



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2013 Wisconsin Act 7**  
[2013 Senate Bill 10]

**Clean Water Fund and Safe  
Drinking Water Loan Program**

The Clean Water Fund and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program provide financial assistance to local units of government for the construction of facilities to meet pollution discharge limits applicable to public wastewater treatment facilities and to meet standards for safe drinking water. The programs are administered by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). A portion of the funds used for these programs comes from the federal government, and the use of the federal funds is governed by federal regulations.

### **How Financial Assistance is Provided**

The statutes specify the forms of financial assistance that the DNR may provide under the two programs. These include, for example, subsidized loans and loan guarantees.

The Act authorizes the DNR to provide assistance using the federal funds by any other method that is allowed under the federal regulations.

### **Activities for Which Financial Assistance is Provided**

The statutes authorize the DNR to provide financial assistance from the Clean Water Fund for, among other kinds of projects: (1) projects to prevent violations of discharge limits specified in discharge permits; and (2) projects for the treatment of nonpoint source pollution or urban stormwater runoff.

The Act makes three changes to how the DNR may provide financial assistance from the Clean Water Fund, authorizing assistance for the following:

- Projects related to compliance with conditions of a discharge permit other than discharge limits.
- Projects for the prevention, as well as the treatment, of nonpoint source pollution or urban stormwater runoff.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

- Pilot projects that are consistent with the federal regulations. In addition, the Act exempts these pilot projects from rule-making requirements that apply to other aspects of the program.

The Act does not address the kinds of projects that are eligible for assistance under the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program.

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