item will be covered in the other half of this Department’s briefing by Abby Magnus.*

## SUMMARY OF ISSUES PRESENTED TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE

**STATIONARY SOURCES CONTROL FUND:** The Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is tasked with air pollution control, with the Stationary Sources Control Fund (SSCF) being a major source of revenue for these efforts. The SSCF is funded primarily through fees on emissions for stationary sources, with existing fees based on tonnage of emissions. In turn, these fees are used by CDPHE to support anti-pollution initiatives. Under present conditions, the SSCF faces insolvency, with the fund expected to have a negative balance in FY 2024-25. This has largely been driven by stagnating revenues due to fees remaining unchanged and increased costs due to legislative changes and recent budgetary requests by the Department, as well as increasing federal standards regarding ozone nonattainment and other forms of pollution.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**TO READ THE ENTIRE BRIEFING:** Go to <http://leg.colorado.gov/content/budget/budget-documents> to use the budget document search tool. Select this department's name under *Department/Topic*, "Briefing" under *Type*, and select a *Start date* and *End date* to show documents released in November and December of 2023.