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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
ACT MEMO**

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**2013 Wisconsin Act 134**  
[2013 Assembly Bill 496]

**Disclosure of Customer  
Information of  
Municipal Utilities**

2013 Wisconsin Act 25 created a prohibition on the release of customer information by a municipal utility. The Act defined “customer information” as any information received from customers that serves to identify customers individually by usage or account status. The Act included an exception for information released with the consent of the customer, and five other exceptions. 2013 Wisconsin Act 47 created four additional exceptions to the Act 25 prohibition.

**2013 Wisconsin Act 134** requires the Public Service Commission (PSC) to create a form to be used by a utility to obtain a customer’s consent to release the customer’s information. The PSC need not create the form by administrative rule. The Act also created an additional exception to the prohibition on the release of customer information by a municipal utility that allows a municipal utility to release customer information to licensed real estate brokers and salespersons and certified or licensed appraisers in connection with real estate transactions and real property appraisals. The Act also specifies that a municipal utility that sends a billing statement to a customer on a postcard does not violate the prohibition on the release of customer information by a municipal utility.

*Effective date:* Act 134 became effective on February 28, 2014, except that the requirement that consent from the customer be obtained on a form specified by the PSC is first effective April 1, 2014.

*Prepared by:* Larry Konopacki, Senior Staff Attorney

March 26, 2014

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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>.