

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

**S.F. No. 4361**

(SENATE AUTHORS: JOHNSON STEWART and Hawj)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/11/2026	6594	Introduction and first reading Referred to Environment, Climate, and Legacy
03/23/2026	6827	Comm report: To pass
	6892	Second reading

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to environment; modifying provisions for permitting efficiency; amending

1.3 Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.542.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 115.542, is amended to read:

1.6 **115.542 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLICLY OWNED WASTEWATER**

1.7 **TREATMENT FACILITIES.**

1.8 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purpose of this section, the following terms have

1.9 the meanings given:

1.10 (1) "permit" means a national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit

1.11 or state disposal system (SDS) permit; and

1.12 (2) "permit applicant" means a person or entity submitting an application for a new

1.13 permit or renewal, modification, or revocation of an existing permit for a publicly owned

1.14 wastewater treatment facility.

1.15 Subd. 2. **Applicability.** This section applies to all draft permits and permits for publicly

1.16 owned wastewater treatment facilities for which the commissioner of the Pollution Control

1.17 Agency makes a preliminary determination whether to issue or deny.

1.18 Subd. 3. **Prepublic notice review requirements.** Unless waived by the permit applicant,

1.19 the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency must provide a permit applicant with a

1.20 copy of the draft permit and any fact sheets required by agency rules at least 30 days before

1.21 the distribution and public notice of the permit application and preliminary determination.

2.1 Subd. 4. ~~Permitting efficiency~~ **Public notice requirements.** The commissioner must  
2.2 prepare and issue a public notice of a completed application and the commissioner's  
2.3 preliminary determination as to whether the permit should be issued or denied. The public  
2.4 comment period must be at least 60 days for permit applications under this section but may  
2.5 be reduced to 30 days if:

2.6 (1) a request for the reduction is made by the permit applicant; and

2.7 (2) the commissioner approves the request based on consideration of public or Tribal  
2.8 interest in the permit action.

2.9 Subd. 5. **Permitting efficiency.** Notwithstanding section 116.03, it is the goal of the  
2.10 state that tier 2 permits for publicly owned wastewater treatment facilities be issued or  
2.11 denied within 210 days following submission of a permit application.