76th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2011 Regular Session MEASURE: HB 2133 CARRIER: Sen. Thomsen

Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass **Vote:** 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Hass, Olsen, Prozanski, Thomsen, Dingfelder

Nays: 0 Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/26

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Water Resources Department (Department) to adopt rules to allow submission of electronic documents, distribution of electronic documents with consent of recipient, or identification of acceptable means to verify authenticity of electronic document. Prohibits Department from requiring submission of electronic documents or from requiring recipient to consent to receive electronic documents. Authorizes Department to reduce or waive fee for electronic document.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Streamlining of Department transactions
- Storage of electronic documents

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Department formed an Efficiency Review Group that met throughout 2009-2010. House Bill 2133 is a result of this process. Current statute requires a number of Department documents to be passed back and forth between the Department and customers in hardcopy. These documents include initial reviews, proposed final orders, final orders, and other records. House Bill 2133 would authorize the Department to allow the use of electronic documents but prohibits the Department from requiring electronic submission.