1	<b>Section 135.</b> 30.206 (3) (title) of the statutes is created to read:
2	30.206 (3) (title) Procedures for conducting activities under general
3	PERMITS.
4	Section 136. 30.206 (3) of the statutes is renumbered 30.206 (3) (a) and
5	amended to read:
6	30.206 (3) (a) A person wishing to proceed with an activity that may be
7	authorized by a general permit shall apply to the department, with written
8	notification of the person's wish to proceed, not less than 20 business 30 days before
9	commencing the activity authorized by a general permit. The department may
10	request additional information from the applicant notification shall provide
11	information describing the activity in order to allow the department to determine
12	whether the activity is within the scope of a authorized by the general permit and
13	shall inform the applicant in writing of its determination within 10 business days
14	after receipt of adequate information.
15	Section 137. 30.206 (3) (c) of the statutes is created to read:
16	30.206 (3) (c) Upon completion of an activity that the department has
17	authorized under a general permit, the applicant for the general permit shall provide
18	to the department a statement certifying that the activity is in compliance with all
19	of the conditions of the general permit and a photograph of the activity.
20	Section 138. 30.206 (3m) of the statutes is repealed.
21	Section 139. 30.206 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 30.206 (3) (b) and
22	amended to read:
23	30.206 (3) (b) Upon receipt of the department's determination that the
24	proposed activity is authorized by a general permit, If within 30 days after a
25	notification under par. (a) is submitted to the department the department does not

require any additional information about the activity that is subject to the
notification and does not inform the applicant that an individual permit will be
required, the activity will be considered to be authorized by the general permit and
the applicant may proceed without further notice, hearing, permit or approval if the
activity is carried out in compliance with all <u>of the</u> conditions of the general permit.
The department may require an individual permit only if it determines that the
proposed activity is not authorized by the general permit.
<b>Section 140.</b> 30.206 (5) (title) of the statutes is created to read:
30.206 (5) (title) Failure to follow procedural requirements.
Section 141. 30.206 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:
30.206 (6) REQUEST FOR INDIVIDUAL PERMIT. A person proposing an activity for
which a general permit has been issued may request an individual permit under the
applicable provisions of this chapter subchapter or ch. 31 in lieu of seeking
authorization under the general permit.
Section 142. 30.206 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:
30.206 (7) This section does not apply to an application for a general permit for
the Wolf River and Fox River basin area or any area designated under s. 30.207 (1m)
if the application for the general permit may be submitted under s. 30.207.
Section 143. 30.207 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
30.207 (1) GEOGRAPHICAL AREA. For purposes of this section and s. 30.12 (3) (bt)
30.2023, the Wolf River and Fox River basin area consists of all of Winnebago County;
the portion and shoreline of Lake Poygan in Waushara County; the area south of
STH 21 and east of STH 49 in Waushara County; that portion of Calumet County in
the Lake Winnebago watershed; all of Fond du Lac County north of STH 23; that

portion of Outagamie County south and east of USH 41; that portion of Waupaca

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hearing, any person may request a public hearing in writing or the department may

decide to hold a public hearing without a request being submitted if the department determines that there is a significant public interest in holding a hearing.

- (c) A request for a public hearing under par. (b) must be submitted to the department or the department's decision to hold a public hearing must occur within 30 days after the department completes providing the notice of complete application. The department shall provide notice of public hearing within 15 days after the request for public hearing is submitted or the department makes its determination.
- (d) The department shall hold a public hearing within 30 days after the notice of hearing has been provided under par. (a) or (c).
- (e) Within 30 days after the public hearing is held or, if no public hearing is held, within 30 days of the 30–day comment period under sub. (4) (a), the department shall render a decision, issuing, denying, or modifying the permit or approving the contract that is the subject of the application submitted under sub. (1).
- (4) Public comment. (a) The department shall provide a period for public comment after the department has provided a notice of complete application under sub. (3) (a), during which time any person may submit written comments with respect to the application for the permit or contract. The department shall retain all of the written comments submitted during this period and shall consider all of the comments in the formulation of the final decision on the application. The period for public comment shall end on the 30th day following the date on which the department completes providing the notice of complete application, except as provided in par. (b).
- (b) If a public hearing is held, the period for public comment shall end on the 10th day following the date on which the public hearing is completed.

(d) The department shall promulgate rules to establish procedures for the
conduct of public hearings held under this subsection. Public hearings held under
this subsection are not contested cases under s. 227.01 (3).
(5) NOTICE REQUIREMENTS. (a) The department shall, by rule, establish
procedures for providing notices of complete applications and notices of public
hearings to be provided under sub. (3), and notices of administrative hearings to be
provided under s. 30.209 (1). The procedures shall require all of the following:
1. That the notice be published as a class 1 notice under ch. 985.
2. That the notice be mailed to any person or group upon request.
(b) The department shall, by rule, prescribe the form and content of notices of
complete applications and notices of public hearings to be provided under sub. (3),
and notices of administrative hearings to be provided under s. 30.209 (1). Each notice
shall include all of the following information:
1. The name and address of each applicant or permit holder.
2. A brief description of each applicant's activity or project that requires the
permit.
3. The name of the waterway in or for which the activity or project is planned.
4. For a notice of complete application and a notice of public hearing under sub.
(3), a statement of the tentative determination to issue, modify, or deny a permit for
the activity or project described in the application.
5. For a notice of complete application and a notice of public hearing under sub.
(3), a brief description of the procedures for the formulation of final determinations,
including a description of the comment period required under sub. (4).
(c) The department may delegate the department's requirement to provide
notice under sub. (3) or s. 30.209 (1) by doing any of the following:

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- 2. That the applicant for the permit or contract pay for the publication, mailing, or any other distribution costs of providing one or more of the notices.
  - **Section 148.** 30.209 of the statutes is created to read:
- 30.209 Individual permits; administrative and judicial review. (1)

  ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW. (a) An applicant for or holder of an individual permit, or 5 or more persons, may file a petition for administrative review of any of the following decisions given by the department:
- 1. The issuance, denial, or modification of any individual permit issued under this subchapter.
- 2. The imposition of, or failure to impose, a term or condition on any individual permit issued under this subchapter.
- (b) A petition under this subsection shall be filed with the department within 30 days after the date on which the department has given notice of its decision under par. (a) 1. or 2. The petition shall state the interest of each petitioner, the specific issue to be reviewed, and the reasons why an administrative hearing is warranted.
- (c) Unless the department determines that there are no grounds supporting the position that an administrative hearing is warranted, the department shall provide a notice of the hearing at least 30 days before the date of the hearing to all of the following:
  - 1. The applicant for or the holder of the permit.
  - 2. Each petitioner, if other than the applicant or holder.
- 3. Any other persons required to receive notice under the rules promulgated under s. 30.208 (5).

1	(d) The notice under par. (c) shall be in compliance with all of the other
2	applicable rules promulgated under s. 30.208 (5).
3	(e) The administrative hearing shall be conducted as a contested case hearing
4	in accordance with the procedures under ch. 227.
5	(2) JUDICIAL REVIEW. (a) Any applicant for or holder of an individual permit or
6	any other person who satisfies the requirements of s. 227.52 may commence an
7	action in circuit court to review any of the decisions given by the department that are
8	specified in sub. (1) (a) 1. and 2.
9	(b) An action filed under par. (a) by an applicant for or holder of an individual
10	permit shall be in lieu of the applicant or holder seeking review under sub. (1).
11	(c) Any administrative review petitioned for under sub. (1) may be removed to
12	the circuit court by the applicant for the permit, the holder of the permit, or the
13	department. The review shall be commenced by filing a motion for removal together
14	with a copy of the petition filed under sub. (1). The motion must be filed within 30
15	days after notice is provided under sub. (1) (c).
16	(d) An action or review commenced under this subsection shall be filed in the
17	circuit court for the county in which the riparian property that is subject to a decision
18	by the department, as specified in sub. (1) (a) 1. and 2., is located.
19	(e) A review under par. (c) or (d) shall include the examination of witnesses and
20	the taking of evidence before the court.
21	Section 149. 30.28 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
22	30.28 (3) (b) This section does not apply to a permit issued under s. 30.12 (3)
23	(a) <del>2., 2m. or</del> 3 <u>. or (4) (c) or (d)</u> .
24	SECTION 150. 30.29 (3) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

30.29 (3) (d) Activities for which a permit is issued. A person or agent of a person
who is issued a permit by the department while the person or agent is engaged in
activities related to the purpose for which the permit is issued as authorized under
a general or individual permit issued under this subchapter or as authorized under
a contract entered into under this subchapter.
Section 151. 30.298 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
30.298 (3) Any person who violates a general permit under s. 30.206 shall
forfeit not less than \$10 nor more than \$500 for the first offense and shall forfeit not
less than \$50 nor more than \$500 upon conviction of the same offense a 2nd or
subsequent time.
Section 152. 31.39 (2m) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:
31.39 (2m) (c) If more than one fee under sub. (2) (a) or s. 30.28 (2) (a) or 281.22
is applicable to a project, the department shall charge only the highest fee of those
that are applicable.
Section 153. 66.0628 of the statutes is created to read:
66.0628 Fees imposed by a political subdivision. (1) In this section,
"political subdivision" means a city, village, town, or county.
(2) Any fee that is imposed by a political subdivision shall bear a reasonable
relationship to the service for which the fee is imposed.
(3) With regard to a fee that is first imposed, or an existing fee that is increased,
on or after the effective date of this subsection [revisor inserts date], a political
subdivision shall issue written findings that demonstrate that the fee meets the
standard in sub. (2).
Section 154. 66.1001 (2) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

66.1001 **(2)** (e) *Agricultural, natural and cultural resources element.* A compilation of objectives, policies, goals, maps and programs for the conservation, and promotion of the effective management, of natural resources such as groundwater, forests, productive agricultural areas, environmentally sensitive areas, threatened and endangered species, stream corridors, surface water, floodplains, wetlands, wildlife habitat, metallic and nonmetallic mineral resources consistent with zoning limitations under s. 295.20 (2), parks, open spaces, historical and cultural resources, community design, recreational resources and other natural resources.

Section 155. 66.1001 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

written procedures that are designed to foster public participation, including open discussion, communication programs, information services, and public meetings for which advance notice has been provided, in every stage of the preparation of a comprehensive plan. The written procedures shall provide for wide distribution of proposed, alternative, or amended elements of a comprehensive plan and shall provide an opportunity for written comments on the plan to be submitted by members of the public to the governing body and for the governing body to respond to such written comments. The written procedures shall describe the methods the governing body of a local governmental unit will use to distribute proposed, alternative, or amended elements of a comprehensive plan to owners of property, or to persons who have a leasehold interest in property pursuant to which the persons may extract nonmetallic mineral resources in or on property, in which the allowable use or intensity of use, of the property, is changed by the comprehensive plan.

**Section 156.** 66.1001 (4) (e) of the statutes is created to read:

66.1001 (4) (e) At least 30 days before the hearing described in par. (d) is held,
a local governmental unit shall provide written notice to all owners of property, and
all leaseholders who have an interest in property pursuant to which the persons may
extract nonmetallic mineral resources, in which the allowable use or intensity of use,
of the property, is changed by the comprehensive plan, including all of the following:

- 1. An operator who has obtained, or made application for, a permit that is described under s. 295.12 (3) (d).
- 2. A person who has registered a marketable nonmetallic mineral deposit under s. 295.20.
- 3. Any other person who the local governmental unit knows has a property interest in nonmetallic mineral resources in the jurisdiction.

**Section 157.** 84.18 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

the control exercised by the United States, the construction under this section of any local bridge project shall be wholly under the supervision and control of the department. The secretary shall make and execute all contracts and have complete supervision over all matters pertaining to such construction and shall have the power to suspend or discontinue proceedings or construction relative to any bridge project at any time in the event any county, city, village or town fails to pay the amount required of it for any project eligible for construction under this section, or if the secretary determines that sufficient funds to pay the state's part of the cost of such bridge project are not available. All moneys provided by counties, cities, villages and towns shall be deposited in the state treasury, when required by the secretary, and paid out on order of the secretary. Any of the moneys deposited for a project eligible for construction under this section which remain in the state treasury

after the completion of the project shall be repaid to the respective county, city, village or town in proportion to the amount each deposited.

**Section 158.** 106.01 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

106.01 **(9)** The Subject to s. 106.04, the department may investigate, fix reasonable classifications, issue promulgate rules and, issue general or special orders, and, hold hearings, make findings, and render orders upon its findings as shall be necessary to carry out the intent and purposes of this section. The investigations, classifications, hearings, findings, and orders shall be made as provided in s. 103.005. Except as provided in sub. (8), the penalties specified in s. 103.005 (12) apply to violations of this section. Orders issued under this subsection are subject to review under ch. 227.

**Section 159.** 106.025 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

apprenticeship as a skilled mechanic in the art of installing plumbing work, the department, subject to s. 106.04, may prescribe the level of supervision of an apprentice and the character of plumbing work that the apprentice may do during the 3rd year of the apprenticeship term. An apprentice in the 4th or 5th year of the apprenticeship term may install plumbing under the direction or supervision of a master or journeyman plumber without either the master or journeyman being physically present, provided that the master plumber in charge shall be responsible for the work.

**Section 160.** 106.04 of the statutes is created to read:

106.04 Apprentice-to-journeyman job-site ratio regulation prohibited. The department may not prescribe, whether by promulgating a rule,

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issuing	a	general	or	special	order,	or	otherwise,	the	ratio	of	apprentices	to
journey	me	n that ar	n en	nployer ı	nay ha	ve a	at a job site.					

Section 161. 146.82 (2) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

146.82 **(2)** (a) (intro.) Notwithstanding It is not a violation of sub. (1), to release patient health care records shall be released upon request without informed consent in the following circumstances:

Section 162. 146.82 (2) (a) 22. of the statutes is created to read:

146.82 **(2)** (a) 22. For purposes of health care operations, as defined in 45 CFR 164.501, and as authorized under 45 CFR 164, subpart E.

**Section 163.** 196.195 (5m) of the statutes is created to read:

196.195 **(5m)** Time Limitation on Commission Action. (a) No later than 120 days after the filing of a petition under sub. (2) (a), the commission shall complete the proceedings under subs. (2), (3), and (4), and, if appropriate, enter an order under sub. (5). If the commission fails to complete the proceedings and, if appropriate, enter an order before that deadline, the petition is considered to be granted without condition by the commission and any provisions of law under sub. (5) that are specified in the petition are considered to be suspended by the commission.

(b) No later than 120 days after the commission provides notice of its own motion under sub. (2) (a), the commission shall complete the proceedings under subs. (2), (3), and (4), and, if appropriate, enter an order under sub. (5). If the commission fails to complete the proceedings and, if appropriate, enter an order before that deadline, the motion is considered to be granted without condition by the commission and any provisions of law under sub. (5) that are specified in the motion are considered to be suspended by the commission.

Section 164. 196.195 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:

196.195 **(10)** REVOCATION OF DEREGULATION. If necessary to protect the public interest, the commission, at any time by order, may revoke its order to suspend the applicability of any provision of law suspended under sub. (5). This subsection does not apply to any provision of law that is considered to be suspended under sub. (5m).

**Section 165.** 196.24 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

196.24 **(3)** The commission may conduct any number of investigations contemporaneously through different agents, and may delegate to any agent the authority to take testimony bearing upon any investigation or at any hearing. The decision of the commission shall comply with s. 227.46 and shall be based upon its records and upon the evidence before it, except that, notwithstanding s. 227.46 (4), a decision maker may hear a case or read or review the record of a case if the record includes a synopsis or summary of the testimony and other evidence presented at the hearing that is prepared by the commission staff. Parties shall have an opportunity to demonstrate to a decision maker that a synopsis or summary prepared under this subsection is not sufficiently complete or accurate to fairly reflect the relevant and material testimony or other evidence presented at a hearing.

**Section 166.** 196.374 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

196.374 (3) In 2000, 2001 and 2002, the commission shall require each utility to spend a decreasing portion of the amount determined under sub. (2) on programs specified in sub. (2) and contribute the remaining portion of the amount to the commission for deposit in the fund. In Except as provided in sub. (3m), in each year after 2002, each utility shall contribute the entire amount determined under sub. (2) to the commission for deposit in the fund. The commission shall ensure in rate—making orders that a utility recovers from its ratepayers the amounts spent on programs or contributed to the fund under this subsection or retained under sub.

(3m). The commission shall allow each utility the option of continuing to use, until January 1, 2002, the moneys that it has recovered under s. 196.374 (3), 1997 stats., to administer the programs that it has funded under s. 196.374 (1), 1997 stats. The commission may allow each utility to spend additional moneys on the programs specified in sub. (2) if the utility otherwise complies with the requirements of this section and s. 16.957 (4).

**Section 167.** 196.374 (3m) of the statutes is created to read:

196.374 (3m) (a) In each fiscal year, the commission may allow a utility to retain a portion of the amount determined under sub. (2) instead of contributing the entire amount to the commission, if the commission determines that the portion is used by the utility for energy conservation programs for industrial, commercial, and agricultural customers in the utility's service area and that the programs comply with rules promulgated by the commission. The rules shall specify annual energy savings targets that the programs must be designed to achieve. The rules shall also require a utility to demonstrate that, no later than a reasonable period of time, as determined by the commission, after the utility implements a program, the economic value of the benefits resulting from the program will be equal to the portion that the utility is allowed to retain under this paragraph.

(b) If the commission allows a utility to retain a portion under par. (a), the utility must contribute 1.75% of the portion to the commission for deposit in the fund for programs for research and development for energy conservation and efficiency and must contribute 4.5% of the portion to the commission for deposit in the fund for renewable resource programs.

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1	(c) A utility may not pay for any expenses related to administration, marketing
2	or delivery of services for programs specified in par. (a) from any portion of a
3	contribution the utility is allowed to retain under par. (a).
4	<b>Section 168.</b> 196.491 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:
5	196.491 (1) (d) "Electric utility" means any public utility, as defined in s
6	196.01, which is involved in the generation, distribution and sale of electric energy
7	and any corporation, company, individual or association, and any cooperative
8	association, which owns or operates, or plans within the next 3 7 years to construct
9	own or operate, facilities in the state.
10	<b>Section 169.</b> 196.491 (2) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:
11	196.491 (2) (a) 3. Identify and describe large electric generating facilities on
12	which an electric utility plans to commence construction within $37$ years.
13	<b>Section 170.</b> 196.491 (2) (a) 3m. of the statutes is amended to read:
14	196.491 (2) (a) 3m. Identify and describe high-voltage transmission lines on
15	which an electric utility plans to commence construction within $37$ years.
16	Section 171. 196.491 (2) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:
17	196.491 (2) (g) No sooner than 30 and no later than 90 days after copies of the
18	draft are issued under par. (b), the commission shall hold a hearing on the draft
19	which may not be a hearing under s. 227.42 or 227.44. The hearing shall be held in
20	an administrative district, established by executive order 22, issued
21	August 24, 1970, which the commission determines will be significantly affected by
22	facilities on which an electric utility plans to commence construction within $3\ 7$
23	years. The commission may thereafter adjourn the hearing to other locations or may
24	conduct the hearing by interactive video conference or other electronic method,

Notice of such hearing shall be given by class 1 notice, under ch. 985, published in

the official state newspaper and such other regional papers of general circulation as
may be designated by the commission. At such hearing the commission shall briefly
describe the strategic energy assessment and give all interested persons an
opportunity, subject to reasonable limitations on the presentation of repetitious
material, to express their views on any aspect of the strategic energy assessment.
A record of the hearing shall be made and considered by the commission as comments
on the strategic energy assessment under par. (e).

Section 172. 221.0901 (3) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

221.0901 **(3)** (a) 1. Merge or consolidate with an in–state bank holding company or in–state bank.

Section 173. 221.0901 (8) (a) and (b) of the statutes are amended to read:

221.0901 **(8)** (a) Except as provided in pars. (b) and (c), the division may not approve an application by an out-of-state bank holding company under sub. (3) (a). other than an application by an in-state bank holding company or in-state bank. unless the in-state bank to be acquired, or all in-state bank subsidiaries of the in-state bank holding company to be acquired, have as of the proposed date of acquisition been in existence and in continuous operation for at least 5 years.

(b) The Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the division may approve an application under sub. (3) (a) for an acquisition of an in-state bank holding company that owns one or more in-state banks that have been in existence for less than 5 years, if the out-of-state bank holding company applicant divests itself of those in-state banks within 2 years after the date of acquisition of the in-state bank holding company by the out-of-state bank holding company applicant. This paragraph does not apply if the applicant is an in-state bank holding company or in-state bank.

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1	SECTION 174. 227.135 (1) (e) and (f) of the statutes are created to read:
2	227.135 (1) (e) A summary of any existing or anticipated federal program that
3	is intended to address the activities to be regulated by the rule and an analysis of the
4	need for the rule if a federal program exists.
5	(f) An assessment of whether the rule is inconsistent, duplicative, or more
6	stringent than the regulations under any federal program summarized in par. (e).
7	Section 175. 227.137 of the statutes is created to read:
8	227.137 Economic impact reports of guidelines, policies, and rules. (1)
9	After an agency publishes a statement of the scope of a proposed rule under s.
10	227.135, and before the agency submits the proposed rule to the legislative council
11	for review under s. 227.15, a municipality, an association that represents a farm,
12	labor, business, or professional group, or 5 or more persons having an interest in the
13	proposed rule may petition the agency to prepare an economic impact report of the
14	proposed rule. If the agency determines that the petitioner may be economically
15	affected by the proposed rule, the agency shall prepare an economic impact report
16	before submitting the proposed rule to the legislative council under s. 227.15.
17	(2) A municipality, an association that represents a farm, labor, business, or
18	professional group, or 5 or more persons affected by an existing or proposed agency
19	guideline or policy, including agency comments and policies in response to federal
20	regulations, may petition the agency to prepare an economic impact report for that
21	existing or proposed agency guideline or policy. If the agency determines that the

(3) An economic impact report shall contain information on the effect of the proposed rule or existing or proposed guideline or policy on specific businesses,

petitioner may be economically affected by the proposed or existing guideline or

policy, the agency shall prepare an economic impact report.

business sectors, and the state's economy. When preparing the report, the agency
shall solicit information and advice from the department of commerce and
governmental units, associations, businesses, and individuals that may be affected
by the proposed rule or existing or proposed guideline or policy. The agency may
request information that is reasonably necessary for the preparation of an economic
impact report from other state agencies, governmental units, associations,
businesses, and individuals, but no one is required to respond to that request. The
economic impact report shall include all of the following:

- (a) An analysis and quantification of the problem, including any risks to public health or the environment, that the guideline, policy, or rule is intending to address.
- (b) An analysis and quantification of the economic impact of the guideline, policy, or rule, including direct, indirect, and consequential costs reasonably expected to be incurred by the state, governmental units, associations, businesses, and affected individuals.
- (c) An analysis of the guideline's, policy's, or rule's impact on the state's economy, including how the guideline, policy, or rule affects the state's economic development policies.
- (d) An analysis of benefits of the guideline, policy, or rule, including how the guideline, policy, or rule reduces the risks and addresses the problems that the guideline, policy, or rule is intended to address.
- (e) An analysis that compares the benefits to the costs of the guideline, policy, or rule.
- (f) An analysis of existing or anticipated federal programs that are intended to address the risks and problems the agency is intending to address with the guideline, policy, or rule, including a determination of whether the guideline, policy, or rule and

1	related administrative requirements are consistent with and not duplicative of those
2	existing or anticipated federal programs.
3	(g) An analysis of regulatory alternatives to the guideline, policy, or rule,
4	including the alternative of no regulation, and a determination of whether the
5	guideline, policy, or rule addresses the identified risks and problems the agency is
6	intending to address in the most cost-efficient manner.
7	(h) A comparison of the costs of the guideline, policy, or rule borne by Wisconsin
8	businesses to costs borne by similar businesses located in Indiana, Missouri, and
9	adjacent states.
10	(4) The agency shall submit the economic impact report to the legislative
11	council staff, to the department of administration, and to the petitioner.
12	(5) This section does not apply to emergency rules promulgated under s.
13	227.24.
14	<b>Section 176.</b> 227.138 of the statutes is created to read:
15	227.138 Department of administration review of proposed rules. (1)
16	In this section:
17	(a) "Department" means the department of administration.
18	(b) "Economic impact report" means a report prepared under s. 227.137.
19	(c) "Guideline or policy" includes any agency comments or policies in response
20	to federal regulations.
21	(2) If the department receives an economic impact report under s. 227.137 (4)
22	regarding a proposed rule, the department shall review the proposed rule and issue
23	a report. A municipality, an association that represents a farm, labor, business, or
24	professional group, or 5 or more persons having an interest in a proposed rule may
25	petition the department to review the proposed rule. If the department determines

- that the petitioner may be economically affected by the proposed rule, the department shall review the proposed rule and issue a report. The department shall notify the agency that a report will be prepared and that the agency shall not submit a proposed rule to the legislative council for review under s. 227.15 (1) until the agency receives a copy of the department's report. The report shall include all of the following findings:
- (a) If an economic impact report was prepared as required under s. 227.137 (1), that the report and the analysis required under s. 227.137 (3) are supported by related documentation contained in the economic impact report.
- (b) That the agency has clear statutory authority to promulgate the proposed rule.
- (c) That the proposed rule, including any administrative requirements, is consistent with and not duplicative of other state rules or federal regulations.
- (d) That the proposed rule is consistent with the governor's positions and priorities, including those related to economic development.
- (e) That the agency used data, studies, and other sources of information in developing the proposed rule that is complete, accurate, and derived from accepted scientific methodologies.
- (3) Before issuing a report under sub. (2), the department may return a proposed rule to the agency for further consideration and revision with a written explanation of why the proposed rule is returned. If the agency head disagrees with the department's reasons for returning the proposed rule, the agency head shall so notify the department in writing. The department secretary shall approve the proposed rule when the agency has adequately addressed the issues raised during the department's review of the rule. The department shall submit a statement to the

- governor indicating the department's approval of the proposed rule, the correspondence between the agency and the department related to the proposed rule, and a copy of its report regarding the proposed rule.
- (4) If the department receives an economic impact report under s. 227.137 (4) regarding a proposed or existing guideline or policy, the department shall review the guideline or policy and issue a report. A municipality, an association that represents a farm, labor, business, or professional group, or 5 or more persons having an interest in a proposed or existing guideline or policy may petition the department to review the guideline or policy. If the department determines that the petitioner may be economically affected by the guideline or policy, the department shall review the guideline or policy and issue a report. The department shall notify the agency that a report will be prepared. The report shall include findings consistent with those under sub. (2) and include the following findings:
- (a) If an economic impact report was prepared as required under s. 227.137 (4), that the report and the analysis required under s. 227.137 (3) are supported by related documentation contained in the economic impact report.
- (b) That the guideline or policy is consistent with and does not exceed the agency's statutory authority.
- (c) That the guideline or policy is consistent with the governor's positions and priorities, including those related to economic development.
- (d) That the guideline or policy is of the type that is not required to be promulgated as a rule.
- (5) Before issuing a report under sub. (4), the department may prohibit an agency from implementing a proposed guideline or policy until the department

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1	secretary determines that the proposed guideline or policy meets the criteria under
2	sub. (4) (a) to (d).
3	Section 177. 227.14 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
4	227.14 (2) (a) An agency shall prepare in plain language an analysis of each
5	proposed rule, which shall be printed with the proposed rule when it is published or
6	distributed. The analysis shall include a all of the following:
7	1. A reference to each statute that the proposed rule interprets, each statute
8	that authorizes its promulgation, each related statute or related rule and a.
9	2. A brief summary of the proposed rule.
10	<b>SECTION 178.</b> 227.14 (2) (a) 3. of the statutes is created to read:
11	227.14 (2) (a) 3. A summary of the relevant legal interpretations and policy
12	considerations underlying the proposed rule.
13	<b>SECTION 179.</b> 227.14 (2) (a) 4. of the statutes is created to read:
14	227.14 (2) (a) 4. A summary of existing and anticipated federal regulatory
15	programs intended to address similar matters.
16	SECTION 180. 227.14 (2) (a) 5. of the statutes is created to read:
17	227.14 (2) (a) 5. A summary of the factual data, studies, and other sources of
18	information on which the proposed rule is based, the methodology used to obtain and
19	analyze the data, studies, and other sources of information, how the data, studies,
20	and other sources of information support the regulatory approach chosen for the rule,
21	and how the data, studies, and other sources of information support any required
22	agency's findings.
23	SECTION 181. 227.14 (2) (a) 6. of the statutes is created to read:

227.14 (2) (a) 6. Any analysis and supporting documentation used when the
agency considered the rule's effect on small businesses under s. 227.114 or used when
preparing an economic impact report under s. 227.137 (3).

**Section 182.** 227.14 (4) (b) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

227.14 **(4)** (b) 3. For rules that the agency determines may have a significant fiscal effect on the private sector, the anticipated costs that will be incurred by the private sector in complying with the rule.

**Section 183.** 227.185 of the statutes is created to read:

227.185 Approval by governor. After a proposed rule is in final draft form and approved by the department of administration under s. 227.138 (3), the agency shall submit the rule to the governor. The governor may approve, modify, or reject the proposed rule. If the governor approves a proposed rule, the governor shall provide the agency with a written notice of that approval. No proposed rule may be submitted to the legislature for review under s. 227.19 (2) or filed with the office of secretary of state or revisor unless the governor has approved the proposed rule in writing. This section does not apply to emergency rules promulgated under s. 227.24.

Section 184. 227.19 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

227.19 (2) NOTIFICATION OF LEGISLATURE. An agency shall submit a notice to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature when a proposed rule is in final draft form and approved by the governor. The notice shall be submitted in triplicate and shall be accompanied by a report in the form specified under sub. (3). A notice received under this subsection on or after September 1 of an even–numbered year shall be considered received on the first day of the next regular session of the legislature. Each presiding officer shall, within 7 working days following the day on which the notice and report are received, refer them to one committee, which may

1	be either a standing committee or a joint legislative committee created by law, except
2	the joint committee for review of administrative rules. The agency shall submit to
3	the revisor for publication in the register a statement that a proposed rule has been
4	submitted to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature. Each presiding
5	officer shall enter a similar statement in the journal of his or her house.
6	Section 185. 227.19 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
7	227.19 (3) FORM OF REPORT. (intro.) The report required under sub. (2) shall be
8	in writing and shall include the proposed rule in the form specified in s. 227.14 (1),
9	the material specified in s. 227.14 (2) to (4), a copy of any economic impact report
10	prepared by the agency under s. 227.137, a copy of the report prepared by the
11	department of administration under s. 227.138, a copy of the written approval of the
12	governor under s. 227.185, a copy of any recommendations of the legislative council
13	staff, and an analysis. The analysis shall include:
14	Section 186. 227.19 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
15	227.19 (3) (a) A <u>detailed</u> statement explaining the <del>need for</del> <u>basis and purpose</u>
16	of the proposed rule, including how the proposed rule advances relevant statutory
17	goals or purposes.
18	Section 187. 227.19 (3) (am) of the statutes is created to read:
19	227.19 (3) (am) An analysis of policy alternatives to the proposed rule,
20	including reliance on federal regulatory programs, and an explanation for the
21	rejection of those alternatives.
22	Section 188. 227.19 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
23	227.19 (3) (b) An A summary of public comments to the proposed rule and the
24	agency's response to those comments, and an explanation of any modification made

1	in the proposed rule as a result of <u>public comments or</u> testimony received at a public
2	hearing.

SECTION 189. 227.19 (3) (cm) of the statutes is created to read:

227.19 (3) (cm) Any changes to the analysis prepared under s. 227.14 (2) or the fiscal estimate prepared under s. 227.14 (4).

Section 190. 227.40 (4m) of the statutes is created to read:

227.40 (4m) (a) In any proceeding under this section for judicial review of a rule, the court shall conduct the review without a jury. The review shall be confined to a substantial inquiry of the agency record, as necessarily and appropriately supplemented by evidence presented to the court. The agency record includes the economic impact report and documentation required under s. 227.137 (3), the analysis and documentation required under ss. 227.14 (2) and 227.19 (3), and public comments on the rule.

- (b) The court shall treat separately disputed issues of agency procedure, interpretations of law, and determinations of fact or policy within the agency's exercise of delegated discretion.
- (c) When reviewing whether a rule is invalid as promulgated for failure to comply with statutory rule—making procedures under this chapter, the court shall determine the adequacy of the factual basis to support the rule and the related reasoning employed by the agency to reach its conclusions. When determining the adequacy of the factual basis to support the rule, the court shall consider relevant comments on and alternatives to the rule's approach offered by affected parties during the rule—making process. Based on this review, the court shall find the rule invalid if the agency's decision—making process was arbitrary and capricious.

(d) The court shall find a rule invalid if it determines that the adequacy of the
rule-making process or that the validity of the regulatory approach was impaired by
a material error in agency procedure or a failure of the agency to follow prescribed
procedure.
(e) When an agency's statutory authority to promulgate a rule is predicated on
the rule being comparable to relevant federal programs or standards, including
requirements that the rule be similar to, consistent with, or no more restrictive than
federal programs or standards, the court shall conduct a de novo review of the agency
record to determine if the agency determination that the rule was comparable to the
federal program or standards was supported by substantial evidence.
(f) When an agency's statutory authority to promulgate a rule exceeding
relevant federal programs or standards is predicated on the agency making a finding
of need, including a need to protect human health or the environment, the court shall
review the agency's record to determine if the agency's findings were supported by
substantial evidence.
(g) If a court finds that the agency's analysis and determinations under s.
227.137 (3) are arbitrary and capricious, the court shall find the rule invalid as
without compliance with statutory rule-making procedures set forth in this chapter.
Section 191. 227.43 (1g) of the statutes is created to read:
227.43 (1g) The administrator of the division of hearings and appeals shall
randomly assign hearing examiners to preside over any hearing under this section.

**Section 192.** 227.44 (2) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

**Section 193.** 227.445 of the statutes is created to read:

227.44 (2) (d) The name and title of the person who will conduct the hearing.

227.445 Substitution of hearing examiner. (1) A person requesting a
hearing before a hearing examiner may file a written request for a substitution of a
new hearing examiner for the hearing examiner assigned to the matter. The written
request shall be filed not later than 10 days after receipt of the notice under s. 227.44.
(2) No person may file more than one such written request in any one hearing.
(3) Upon receipt of the written request, the original hearing examiner shall
have no further jurisdiction in the matter except to determine if the request was
made timely and in proper form. If the hearing examiner fails to make a
determination as to allowing the substitution within 7 days, the hearing examiner
shall refer the matter to the administrator of the division of hearings and appeals for
the determination and reassignment of the hearing as necessary. If the written
request is determined to be proper, the matter shall be transferred to another
hearing examiner. Upon transfer, the hearing examiner shall transmit to the new
hearing examiner all the papers in the matter.
<b>Section 194.</b> 227.45 (7) (intro.) of the statutes is renumbered 227.45 (7) and
amended to read:
227.45 (7) In any class 2 proceeding, each party shall have the right, prior to
the date set for hearing, to take and preserve evidence as provided in ch. 804. Upon
motion by a party or by the person from whom discovery is sought in any class 2

the date set for hearing, to take and preserve evidence as provided in ch. 804. Upon motion by a party or by the person from whom discovery is sought in any class 2 proceeding, and for good cause shown, the hearing examiner may make any order in accordance with s. 804.01 which justice requires to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense. In any class 1 or class 3 proceeding, an agency may by rule permit the taking and preservation of evidence, but in every such proceeding the taking and preservation of evidence shall be permitted with respect to a witness:

1	Section 195. 227.45 (7) (a) to (d) of the statutes are repealed.
2	Section 196. 227.46 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
3	227.46 (1) (intro.) Except as provided under s. 227.43 (1), an agency may
4	designate an official of the agency or an employee on its staff or borrowed from
5	another agency under s. 20.901 or 230.047 as a hearing examiner to preside over any
6	contested case. In hearings under s. 19.52, a reserve judge shall be appointed. A
7	hearing examiner does not have authority to address or make decisions regarding
8	possible constitutional issues. Subject to rules of the agency, examiners presiding at
9	hearings may:
10	Section 197. 227.46 (1) (h) of the statutes is amended to read:
11	227.46 (1) (h) Make or recommend findings of fact, conclusions of law, and
12	decisions to the extent permitted by law.
13	SECTION 198. 227.46 (2) of the statutes is repealed.
14	Section 199. 227.46 (2m) of the statutes is repealed.
15	Section 200. 227.46 (3) of the statutes is repealed.
16	SECTION 201. 227.46 (4) of the statutes is repealed.
17	Section 202. 227.46 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:
18	227.46 (6) The functions of persons presiding at a hearing or participating in
19	proposed or final decisions shall be performed in an impartial manner. A hearing
20	examiner or agency official may at any time disqualify himself or herself. In class
21	2 and 3 proceedings, on the filing in good faith of a timely and sufficient affidavit of
22	personal bias or other disqualification of a hearing examiner or official, the agency
23	or hearing examiner shall determine the matter as part of the record and decision
24	in the case.
25	Section 203. 227.47 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

227.47 (1) Except as provided in sub. (2), every proposed or final decision of an agency or hearing examiner following a hearing and every final decision of an agency shall be in writing accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law. The findings of fact shall consist of a concise and separate statement of the ultimate conclusions upon each material issue of fact without recital of evidence. Every proposed or final decision shall include a list of the names and addresses of all persons who appeared before the agency in the proceeding who are considered parties for purposes of review under s. 227.53. The agency shall by rule establish a procedure for determination of parties.

**Section 204.** 227.483 of the statutes is created to read:

227.483 Costs upon frivolous claims. (1) If a hearing examiner finds, at any time during the proceeding, that an administrative hearing commenced or continued by a petitioner or a claim or defense used by a party is frivolous, the hearing examiner shall award the successful party his or her costs, as determined under s. 814.04, and reasonable attorney fees.

- (2) If the costs and fees awarded under sub. (1) are awarded against the party other than a public agency, those costs may be assessed fully against either the party or the attorney representing the party or may be assessed so that the party and the attorney each pay a portion of the costs and fees.
- (3) To find a petition for a hearing or a claim or defense to be frivolous under sub. (1), the hearing examiner must find at least one of the following:
- (a) That the petition, claim, or defense was commenced, used, or continued in bad faith, solely for purposes of harassing or maliciously injuring another.
- (b) That the party or the party's attorney knew, or should have known, that the petition, claim, or defense was without any reasonable basis in law or equity and

could not be supported by a good faith argument for an extension, modification, or reversal of existing law.

**Section 205.** 227.485 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

227.485 (5) If the hearing examiner awards costs under sub. (3), he or she shall determine the costs under this subsection, except as modified under sub. (4). The decision on the merits of the case shall be placed in a proposed decision and submitted under ss. 227.47 and 227.48. The prevailing party shall submit, within 30 days after service of the proposed decision, to the hearing examiner and to the state agency which is the losing party an itemized application for fees and other expenses, including an itemized statement from any attorney or expert witness representing or appearing on behalf of the party stating the actual time expended and the rate at which fees and other expenses were computed. The state agency which is the losing party has 15 working days from the date of receipt of the application to respond in writing to the hearing examiner. The hearing examiner shall determine the amount of costs using the criteria specified in s. 814.245 (5) and include an order for payment of costs in the final decision.

Section 206. 227.53 (1) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

227.53 (1) (a) 3. If the petitioner is a resident, the proceedings shall be held in the circuit court for the county where the petitioner resides, except that if the petitioner is an agency, the proceedings shall be in the circuit court for the county where the respondent resides and except as provided in ss. 73.0301 (2) (b) 2., 77.59 (6) (b), 182.70 (6), and 182.71 (5) (g). The proceedings shall be in the circuit court for Dane County if If the petitioner is a nonresident, the proceedings shall be held in the county where the property affected by the decision is located or, if no property is affected, in the county where the dispute arose. If all parties stipulate and the court

to which the parties desire to transfer the proceedings agrees, the proceedings may be held in the county designated by the parties. If 2 or more petitions for review of the same decision are filed in different counties, the circuit judge for the county in which a petition for review of the decision was first filed shall determine the venue for judicial review of the decision, and shall order transfer or consolidation where appropriate.

**Section 207.** 227.57 (11) of the statutes is created to read:

227.57 **(11)** If the decision of the hearing examiner is inconsistent with the position taken at the hearing by the agency, the court shall give no deference to the examiner's decision when conducting its review.

Section 208. 236.16 (3) (d) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

236.16 (3) (d) (intro.) All of the owners of all of the land adjacent to a public access established under par. (a) to an inland lake, as defined in s. 30.92 (1) (bk), may petition the city, village, town or county that owns the public access to construct shoreline erosion control measures. Subject to par. (e), the city, village, town or county shall construct the requested shoreline erosion control measures or request the department of natural resources to determine the need for shoreline erosion control measures. Upon receipt of a request under this paragraph from a city, village, town or county, the department of natural resources shall follow the notice and hearing procedures in s. 30.02 (3) and (4) 30.208 (3) to (5). Subject to par. (e), the city, village, town or county shall construct shoreline erosion control measures as required by the department of natural resources if the department of natural resources determines all of the following:

**Section 209.** 241.02 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

241.02 **(3)** (a) In this subsection:

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- 1. "Affiliate" of a bank, savings bank, or savings and loan association means a business entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the bank, savings bank, or savings and loan association.
- 2. "Financial institution" means a bank, savings bank, or savings and loan association organized under the laws of this state, another state, or the United States and any affiliate of such a bank, savings bank, or savings and loan association.
- (b) Except as provided in par. (d), no action may be commenced against a financial institution on or in connection with any of the following promises or commitments of the financial institution unless the promise or commitment is in writing, sets forth relevant terms and conditions, and is signed by the financial institution:
- 1. A promise or commitment to lend money, grant or extend credit, or make any other financial accommodation.
- 2. A promise or commitment to renew, extend, modify, or permit a delay in repayment or performance of a loan, extension of credit, or other financial accommodation.
- (c) Except as provided in par. (d), a promise or commitment by a financial institution described in par. (b) may not be enforced under the doctrine of promissory estoppel.
- (d) Paragraphs (b) and (c) do not apply to credit transactions that are subject to chs. 421 to 427.
- Section 210. 281.22 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:
- 23 281.22 (2) (c) If more than one fee under this section or s. 30.28 (2) (a) or 31.39 24 (2) (a) is applicable to a project, the department shall charge only the highest fee of 25 those that are applicable.