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## **ADEQ Announces New Search Feature for Public Records**

*MegaSearch tool saves customers' time by providing instantaneous results for tailored independent searches.*

PHOENIX (September 17, 2015) – The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) announced today it now has available through its website an online search engine allowing faster, more direct access to the agency's 19 environmental databases containing information such as a facility's operating permits and compliance history.

Known as MegaSearch (<http://megasearch.azdeq.gov/megasearch/>), the tool allows customers to enter search criteria such as a facility's name and address or its unique ADEQ file number to view a list of relevant environmental records and files of interest. Once identified, the files may be selected from the results page and emailed to the ADEQ Records Center for retrieval and viewing. By conducting their own independent research, customers can save time by eliminating the need to wait for results from a traditional records request with the help of Records Center staff.

"MegaSearch helps prospective land and business owners or anyone who wants to see instantly what environmental activity has been reported for a given location," ADEQ Records Manager Eric Flohr said.

For example, Flohr said if you previously had wanted to know if a nearby gas station had a history of leaking underground storage tanks, you would have contacted ADEQ to submit a research request. Staff would then have accessed these same databases now available online to see what records of activity had occurred at the site. The process could take several days depending on the number of pending research requests, he said.

"Tools like MegaSearch give customers direct and instantaneous access to ADEQ's vast amounts of environmental data from all over the state, which supports more transparent government for our citizens," Flohr said.

For questions about MegaSearch, please contact Eric Flohr at (602) 771-4335 or by email at [jef@azdeq.gov](mailto:jef@azdeq.gov).

### About ADEQ

Established by the Arizona Legislature under the Environmental Quality Act of 1986, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality is the state agency responsible for protecting and enhancing public health and the environment of Arizona.

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