



1995 SENATE BILL 308

August 23, 1995 - Introduced by Senators Burke, Chvala, Clausing, C. Potter and Risser, cosponsored by Representatives Reynolds, Baldwin, Black, Bock, Boyle, Carpenter, Dueholm, Hanson, La Fave, Notestein, Plombon, R. Potter, Springer, Wilder and R. Young. Referred to Committee on Environment and Energy.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 160.19 (12); and **to amend** 144.83 (4) (L) of the statutes;
2 **relating to:** groundwater standards for mining activities and mining waste
3 facilities.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of natural resources (DNR) establishes numerical standards, called enforcement standards, for the concentration in groundwater of substances that may have an adverse effect on human health or the environment. Enforcement standards for substances that may have an adverse effect on human health are based on recommendations by the department of health and social services. Generally, a state agency is required to take actions necessary to ensure that the activities, practices and facilities that are regulated by the state agency do not cause the enforcement standards to be exceeded. Mining activities and facilities, including mining waste sites, are not subject to these groundwater enforcement standards. Current law also authorizes DNR to establish groundwater quality standards for mining activities, including mining waste sites.

This bill eliminates the exemption of mining activities and facilities, including mining waste sites, from the groundwater enforcement standards. The bill also eliminates the separate provision authorizing DNR to establish groundwater quality standards for mining activities.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

4 **SECTION 1.** 144.83 (4) (L) of the statutes is amended to read:
5 144.83 (4) (L) Notwithstanding ss. 144.43 to 144.47 and 144.60 to 144.74,
6 promulgate Promulgate rules establishing groundwater quality standards or

1 groundwater quantity standards, ~~or both,~~ for any prospecting or mining activity,
2 including standards for any mining waste site.

3 **SECTION 2.** 160.19 (12) of the statutes is repealed.

4 (END)