

THE PROBLEM

When the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) became the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) in 2011, its workload increased dramatically. Despite an initial increase in budget, funding for DEEP has fallen by 20% to its current level of \$163 million in FY 2019.

Further complicating this situation, DEEP staff capacity continues to decline. Over the last decade, staff has fallen by nearly 30%, and another 40% are expected to retire over the next four years.

Cuts in budget and reductions in staff that go unfilled—all while DEEP's responsibilities continue to grow—have created a crisis that could soon grow worse.

A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION

The first clear priority is to refill positions at DEEP with minimal lag time as critical professionals retire.

At the same time, DEEP must be creative and efficient in partnering with universities, nonprofits, and other private entities to stretch their capacity to meet the department's responsibilities.

Lawmakers must also ensure that DEEP has the funding required to hire needed staff and operate more efficiently.



When DEP became DEEP, its budget increased to its peak of \$205 million, but since then has decreased by 20% to its current level of \$163 million in FY 2019.



Over the past decade, DEEP staff capacity has decreased by 29% overall while its responsibilities keep growing.

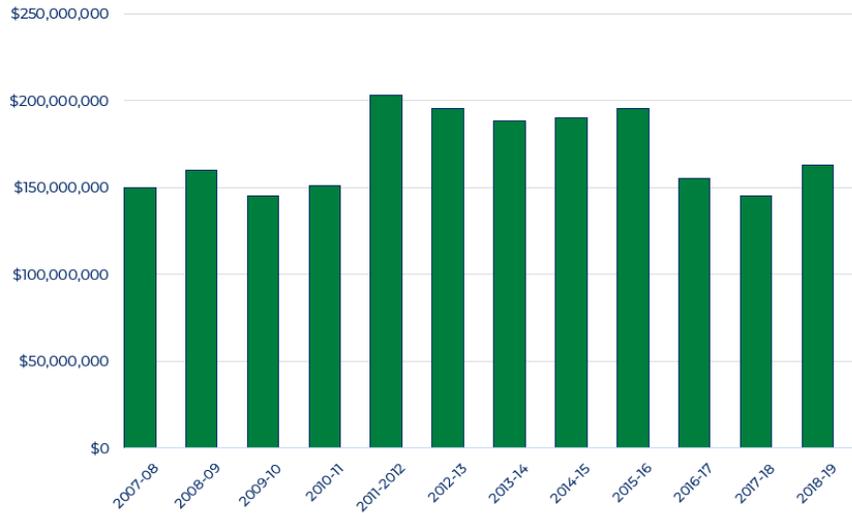


In 2017, DEEP conducted over 3,400 inspections, slightly above the five year average, and the workload is only increasing.

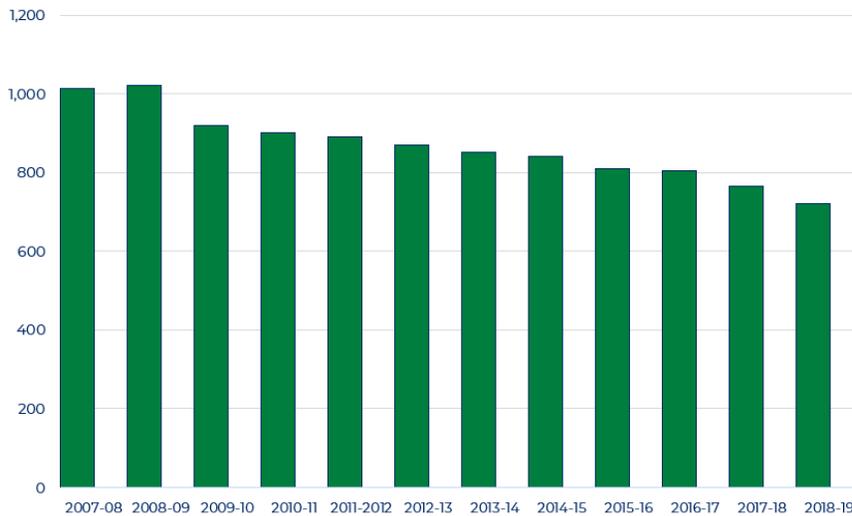




DEEP Funding



DEEP Staff Levels



MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about DEEP funding levels and staffing needs, contact:

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