Wisconsin Legislative Council ACT MEMO



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2023 Wisconsin Act 106 [2023 Senate Bill 99]

Funding Eligibility for Projects to Reduce Infiltration and Inflow

Under current law, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the Clean Water Fund Program (CWFP), a revolving loan program that combines state and federal funds. Through the program, DNR provides financial assistance to municipalities¹ for various types of water pollution control projects, including wastewater and storm water infrastructure.²

2023 Wisconsin Act 106 expands the list of projects that are eligible for funding under the CWFP. Specifically, the bill extends funding eligibility to projects for the reduction of infiltration and inflow in connecting laterals and sewer lines.³ Reflecting this new funding eligibility, the act also exempts these projects from an existing restriction on the use of funds for connecting laterals and sewer lines that transport wastewater from structures to municipally owned or individually owned wastewater systems.

Effective date: March 16, 2024

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's <u>bill history page</u>.

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¹ For the purposes of the CWFP, "municipality" is defined to mean any city, town, village, county, county utility district, town sanitary district, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, or metropolitan sewage district.

² Further information on the CWFP is available in <u>Legislative Fiscal Bureau</u>, <u>Environmental Improvement Fund</u>, <u>Informational Paper 72</u>, (Jan. 2023).

³ In this context, "infiltration" refers to groundwater that may enter a sanitary sewer system through defects such as cracked pipes or leaks in pipe joints. "Inflow" refers to stormwater that may enter a sanitary sewer system through direct connections (such as roof drains or manholes). To gether, infiltration and inflow increase the volume that must be handled and treated by a sewer system.