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State of Minnesota  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION

**H. F. No. 976**

02/28/2013 Authored by Wagenius, Atkins and Hansen

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration

03/06/2013 Adoption of Report: Pass and re-referred to the Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Finance

04/11/2013 Adoption of Report: Pass as Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to state government; appropriating money for environment, natural  
1.3 resources, and agriculture; modifying and providing for certain fees; modifying  
1.4 and providing for disposition of certain revenue; creating accounts; modifying  
1.5 payment of certain costs; modifying grant programs; providing for agricultural  
1.6 water quality certification; modifying Minnesota Noxious Weed Law; modifying  
1.7 pesticide control; modifying animal waste technician provisions; modifying  
1.8 certain renewable energy and biofuel provisions; modifying bonding requirements  
1.9 for grain buyers and grain storage; making technical changes; modifying certain  
1.10 permit requirements; providing for federal law compliance; providing for certain  
1.11 easements; establishing pollinator habitat program; modifying state trails;  
1.12 providing for donations to grant-in-aid trail programs; modifying all-terrain  
1.13 vehicle operating provisions; modifying State Timber Act; modifying water  
1.14 use requirements; modifying certain park boundaries; modifying reporting  
1.15 requirements; modifying Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Act; providing for  
1.16 silica sand mining model standards and technical assistance; establishing criteria  
1.17 for wastewater treatment system projects; providing for wastewater laboratory  
1.18 certification; providing for product stewardship programs; modifying Minnesota  
1.19 Power Plant Siting Act; providing for sanitary districts; requiring rulemaking;  
1.20 amending Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 17.03, subdivision 3; 17.1015;  
1.21 17.118, subdivision 2; 18.77, subdivisions 3, 4, 10, 12; 18.78, subdivision 3;  
1.22 18.79, subdivisions 6, 13; 18.82, subdivision 1; 18.91, subdivisions 1, 2; 18B.01,  
1.23 by adding a subdivision; 18B.065, subdivision 2a; 18B.07, subdivisions 4, 5, 7;  
1.24 18B.26, subdivision 3; 18B.305; 18B.316, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 8, 9; 18B.37,  
1.25 subdivision 4; 18C.430; 18C.433, subdivision 1; 31.94; 41A.10, subdivision 2,  
1.26 by adding a subdivision; 41A.105, subdivisions 1a, 3, 5; 41A.12, by adding a  
1.27 subdivision; 41B.04, subdivision 9; 41D.01, subdivision 4; 84.027, by adding  
1.28 a subdivision; 84.788, by adding a subdivision; 84.794, subdivision 1; 84.798,  
1.29 by adding a subdivision; 84.803, subdivision 1; 84.82, by adding subdivisions;  
1.30 84.83, subdivision 2; 84.922, by adding subdivisions; 84.9256, subdivision  
1.31 1; 84.928, subdivision 1; 84D.108, subdivision 2; 85.015, subdivision 13;  
1.32 85.052, subdivision 6; 85.054, by adding a subdivision; 85.055, subdivisions  
1.33 1, 2; 85.41, by adding a subdivision; 85.42; 85.43; 85.46, subdivision 6,  
1.34 by adding a subdivision; 89.0385; 89.17; 90.01, subdivisions 4, 5, 6, 8, 11;  
1.35 90.031, subdivision 4; 90.041, subdivisions 2, 5, 6, 9, by adding subdivisions;  
1.36 90.045; 90.061, subdivision 8; 90.101, subdivision 1; 90.121; 90.145; 90.151,  
1.37 subdivisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9; 90.161; 90.162; 90.171; 90.181, subdivision 2;  
1.38 90.191, subdivision 1; 90.193; 90.195; 90.201, subdivision 2a; 90.211; 90.221;  
1.39 90.252, subdivision 1; 90.301, subdivisions 2, 4; 90.41, subdivision 1; 92.50;

2.1 93.17, subdivision 1; 93.1925, subdivision 2; 93.25, subdivision 2; 93.285,  
 2.2 subdivision 3; 93.46, by adding a subdivision; 93.481, subdivisions 3, 5, by  
 2.3 adding subdivisions; 93.482; 97A.401, subdivision 3; 103G.265, subdivisions 2,  
 2.4 3; 103G.271, subdivision 6; 103G.282; 103G.287, subdivisions 1, 5; 103G.615,  
 2.5 subdivision 2; 103I.205, subdivision 1; 103I.601, by adding a subdivision;  
 2.6 114D.50, subdivision 4; 115A.1320, subdivision 1; 115B.20, subdivision 6;  
 2.7 115B.28, subdivision 1; 115C.02, subdivision 4; 115C.08, subdivision 4, by  
 2.8 adding a subdivision; 115D.10; 116.48, subdivision 6; 116C.03, subdivisions  
 2.9 2, 4, 5; 116D.04, by adding a subdivision; 116J.437, subdivision 1; 168.1296,  
 2.10 subdivision 1; 216E.12, subdivision 4; 223.17, by adding a subdivision; 232.22,  
 2.11 by adding a subdivision; 239.051, by adding subdivisions; 239.791, subdivisions  
 2.12 1, 2a, 2b; 239.7911; 275.066; 296A.01, subdivision 19, by adding a subdivision;  
 2.13 473.846; Laws 2012, chapter 249, section 11; proposing coding for new law  
 2.14 in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 17; 18; 84; 90; 93; 115; 115A; 116C; 216E;  
 2.15 proposing coding for new law as Minnesota Statutes, chapter 442A; repealing  
 2.16 Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 18.91, subdivisions 3, 5; 18B.07, subdivision  
 2.17 6; 90.163; 90.173; 90.41, subdivision 2; 103G.265, subdivision 2a; 115.18,  
 2.18 subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10; 115.19; 115.20; 115.21; 115.22; 115.23;  
 2.19 115.24; 115.25; 115.26; 115.27; 115.28; 115.29; 115.30; 115.31; 115.32; 115.33;  
 2.20 115.34; 115.35; 115.36; 115.37; 239.791, subdivision 1a; Minnesota Rules, parts  
 2.21 7021.0010, subparts 1, 2, 4, 5; 7021.0020; 7021.0030; 7021.0040; 7021.0050,  
 2.22 subpart 5; 9210.0300; 9210.0310; 9210.0320; 9210.0330; 9210.0340; 9210.0350;  
 2.23 9210.0360; 9210.0370; 9210.0380; 9220.0530, subpart 6.

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

2.25 **ARTICLE 1**

2.26 **AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS**

2.27 Section 1. **SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2.28 The amounts shown in this section summarize direct appropriations, by fund, made  
 2.29 in this article.

		<b><u>2014</u></b>		<b><u>2015</u></b>		<b><u>Total</u></b>
2.30						
2.31	<u>General</u>	\$	<u>39,504,000</u>	\$	<u>39,646,000</u>	<u>79,150,000</u>
2.32	<u>Agricultural</u>	\$	<u>1,240,000</u>	\$	<u>1,240,000</u>	<u>2,480,000</u>
2.33	<u>Remediation</u>	\$	<u>388,000</u>	\$	<u>388,000</u>	<u>776,000</u>
2.34	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>41,132,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>41,274,000</u></b>	<b><u>82,406,000</u></b>

2.35 Sec. 2. **AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS.**

2.36 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the  
 2.37 agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the  
 2.38 general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated  
 2.39 for each purpose. The figures "2014" and "2015" used in this article mean that the  
 2.40 appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or  
 2.41 June 30, 2015, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2014. "The second year" is fiscal  
 2.42 year 2015. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2014 and 2015.



4.1 amount in the second year is available in the  
4.2 first year.

4.3 If the commissioner determines that claims  
4.4 made under Minnesota Statutes, section  
4.5 3.737 or 3.7371, are unusually high, amounts  
4.6 appropriated for either program may be  
4.7 transferred to the appropriation for the other  
4.8 program.

4.9 \$225,000 the first year and \$225,000 the  
4.10 second year are for an increase in retail food  
4.11 handler inspections.

4.12 \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second  
4.13 year are for training manuals for licensure  
4.14 related to commercial manure application.

4.15 \$245,000 the first year and \$245,000 the  
4.16 second year are for an increase in the  
4.17 operating budget for the Laboratory Services  
4.18 Division.

4.19 The commissioner may spend up to \$10,000  
4.20 of the amount appropriated each year under  
4.21 this subdivision to administer the agricultural  
4.22 water quality certification program.

4.23 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
4.24 18B.05, \$90,000 the first year and \$90,000  
4.25 the second year are from the pesticide  
4.26 regulatory account in the agricultural fund  
4.27 for an increase in the operating budget for  
4.28 the Laboratory Services Division.

4.29 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
4.30 18B.05, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000  
4.31 the second year are from the pesticide  
4.32 regulatory account in the agricultural fund to  
4.33 update and modify applicator education and  
4.34 training materials. No later than January 15,

5.1 2015, the commissioner must report to the  
 5.2 legislative committees with jurisdiction over  
 5.3 agriculture finance regarding the agency's  
 5.4 progress and a schedule of activities the  
 5.5 commissioner will accomplish to update and  
 5.6 modify additional materials by December  
 5.7 31, 2017.

5.8 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 5.9 18B.05, \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000  
 5.10 the second year are from the pesticide  
 5.11 regulatory account in the agricultural fund to  
 5.12 monitor pesticides and pesticide degradates  
 5.13 in surface water and groundwater in areas  
 5.14 vulnerable to surface water impairments and  
 5.15 groundwater degradation and to use data  
 5.16 collected to improve pesticide use practices.  
 5.17 This is a onetime appropriation.

5.18 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 5.19 18B.05, \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000  
 5.20 the second year are from the pesticide  
 5.21 regulatory account in the agricultural fund  
 5.22 for transfer to the commissioner of natural  
 5.23 resources for pollinator habitat restoration  
 5.24 that is visible to the public, along state trails,  
 5.25 and located in various parts of the state and  
 5.26 that includes an appropriate diversity of  
 5.27 native species selected to provide habitat for  
 5.28 pollinators throughout the growing season.  
 5.29 The commissioner of natural resources may  
 5.30 use up to \$25,000 each year for pollinator  
 5.31 habitat signage and public awareness. This is  
 5.32 a onetime appropriation.

5.33 **Subd. 3. Agricultural Marketing and**  
 5.34 **Development**

3,152,000

3,152,000

5.35 \$186,000 the first year and \$186,000 the  
 5.36 second year are for transfer to the Minnesota

6.1 grown account and may be used as grants  
6.2 for Minnesota grown promotion under  
6.3 Minnesota Statutes, section 17.102. Grants  
6.4 may be made for one year. Notwithstanding  
6.5 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the  
6.6 appropriations encumbered under contract  
6.7 on or before June 30, 2015, for Minnesota  
6.8 grown grants in this paragraph are available  
6.9 until June 30, 2017.

6.10 \$190,000 the first year and \$190,000 the  
6.11 second year are for grants to farmers for  
6.12 demonstration projects involving sustainable  
6.13 agriculture as authorized in Minnesota  
6.14 Statutes, section 17.116, and for grants  
6.15 to small or transitioning farmers. Of the  
6.16 amount for grants, up to \$20,000 may be  
6.17 used for dissemination of information about  
6.18 demonstration projects. Notwithstanding  
6.19 Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the  
6.20 appropriations encumbered under contract  
6.21 on or before June 30, 2015, for sustainable  
6.22 agriculture grants in this paragraph are  
6.23 available until June 30, 2017.

6.24 The commissioner may use funds  
6.25 appropriated in this subdivision for annual  
6.26 cost-share payments to resident farmers  
6.27 or entities that sell, process, or package  
6.28 agricultural products in this state for the costs  
6.29 of organic certification. Annual cost-share  
6.30 payments must be two-thirds of the cost of  
6.31 the certification or \$350, whichever is less.

6.32 A certified organic operation is eligible to  
6.33 receive annual cost-share payments for up to  
6.34 five years. In any year when federal organic  
6.35 cost-share program funds are available or  
6.36 when there is any excess appropriation in

7.1 either fiscal year, the commissioner may  
 7.2 allocate these funds for organic market and  
 7.3 program development, including organic  
 7.4 producer education efforts, assistance for  
 7.5 persons transitioning from conventional  
 7.6 to organic agriculture, or sustainable  
 7.7 agriculture demonstration grants authorized  
 7.8 under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.116,  
 7.9 and pertaining to organic research or  
 7.10 demonstration. Any unencumbered balance  
 7.11 does not cancel at the end of the first year  
 7.12 and is available for the second year.

7.13 The commissioner may spend up to \$25,000  
 7.14 of the amount appropriated each year  
 7.15 under this subdivision for pollinator habitat  
 7.16 education and outreach efforts.

7.17 Subd. 4. **Bioenergy and Value-Added**  
 7.18 **Agriculture**

10,235,000

10,235,000

7.19 \$10,235,000 the first year and \$10,235,000  
 7.20 the second year are for the agricultural  
 7.21 growth, research, and innovation program  
 7.22 in Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12.  
 7.23 The commissioner shall consider creating  
 7.24 a competitive grant program for small  
 7.25 renewable energy projects for rural residents.  
 7.26 No later than February 1, 2014, and February  
 7.27 1, 2015, the commissioner must report to  
 7.28 the legislative committees with jurisdiction  
 7.29 over agriculture policy and finance regarding  
 7.30 the commissioner's accomplishments and  
 7.31 anticipated accomplishments in the following  
 7.32 areas: developing new markets for Minnesota  
 7.33 farmers by providing more fruits and  
 7.34 vegetables for Minnesota school children;  
 7.35 facilitating the start-up, modernization,  
 7.36 or expansion of livestock operations

8.1 including beginning and transitioning  
8.2 livestock operations; facilitating the start-up,  
8.3 modernization, or expansion of other  
8.4 beginning and transitioning farms; research  
8.5 on conventional and cover crops; and biofuel  
8.6 and other renewable energy development  
8.7 including small renewable energy projects  
8.8 for rural residents.

8.9 The commissioner may use up to 4.5 percent  
8.10 of this appropriation for costs incurred to  
8.11 administer the program. Any unencumbered  
8.12 balance does not cancel at the end of the first  
8.13 year and is available for the second year.

8.14 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
8.15 16A.28, the appropriations encumbered  
8.16 under contract on or before June 30, 2015, for  
8.17 agricultural growth, research, and innovation  
8.18 grants in this subdivision are available until  
8.19 June 30, 2017.

8.20 Funds in this appropriation may be used  
8.21 for bioenergy grants. The NextGen  
8.22 Energy Board, established in Minnesota  
8.23 Statutes, section 41A.105, shall make  
8.24 recommendations to the commissioner on  
8.25 grants for owners of Minnesota facilities  
8.26 producing bioenergy; for organizations that  
8.27 provide for on-station, on-farm field scale  
8.28 research and outreach to develop and test  
8.29 the agronomic and economic requirements  
8.30 of diverse stands of prairie plants and other  
8.31 perennials for bioenergy systems; or for  
8.32 certain nongovernmental entities. For the  
8.33 purposes of this paragraph, "bioenergy"  
8.34 includes transportation fuels derived from  
8.35 cellulosic material, as well as the generation  
8.36 of energy for commercial heat, industrial

9.1 process heat, or electrical power from  
 9.2 cellulosic materials via gasification or  
 9.3 other processes. Grants are limited to 50  
 9.4 percent of the cost of research, technical  
 9.5 assistance, or equipment related to bioenergy  
 9.6 production or \$500,000, whichever is less.  
 9.7 Grants to nongovernmental entities for the  
 9.8 development of business plans and structures  
 9.9 related to community ownership of eligible  
 9.10 bioenergy facilities together may not exceed  
 9.11 \$150,000. The board shall make a good-faith  
 9.12 effort to select projects that have merit and,  
 9.13 when taken together, represent a variety of  
 9.14 bioenergy technologies, biomass feedstocks,  
 9.15 and geographic regions of the state. Projects  
 9.16 must have a qualified engineer provide  
 9.17 certification on the technology and fuel  
 9.18 source. Grantees must provide reports at  
 9.19 the request of the commissioner. No later  
 9.20 than February 1, 2014, and February 1,  
 9.21 2015, the commissioner shall report on the  
 9.22 projects funded under this appropriation to  
 9.23 the legislative committees with jurisdiction  
 9.24 over agriculture policy and finance.

9.25 **Subd. 5. Administration and Financial**  
 9.26 **Assistance** 7,350,000 7,460,000

9.27	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
9.28	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
9.29	<u>6,550,000</u>	<u>6,660,000</u>
9.30	<u>800,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>

9.31 \$634,000 the first year and \$634,000 the  
 9.32 second year are for continuation of the dairy  
 9.33 development and profitability enhancement  
 9.34 and dairy business planning grant programs  
 9.35 established under Laws 1997, chapter  
 9.36 216, section 7, subdivision 2, and Laws

10.1 2001, First Special Session chapter 2,  
10.2 section 9, subdivision 2. The commissioner  
10.3 may allocate the available sums among  
10.4 permissible activities, including efforts to  
10.5 improve the quality of milk produced in the  
10.6 state in the proportions that the commissioner  
10.7 deems most beneficial to Minnesota's  
10.8 dairy farmers. The commissioner must  
10.9 submit a detailed accomplishment report  
10.10 and a work plan detailing future plans for,  
10.11 and anticipated accomplishments from,  
10.12 expenditures under this program to the  
10.13 chairs and ranking minority members of the  
10.14 legislative committees with jurisdiction over  
10.15 agricultural policy and finance on or before  
10.16 the start of each fiscal year. If significant  
10.17 changes are made to the plans in the course  
10.18 of the year, the commissioner must notify the  
10.19 chairs and ranking minority members.  
10.20 \$47,000 the first year and \$47,000 the second  
10.21 year are for the Northern Crops Institute.  
10.22 These appropriations may be spent to  
10.23 purchase equipment.  
10.24 \$18,000 the first year and \$18,000 the  
10.25 second year are for a grant to the Minnesota  
10.26 Livestock Breeders' Association.  
10.27 \$235,000 the first year and \$235,000 the  
10.28 second year are for grants to the Minnesota  
10.29 Agriculture Education Leadership Council  
10.30 for programs of the council under Minnesota  
10.31 Statutes, chapter 41D.  
10.32 \$474,000 the first year and \$474,000 the  
10.33 second year are for payments to county and  
10.34 district agricultural societies and associations  
10.35 under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02,

11.1 subdivision 1. Aid payments to county and  
11.2 district agricultural societies and associations  
11.3 shall be disbursed no later than July 15 of  
11.4 each year. These payments are the amount of  
11.5 aid from the state for an annual fair held in  
11.6 the previous calendar year.

11.7 \$1,000 the first year and \$1,000 the second  
11.8 year are for grants to the Minnesota State  
11.9 Poultry Association.

11.10 \$108,000 the first year and \$108,000 the  
11.11 second year are for annual grants to the  
11.12 Minnesota Turf Seed Council for basic  
11.13 and applied research on: (1) the improved  
11.14 production of forage and turf seed related to  
11.15 new and improved varieties; and (2) native  
11.16 plants, including plant breeding, nutrient  
11.17 management, pest management, disease  
11.18 management, yield, and viability. The grant  
11.19 recipient may subcontract with a qualified  
11.20 third party for some or all of the basic or  
11.21 applied research.

11.22 \$500,000 the first year and \$500,000 the  
11.23 second year are for grants to Second Harvest  
11.24 Heartland on behalf of Minnesota's six  
11.25 Second Harvest food banks for the purchase  
11.26 of milk for distribution to Minnesota's food  
11.27 shelves and other charitable organizations  
11.28 that are eligible to receive food from the food  
11.29 banks. Milk purchased under the grants must  
11.30 be acquired from Minnesota milk processors  
11.31 and based on low-cost bids. The milk must be  
11.32 allocated to each Second Harvest food bank  
11.33 servicing Minnesota according to the formula  
11.34 used in the distribution of United States  
11.35 Department of Agriculture commodities

12.1 under The Emergency Food Assistance  
12.2 Program (TEFAP). Second Harvest  
12.3 Heartland must submit quarterly reports  
12.4 to the commissioner on forms prescribed  
12.5 by the commissioner. The reports must  
12.6 include, but are not limited to, information  
12.7 on the expenditure of funds, the amount  
12.8 of milk purchased, and the organizations  
12.9 to which the milk was distributed. Second  
12.10 Harvest Heartland may enter into contracts  
12.11 or agreements with food banks for shared  
12.12 funding or reimbursement of the direct  
12.13 purchase of milk. Each food bank receiving  
12.14 money from this appropriation may use up to  
12.15 two percent of the grant for administrative  
12.16 expenses.

12.17 \$94,000 the first year and \$94,000 the  
12.18 second year are for transfer to the Board of  
12.19 Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges  
12.20 and Universities for statewide mental health  
12.21 counseling support to farm families and  
12.22 business operators through farm business  
12.23 management programs at Central Lakes  
12.24 College and Ridgewater College.

12.25 \$17,000 the first year and \$17,000 the second  
12.26 year are for grants to the Minnesota State  
12.27 Horticultural Society.

12.28 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes,  
12.29 section 18C.131, \$800,000 the first year  
12.30 and \$800,000 the second year are from  
12.31 the fertilizer inspection account in the  
12.32 agricultural fund for grants for fertilizer  
12.33 research as awarded by the Minnesota  
12.34 Agricultural Fertilizer Research and  
12.35 Education Council under Minnesota Statutes,

13.1 section 18C.71. The amount appropriated in  
 13.2 either fiscal year must not exceed 57 percent  
 13.3 of the inspection fee revenue collected  
 13.4 under Minnesota Statutes, section 18C.425,  
 13.5 subdivision 6, during the previous fiscal  
 13.6 year. No later than February 1, 2015, the  
 13.7 commissioner shall report to the legislative  
 13.8 committees with jurisdiction over agriculture  
 13.9 finance. The report must include the progress  
 13.10 and outcome of funded projects as well as  
 13.11 the sentiment of the council concerning the  
 13.12 need for additional research funds.

13.13 Sec. 4. **BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH**                    \$        **4,869,000** \$        **4,901,000**

13.14 Sec. 5. **AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION**  
 13.15 **RESEARCH INSTITUTE**                                    \$        **2,643,000** \$        **2,643,000**

13.16 Money in this appropriation is available for  
 13.17 technical assistance and technology transfer  
 13.18 to bioenergy crop producers and users.

13.19 **ARTICLE 2**

13.20 **AGRICULTURE POLICY**

13.21 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 17.03, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

13.22 Subd. 3. **Cooperation with federal agencies.** (a) The commissioner shall cooperate  
 13.23 with the government of the United States, with financial agencies created to assist in the  
 13.24 development of the agricultural resources of this state, and so far as practicable may use  
 13.25 the facilities provided by the existing state departments and the various state and local  
 13.26 organizations. This subdivision is intended to relate to every function and duty which  
 13.27 devolves upon the commissioner.

13.28 (b) The commissioner may apply for, receive, and disburse federal funds made  
 13.29 available to the state by federal law or regulation for any purpose related to the powers and  
 13.30 duties of the commissioner. All money received by the commissioner under this paragraph  
 13.31 shall be deposited in the state treasury and is appropriated to the commissioner for the  
 13.32 purposes for which it was received. Money made available under this paragraph may  
 13.33 be paid pursuant to applicable federal regulations and rate structures. Money received

14.1 under this paragraph does not cancel and is available for expenditure according to federal  
14.2 law. The commissioner may contract with and enter into grant agreements with persons,  
14.3 organizations, educational institutions, firms, corporations, other state agencies, and any  
14.4 agency or instrumentality of the federal government to carry out agreements made with  
14.5 the federal government relating to the expenditure of money under this paragraph. Bid  
14.6 requirements under chapter 16C do not apply to contracts under this paragraph.

14.7 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 17.1015, is amended to read:

14.8 **17.1015 PROMOTIONAL EXPENDITURES.**

14.9 In order to accomplish the purposes of section 17.101, the commissioner may  
14.10 participate jointly with private persons in appropriate programs and projects and may enter  
14.11 into contracts to carry out those programs and projects. The contracts may not include  
14.12 the acquisition of land or buildings and are not subject to the provisions of chapter 16C  
14.13 relating to competitive bidding.

14.14 The commissioner may spend money appropriated for the purposes of section  
14.15 17.101 in the same manner that private persons, firms, corporations, and associations  
14.16 make expenditures for these purposes, and expenditures made pursuant to section 17.101  
14.17 for food, lodging, or travel are not governed by the travel rules of the commissioner of  
14.18 management and budget.

14.19 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 17.118, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

14.20 Subd. 2. **Definitions.** (a) For the purposes of this section, the terms defined in this  
14.21 subdivision have the meanings given them.

14.22 (b) "Livestock" means beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, poultry, goats, mules, farmed  
14.23 cervidae, ratitae, bison, sheep, horses, and llamas.

14.24 (c) "Qualifying expenditures" means the amount spent for:

14.25 (1) the acquisition, construction, or improvement of buildings or facilities for the  
14.26 production of livestock or livestock products;

14.27 (2) the development of pasture for use by livestock including, but not limited to, the  
14.28 acquisition, development, or improvement of:

14.29 (i) lanes used by livestock that connect pastures to a central location;

14.30 (ii) watering systems for livestock on pasture including water lines, booster pumps,  
14.31 and well installations;

14.32 (iii) livestock stream crossing stabilization; and

14.33 (iv) fences; or

15.1 (3) the acquisition of equipment for livestock housing, confinement, feeding, and  
 15.2 waste management including, but not limited to, the following:

- 15.3 (i) freestall barns;
- 15.4 (ii) watering facilities;
- 15.5 (iii) feed storage and handling equipment;
- 15.6 (iv) milking parlors;
- 15.7 (v) robotic equipment;
- 15.8 (vi) scales;
- 15.9 (vii) milk storage and cooling facilities;
- 15.10 (viii) bulk tanks;
- 15.11 (ix) computer hardware and software and associated equipment used to monitor  
 15.12 the productivity and feeding of livestock;
- 15.13 (x) manure pumping and storage facilities;
- 15.14 (xi) swine farrowing facilities;
- 15.15 (xii) swine and cattle finishing barns;
- 15.16 (xiii) calving facilities;
- 15.17 (xiv) digesters;
- 15.18 (xv) equipment used to produce energy;
- 15.19 (xvi) on-farm processing facilities equipment;
- 15.20 (xvii) fences; and
- 15.21 (xviii) livestock pens and corrals and sorting, restraining, and loading chutes.

15.22 Except for qualifying pasture development expenditures under clause (2), qualifying  
 15.23 expenditures only include amounts that are allowed to be capitalized and deducted under  
 15.24 either section 167 or 179 of the Internal Revenue Code in computing federal taxable  
 15.25 income. Qualifying expenditures do not include an amount paid to refinance existing debt.

15.26 ~~(d) "Qualifying period" means, for a grant awarded during a fiscal year, that full~~  
 15.27 ~~calendar year of which the first six months precede the first day of the current fiscal year. For~~  
 15.28 ~~example, an eligible person who makes qualifying expenditures during calendar year 2008~~  
 15.29 ~~is eligible to receive a livestock investment grant between July 1, 2008, and June 30, 2009.~~

15.30 **Sec. 4. [17.9891] PURPOSE.**

15.31 The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of natural resources,  
 15.32 commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, and Board of Water and Soil Resources,  
 15.33 may implement a Minnesota agricultural water quality certification program whereby a  
 15.34 producer who demonstrates practices and management sufficient to protect water quality  
 15.35 is certified for up to ten years and presumed to be contributing the producer's share of

16.1 any targeted reduction of water pollutants during the certification period. The program  
16.2 is voluntary. The program will first be piloted in selected watersheds across the state,  
16.3 until such time as the commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of natural  
16.4 resources, commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, and Board of Water and Soil  
16.5 Resources, determines the program is ready for expansion.

16.6 Sec. 5. **[17.9892] DEFINITIONS.**

16.7 Subdivision 1. **Application.** The definitions in this section apply to sections  
16.8 17.9891 to 17.993.

16.9 Subd. 2. **Certification.** "Certification" means a producer has demonstrated  
16.10 compliance with all applicable environmental rules and statutes for all of the producer's  
16.11 owned and rented agricultural land and has achieved a satisfactory score through the  
16.12 certification instrument as verified by a certifying agent.

16.13 Subd. 3. **Certifying agent.** "Certifying agent" means a person who is authorized  
16.14 by the commissioner to assess producers to determine whether a producer satisfies the  
16.15 standards of the program.

16.16 Subd. 4. **Effective control.** "Effective control" means possession of land by  
16.17 ownership, written lease, or other legal agreement and authority to act as decision  
16.18 maker for the day-to-day management of the operation at the time the producer achieves  
16.19 certification and for the required certification period.

16.20 Subd. 5. **Eligible land.** "Eligible land" means all acres of a producer's agricultural  
16.21 operation, whether contiguous or not, that are under the effective control of the producer  
16.22 at the time the producer enters into the program and that the producer operates with  
16.23 equipment, labor, and management.

16.24 Subd. 6. **Program.** "Program" means the Minnesota agricultural water quality  
16.25 certification program.

16.26 Subd. 7. **Technical assistance.** "Technical assistance" means professional, advisory,  
16.27 or cost-share assistance provided to individuals in order to achieve certification.

16.28 Sec. 6. **[17.9893] CERTIFICATION INSTRUMENT.**

16.29 The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of natural resources,  
16.30 commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, and Board of Water and Soil Resources,  
16.31 shall develop an analytical instrument to assess the water quality practices and  
16.32 management of agricultural operations. This instrument shall be used to certify that the  
16.33 water quality practices and management of an agricultural operation are consistent with

17.1 state water quality goals and standards. The commissioner shall define a satisfactory score  
17.2 for certification purposes. The certification instrument tool shall:

- 17.3 (1) integrate applicable existing regulatory requirements;  
17.4 (2) utilize technology and prioritize ease of use;  
17.5 (3) utilize a water quality index or score applicable to the landscape;  
17.6 (4) incorporate a process for updates and revisions as practices, management, and  
17.7 technology changes become established and approved; and  
17.8 (5) comprehensively address water quality impacts.

17.9 **Sec. 7. [17.9894] CERTIFYING AGENT LICENSE.**

17.10 Subdivision 1. **License.** A person who offers certification services to producers  
17.11 as part of the program must satisfy all criteria in subdivision 2 and be licensed by  
17.12 the commissioner. A certifying agent is ineligible to provide certification services  
17.13 to any producer to whom the certifying agent has also provided technical assistance.  
17.14 Notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the commissioner may set license fees.

17.15 Subd. 2. **Certifying agent requirements.** In order to be licensed as a certifying  
17.16 agent, a person must:

- 17.17 (1) be an agricultural conservation professional employed by the state of Minnesota,  
17.18 a soil and water conservation district, or the Natural Resources Conservation Service or a  
17.19 Minnesota certified crop advisor as recognized by the American Society of Agronomy;  
17.20 (2) have passed a comprehensive exam, as set by the commissioner, evaluating  
17.21 knowledge of water quality, soil health, best farm management techniques, and the  
17.22 certification instrument; and  
17.23 (3) maintain continuing education requirements as set by the commissioner.

17.24 **Sec. 8. [17.9895] DUTIES OF A CERTIFYING AGENT.**

17.25 Subdivision 1. **Duties.** A certifying agent shall conduct a formal certification  
17.26 assessment utilizing the certification instrument to determine whether a producer meets  
17.27 program criteria. If a producer satisfies all requirements, the certifying agent shall notify  
17.28 the commissioner of the producer's eligibility and request that the commissioner issue a  
17.29 certificate. All records and documents used in the assessment shall be compiled by the  
17.30 certifying agent and submitted to the commissioner.

17.31 Subd. 2. **Violations.** (a) In the event a certifying agent violates any provision of  
17.32 sections 17.9891 to 17.993 or an order of the commissioner, the commissioner may issue a  
17.33 written warning or a correction order and may suspend or revoke a license.

18.1 (b) If the commissioner suspends or revokes a license, the certifying agent has ten  
18.2 days from the date of suspension or revocation to appeal. If a certifying agent appeals, the  
18.3 commissioner shall hold an administrative hearing within 30 days of the suspension or  
18.4 revocation of the license, or longer by agreement of the parties, to determine whether the  
18.5 license is revoked or suspended. The commissioner shall issue an opinion within 30 days.  
18.6 If a person notifies the commissioner that the person intends to contest the commissioner's  
18.7 opinion, the Office of Administrative Hearings shall conduct a hearing in accordance with  
18.8 the applicable provisions of chapter 14 for hearings in contested cases.

18.9 **Sec. 9. [17.9896] CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES.**

18.10 Subdivision 1. **Producer duties.** A producer who seeks certification of eligible land  
18.11 shall conduct an initial assessment using the certification instrument, obtain technical  
18.12 assistance if necessary to achieve a satisfactory score on the certification instrument, and  
18.13 apply for certification from a licensed certifying agent.

18.14 Subd. 2. **Additional land.** Once certified, if a producer obtains effective control  
18.15 of additional agricultural land, the producer must notify a certifying agent and obtain  
18.16 certification of the additional land within one year in order to retain the producer's original  
18.17 certification.

18.18 Subd. 3. **Violations.** (a) The commissioner may revoke a certification if the  
18.19 producer fails to obtain certification on any additional land for which the producer obtains  
18.20 effective control.

18.21 (b) The commissioner may revoke a certification and seek reimbursement of any  
18.22 monetary benefit a producer may have received due to certification from a producer who  
18.23 fails to maintain certification criteria.

18.24 (c) If the commissioner revokes a certification, the producer has ten days from the  
18.25 date of suspension or revocation to appeal. If a producer appeals, the commissioner shall  
18.26 hold an administrative hearing within 30 days of the suspension or revocation of the  
18.27 certification, or longer by agreement of the parties, to determine whether the certification  
18.28 is revoked or suspended. The commissioner shall issue an opinion within 30 days. If the  
18.29 producer notifies the commissioner that the producer intends to contest the commissioner's  
18.30 opinion, the Office of Administrative Hearings shall conduct a hearing in accordance with  
18.31 the applicable provisions of chapter 14 for hearings in contested cases.

18.32 **Sec. 10. [17.9897] CERTIFICATION CERTAINTY.**

18.33 (a) Once a producer is certified, the producer:

19.1 (1) retains certification for up to ten years from the date of certification if the  
19.2 producer complies with the certification agreement, even if the producer does not comply  
19.3 with new state water protection laws or rules that take effect during the certification period;

19.4 (2) is presumed to be meeting the producer's contribution to any targeted reduction  
19.5 of pollutants during the certification period;

19.6 (3) is required to continue implementation of practices that maintain the producer's  
19.7 certification; and

19.8 (4) is required to retain all records pertaining to certification.

19.9 (b) Paragraph (a) does not preclude enforcement of a local rule or ordinance by a  
19.10 local unit of government.

19.11 **Sec. 11. [17.9898] AUDITS.**

19.12 The commissioner shall perform random audits of producers and certifying agents to  
19.13 ensure compliance with the program. All producers and certifying agents shall cooperate  
19.14 with the commissioner during these audits, and provide all relevant documents to the  
19.15 commissioner for inspection and copying. Any delay, obstruction, or refusal to cooperate  
19.16 with the commissioner's audit or falsification of or failure to provide required data or  
19.17 information is a violation subject to the provisions of section 17.9895, subdivision 2, or  
19.18 17.9896, subdivision 3.

19.19 **Sec. 12. [17.9899] DATA.**

19.20 All data collected under the program that identifies a producer or a producer's  
19.21 location are considered nonpublic data as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 9, or  
19.22 private data on individuals as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 12. The commissioner  
19.23 shall make available summary data of program outcomes on data classified as private  
19.24 or nonpublic under this section.

19.25 **Sec. 13. [17.991] RULEMAKING.**

19.26 The commissioner may adopt rules to implement the program.

19.27 **Sec. 14. [17.992] REPORTS.**

19.28 The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of natural resources,  
19.29 commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, and Board of Water and Soil Resources,  
19.30 shall issue a biennial report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative  
19.31 committees with jurisdiction over agricultural policy on the status of the program.

20.1 Sec. 15. [17.993] FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

20.2 The commissioner may use contributions from gifts or other state accounts, provided  
20.3 that the purpose of the expenditure is consistent with the purpose of the accounts, for  
20.4 grants, loans, or other financial assistance.

20.5 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.77, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

20.6 Subd. 3. **Control.** "Control" means to ~~destroy all or part of the aboveground~~  
20.7 ~~growth of noxious weeds~~ manage or prevent the maturation and spread of propagating  
20.8 parts of noxious weeds from one area to another by a lawful method that does not cause  
20.9 unreasonable adverse effects on the environment as defined in section 18B.01, subdivision  
20.10 31, ~~and prevents the maturation and spread of noxious weed propagating parts from one~~  
20.11 ~~area to another.~~

20.12 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.77, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

20.13 Subd. 4. **Eradicate.** "Eradicate" means to destroy the aboveground ~~growth and the~~  
20.14 ~~roots~~ and belowground plant parts of noxious weeds by a lawful method that, which  
20.15 prevents the maturation and spread of noxious weed propagating parts from one area  
20.16 to another.

20.17 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.77, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

20.18 Subd. 10. **Permanent pasture, hay meadow, woodlot, and or other noncrop**  
20.19 **area.** "Permanent pasture, hay meadow, woodlot, and or other noncrop area" means an  
20.20 area of predominantly native or seeded perennial plants that can be used for grazing or hay  
20.21 purposes but is not harvested on a regular basis and is not considered to be a growing crop.

20.22 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.77, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

20.23 Subd. 12. **Propagating parts.** "Propagating parts" means all plant parts, including  
20.24 seeds, that are capable of producing new plants.

20.25 Sec. 20. [18.771] NOXIOUS WEED CATEGORIES.

20.26 (a) For purposes of this section, noxious weed category includes each of the  
20.27 following categories.

20.28 (b) "Prohibited noxious weeds" includes noxious weeds that must be controlled or  
20.29 eradicated on all lands within the state. Transportation of a prohibited noxious weed's  
20.30 propagating parts is restricted by permit except as allowed by section 18.82. Prohibited

21.1 noxious weeds may not be sold or propagated in Minnesota. There are two regulatory  
21.2 listings for prohibited noxious weeds in Minnesota:

21.3 (1) the noxious weed eradicate list is established. Prohibited noxious weeds placed  
21.4 on the noxious weed eradicate list are plants that are not currently known to be present in  
21.5 Minnesota or are not widely established. These species must be eradicated; and

21.6 (2) the noxious weed control list is established. Prohibited noxious weeds placed on  
21.7 the noxious weed control list are plants that are already established throughout Minnesota  
21.8 or regions of the state. Species on this list must at least be controlled.

21.9 (c) "Restricted noxious weeds" includes noxious weeds that are widely distributed  
21.10 in Minnesota, but for which the only feasible means of control is to prevent their spread  
21.11 by prohibiting the importation, sale, and transportation of their propagating parts in the  
21.12 state, except as allowed by section 18.82.

21.13 (d) "Specially regulated plants" includes noxious weeds that may be native  
21.14 species or have demonstrated economic value, but also have the potential to cause harm  
21.15 in noncontrolled environments. Plants designated as specially regulated have been  
21.16 determined to pose ecological, economical, or human or animal health concerns. Species  
21.17 specific management plans or rules that define the use and management requirements  
21.18 for these plants must be developed by the commissioner of agriculture for each plant  
21.19 designated as specially regulated. The commissioner must also take measures to minimize  
21.20 the potential for harm caused by these plants.

21.21 (e) "County noxious weeds" includes noxious weeds that are designated by  
21.22 individual county boards to be enforced as prohibited noxious weeds within the county's  
21.23 jurisdiction and must be approved by the commissioner of agriculture, in consultation with  
21.24 the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee. Each county board must submit newly proposed  
21.25 county noxious weeds to the commissioner of agriculture for review. Approved county  
21.26 noxious weeds shall also be posted with the county's general weed notice prior to May 15  
21.27 each year. Counties are solely responsible for developing county noxious weed lists and  
21.28 their enforcement.

21.29 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.78, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

21.30 Subd. 3. **Cooperative Weed control agreement.** The commissioner, municipality,  
21.31 or county agricultural inspector or county-designated employee may enter into a  
21.32 cooperative weed control agreement with a landowner or weed management area  
21.33 group to establish a mutually agreed-upon noxious weed management plan for up to  
21.34 three years duration, whereby a noxious weed problem will be controlled without

22.1 additional enforcement action. If a property owner fails to comply with the noxious weed  
22.2 management plan, an individual notice may be served.

22.3 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.79, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

22.4 Subd. 6. **Training for control or eradication of noxious weeds.** The commissioner  
22.5 shall conduct initial training considered necessary for inspectors and county-designated  
22.6 employees in the enforcement of the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law. The director of ~~the~~  
22.7 University of Minnesota Extension Service may conduct educational programs for the  
22.8 general public that will aid compliance with the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law. Upon  
22.9 request, the commissioner may provide information and other technical assistance to the  
22.10 county agricultural inspector or county-designated employee to aid in the performance of  
22.11 responsibilities specified by the county board under section 18.81, subdivisions 1a and 1b.

22.12 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.79, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

22.13 Subd. 13. **Noxious weed designation.** The commissioner, in consultation with the  
22.14 Noxious Weed Advisory Committee, shall determine which plants are noxious weeds  
22.15 subject to ~~control~~ regulation under sections 18.76 to 18.91. The commissioner shall  
22.16 prepare, publish, and revise as necessary, but at least once every three years, a list of  
22.17 noxious weeds and their designated classification. The list must be distributed to the public  
22.18 by the commissioner who may request the help of ~~the~~ University of Minnesota Extension,  
22.19 the county agricultural inspectors, and any other organization the commissioner considers  
22.20 appropriate to assist in the distribution. The commissioner may, in consultation with  
22.21 the Noxious Weed Advisory Committee, accept and consider noxious weed designation  
22.22 petitions from Minnesota citizens or Minnesota organizations or associations.

22.23 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.82, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

22.24 Subdivision 1. **Permits.** Except as provided in section 21.74, if a person wants to  
22.25 transport along a public highway materials or equipment containing the propagating parts of  
22.26 weeds designated as noxious by the commissioner, the person must secure a written permit  
22.27 for transportation of the material or equipment from an inspector or county-designated  
22.28 employee. Inspectors or county-designated employees may issue permits to persons  
22.29 residing or operating within their jurisdiction. ~~If the noxious weed propagating parts are~~  
22.30 ~~removed from materials and equipment or devitalized before being transported, a permit is~~  
22.31 ~~not needed~~ A permit is not required for the transport of noxious weeds for the purpose  
22.32 of destroying propagating parts at a Department of Agriculture-approved disposal site.

23.1 Anyone transporting noxious weed propagating parts for this purpose shall ensure that all  
23.2 materials are contained in a manner that prevents escape during transport.

23.3 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.91, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

23.4 Subdivision 1. **Duties.** The commissioner shall consult with the Noxious Weed  
23.5 Advisory Committee to advise the commissioner concerning responsibilities under  
23.6 the noxious weed control program. The committee shall also evaluate species for  
23.7 invasiveness, difficulty of control, cost of control, benefits, and amount of injury caused  
23.8 by them. For each species evaluated, the committee shall recommend to the commissioner  
23.9 on which noxious weed list or lists, if any, the species should be placed. Species ~~currently~~  
23.10 designated as prohibited or restricted noxious weeds or specially regulated plants must  
23.11 be reevaluated every three years for a recommendation on whether or not they need to  
23.12 remain on the noxious weed lists. The committee shall also advise the commissioner on  
23.13 the implementation of the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law and assist the commissioner in  
23.14 the development of management criteria for each noxious weed category. Members of  
23.15 the committee are not entitled to reimbursement of expenses nor payment of per diem.  
23.16 Members shall serve two-year terms with subsequent reappointment by the commissioner.

23.17 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18.91, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

23.18 Subd. 2. **Membership.** The commissioner shall appoint members, which shall  
23.19 include representatives from the following:

- 23.20 (1) horticultural science, agronomy, and forestry at the University of Minnesota;
- 23.21 (2) the nursery and landscape industry in Minnesota;
- 23.22 (3) the seed industry in Minnesota;
- 23.23 (4) the Department of Agriculture;
- 23.24 (5) the Department of Natural Resources;
- 23.25 (6) a conservation organization;
- 23.26 (7) an environmental organization;
- 23.27 (8) at least two farm organizations;
- 23.28 (9) the county agricultural inspectors;
- 23.29 (10) city, township, and county governments;
- 23.30 (11) the Department of Transportation;
- 23.31 (12) ~~the~~ University of Minnesota Extension;
- 23.32 (13) the timber and forestry industry in Minnesota;
- 23.33 (14) the Board of Water and Soil Resources; ~~and~~
- 23.34 (15) soil and water conservation districts;

24.1 (16) Minnesota Association of County Land Commissioners; and  
24.2 (17) members as needed.

24.3 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.01, is amended by adding a subdivision  
24.4 to read:

24.5 Subd. 4a. **Bulk pesticide storage facility.** "Bulk pesticide storage facility" means a  
24.6 facility that is required to have a permit under section 18B.14.

24.7 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.065, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

24.8 Subd. 2a. **Disposal site requirement.** (a) For agricultural waste pesticides, the  
24.9 commissioner must designate a place in each county of the state that is available at least  
24.10 every other year for persons to dispose of unused portions of agricultural pesticides. The  
24.11 commissioner shall consult with the person responsible for solid waste management  
24.12 and disposal in each county to determine an appropriate location and to advertise each  
24.13 collection event. The commissioner may provide a collection opportunity in a county  
24.14 more frequently if the commissioner determines that a collection is warranted.

24.15 (b) For nonagricultural waste pesticides, the commissioner must provide a disposal  
24.16 opportunity each year in each county or enter into a contract with a group of counties  
24.17 under a joint powers agreement or contract for household hazardous waste disposal.

24.18 (c) As provided under subdivision 7, the commissioner may enter into cooperative  
24.19 agreements with local units of government to provide the collections required under  
24.20 paragraph (a) or (b) and shall provide a local unit of government, as part of the cooperative  
24.21 agreement, with funding for reasonable costs incurred including, but not limited to, related  
24.22 supplies, transportation, advertising, and disposal costs as well as reasonable overhead  
24.23 costs.

24.24 (d) A person who collects waste pesticide under this section shall, on a form  
24.25 provided or in a method approved by the commissioner, record information on each  
24.26 waste pesticide product collected including, but not limited to, the quantity collected  
24.27 and either the product name and its active ingredient or ingredients or the United States  
24.28 Environmental Protection Agency registration number. The person must submit this  
24.29 information to the commissioner at least annually by January 30.

24.30 (e) Notwithstanding the recording and reporting requirements of paragraph (d),  
24.31 persons are not required to record or report agricultural or nonagricultural waste pesticide  
24.32 collected in the remainder of 2013, 2014, and 2015. The commissioner shall analyze  
24.33 existing collection data to identify trends that will inform future collection strategies to  
24.34 better meet the needs and nature of current waste pesticide streams. By January 15, 2015,

25.1 the commissioner shall report analysis, recommendations, and proposed policy changes to  
 25.2 this program to legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture finance and policy.

25.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment  
 25.4 and applies to waste pesticide collected on or after that date through the end of 2015.

25.5 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.07, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

25.6 Subd. 4. **Pesticide storage safeguards at application sites.** A person may not  
 25.7 allow a pesticide, rinsate, or unrinsed pesticide container to be stored, kept, or to remain in  
 25.8 or on any site without safeguards adequate to prevent an incident. Pesticides may not be  
 25.9 stored in any location with an open drain.

25.10 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.07, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

25.11 Subd. 5. **Use of public water supplies for filling application equipment.** (a) A  
 25.12 person may not fill pesticide application equipment directly from a public water supply,  
 25.13 as defined in section 144.382, or from public waters, as defined in section 103G.005,  
 25.14 subdivision 15, unless the ~~outlet from the public equipment or water supply~~ is equipped  
 25.15 with a backflow prevention device that complies with the Minnesota Plumbing Code  
 25.16 under Minnesota Rules, parts 4715.2000 to 4715.2280.

25.17 (b) Cross connections between a water supply used for filling pesticide application  
 25.18 equipment are prohibited.

25.19 (c) This subdivision does not apply to permitted applications of aquatic pesticides to  
 25.20 public waters.

25.21 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.07, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

25.22 Subd. 7. ~~Cleaning equipment in or near surface water~~ **Pesticide handling**  
 25.23 **restrictions.** (a) A person may not: fill or clean pesticide application equipment where  
 25.24 pesticides or materials contaminated with pesticides could enter ditches, surface water,  
 25.25 groundwater, wells, drains, or sewers. For wells, the setbacks established in Minnesota  
 25.26 Rules, part 4725.4450, apply.

25.27 ~~(1) clean pesticide application equipment in surface waters of the state; or~~

25.28 ~~(2) fill or clean pesticide application equipment adjacent to surface waters;~~

25.29 ~~ditches, or wells where, because of the slope or other conditions, pesticides or materials~~  
 25.30 ~~contaminated with pesticides could enter or contaminate the surface waters, groundwater,~~  
 25.31 ~~or wells, as a result of overflow, leakage, or other causes.~~

25.32 (b) This subdivision does not apply to permitted application of aquatic pesticides to  
 25.33 public waters.

26.1 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.26, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

26.2 Subd. 3. **Registration application and gross sales fee.** (a) For an agricultural  
26.3 pesticide, a registrant shall pay an annual registration application fee for each agricultural  
26.4 pesticide of \$350. The fee is due by December 31 preceding the year for which the  
26.5 application for registration is made. The fee is nonrefundable.

26.6 (b) For a nonagricultural pesticide, a registrant shall pay a minimum annual  
26.7 registration application fee for each nonagricultural pesticide of \$350. The fee is due by  
26.8 December 31 preceding the year for which the application for registration is made. The  
26.9 fee is nonrefundable. The registrant of a nonagricultural pesticide shall pay, in addition to  
26.10 the \$350 minimum fee, a fee of 0.5 percent of annual gross sales of the nonagricultural  
26.11 pesticide in the state and the annual gross sales of the nonagricultural pesticide sold into  
26.12 the state for use in this state. ~~The commissioner may not assess a fee under this paragraph~~  
26.13 ~~if the amount due based on percent of annual gross sales is less than \$10~~ No fee is required  
26.14 if the fee due amount based on percent of annual gross sales of a nonagricultural pesticide  
26.15 is less than \$10. The registrant shall secure sufficient sales information of nonagricultural  
26.16 pesticides distributed into this state from distributors and dealers, regardless of distributor  
26.17 location, to make a determination. Sales of nonagricultural pesticides in this state and  
26.18 sales of nonagricultural pesticides for use in this state by out-of-state distributors are not  
26.19 exempt and must be included in the registrant's annual report, as required under paragraph  
26.20 (g), and fees shall be paid by the registrant based upon those reported sales. Sales of  
26.21 nonagricultural pesticides in the state for use outside of the state are exempt from the  
26.22 gross sales fee in this paragraph if the registrant properly documents the sale location and  
26.23 distributors. A registrant paying more than the minimum fee shall pay the balance due by  
26.24 March 1 based on the gross sales of the nonagricultural pesticide by the registrant for the  
26.25 preceding calendar year. A pesticide determined by the commissioner to be a sanitizer or  
26.26 disinfectant is exempt from the gross sales fee.

26.27 (c) For agricultural pesticides, a licensed agricultural pesticide dealer or licensed  
26.28 pesticide dealer shall pay a gross sales fee of 0.55 percent of annual gross sales of the  
26.29 agricultural pesticide in the state and the annual gross sales of the agricultural pesticide  
26.30 sold into the state for use in this state.

26.31 (d) In those cases where a registrant first sells an agricultural pesticide in or into the  
26.32 state to a pesticide end user, the registrant must first obtain an agricultural pesticide dealer  
26.33 license and is responsible for payment of the annual gross sales fee under paragraph (c),  
26.34 record keeping under paragraph (i), and all other requirements of section 18B.316.

26.35 (e) If the total annual revenue from fees collected in fiscal year 2011, 2012, or 2013,  
26.36 by the commissioner on the registration and sale of pesticides is less than \$6,600,000, the

27.1 commissioner, after a public hearing, may increase proportionally the pesticide sales and  
27.2 product registration fees under this chapter by the amount necessary to ensure this level  
27.3 of revenue is achieved. The authority under this section expires on June 30, 2014. The  
27.4 commissioner shall report any fee increases under this paragraph 60 days before the fee  
27.5 change is effective to the senate and house of representatives agriculture budget divisions.

27.6 (f) An additional fee of 50 percent of the registration application fee must be paid by  
27.7 the applicant for each pesticide to be registered if the application is a renewal application  
27.8 that is submitted after December 31.

27.9 (g) A registrant must annually report to the commissioner the amount, type and  
27.10 annual gross sales of each registered nonagricultural pesticide sold, offered for sale, or  
27.11 otherwise distributed in the state. The report shall be filed by March 1 for the previous  
27.12 year's registration. The commissioner shall specify the form of the report or approve  
27.13 the method for submittal of the report and may require additional information deemed  
27.14 necessary to determine the amount and type of nonagricultural pesticide annually  
27.15 distributed in the state. The information required shall include the brand name, United  
27.16 States Environmental Protection Agency registration number, and amount of each  
27.17 nonagricultural pesticide sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed in the state, but  
27.18 the information collected, if made public, shall be reported in a manner which does not  
27.19 identify a specific brand name in the report.

27.20 (h) A licensed agricultural pesticide dealer or licensed pesticide dealer must annually  
27.21 report to the commissioner the amount, type, and annual gross sales of each registered  
27.22 agricultural pesticide sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed in the state or into the  
27.23 state for use in the state. The report must be filed by January 31 for the previous year's  
27.24 sales. The commissioner shall specify the form, contents, and approved electronic method  
27.25 for submittal of the report and may require additional information deemed necessary to  
27.26 determine the amount and type of agricultural pesticide annually distributed within the  
27.27 state or into the state. The information required must include the brand name, United States  
27.28 Environmental Protection Agency registration number, and amount of each agricultural  
27.29 pesticide sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed in the state or into the state.

27.30 (i) A person who registers a pesticide with the commissioner under paragraph (b),  
27.31 or a registrant under paragraph (d), shall keep accurate records for five years detailing  
27.32 all distribution or sales transactions into the state or in the state and subject to a fee and  
27.33 surcharge under this section.

27.34 (j) The records are subject to inspection, copying, and audit by the commissioner  
27.35 and must clearly demonstrate proof of payment of all applicable fees and surcharges  
27.36 for each registered pesticide product sold for use in this state. A person who is located

28.1 outside of this state must maintain and make available records required by this subdivision  
 28.2 in this state or pay all costs incurred by the commissioner in the inspecting, copying, or  
 28.3 auditing of the records.

28.4 (k) The commissioner may adopt by rule regulations that require persons subject  
 28.5 to audit under this section to provide information determined by the commissioner to be  
 28.6 necessary to enable the commissioner to perform the audit.

28.7 (l) A registrant who is required to pay more than the minimum fee for any pesticide  
 28.8 under paragraph (b) must pay a late fee penalty of \$100 for each pesticide application fee  
 28.9 paid after March 1 in the year for which the license is to be issued.

28.10 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.305, is amended to read:

28.11 **18B.305 PESTICIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING.**

28.12 Subdivision 1. **Education and training.** (a) The commissioner, as the lead agency,  
 28.13 shall develop, implement or approve, and evaluate, in conjunction consultation with the  
 28.14 University of Minnesota Extension Service, the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
 28.15 system, and other educational institutions, innovative educational and training programs  
 28.16 addressing pesticide concerns including:

28.17 (1) water quality protection;

28.18 (2) endangered species protection;

28.19 (3) minimizing pesticide residues in food and water;

28.20 (4) worker protection and applicator safety;

28.21 (5) chronic toxicity;

28.22 (6) integrated pest management and pest resistance; ~~and~~

28.23 (7) pesticide disposal;

28.24 (8) pesticide drift;

28.25 (9) relevant laws including pesticide labels and labeling and state and federal rules  
 28.26 and regulations; and

28.27 (10) current science and technology updates.

28.28 (b) The commissioner shall appoint educational planning committees which must  
 28.29 include representatives of industry and applicators.

28.30 (c) Specific current regulatory concerns must be discussed and, if appropriate,  
 28.31 incorporated into each training session. Relevant changes to pesticide product labels or  
 28.32 labeling or state and federal rules and regulations may be included.

28.33 (d) The commissioner may approve programs from private industry, higher  
 28.34 education institutions, and nonprofit organizations that meet minimum requirements for  
 28.35 education, training, and certification.

29.1 Subd. 2. **Training manual and examination development.** The commissioner,  
29.2 in conjunction with ~~the~~ University of Minnesota Extension Service and other higher  
29.3 education institutions, shall continually revise and update pesticide applicator training  
29.4 manuals and examinations. The manuals and examinations must be written to meet or  
29.5 exceed the minimum standards required by the United States Environmental Protection  
29.6 Agency and pertinent state specific information. Questions in the examinations must be  
29.7 determined by the commissioner in consultation with other responsible agencies. Manuals  
29.8 and examinations must include pesticide management practices that discuss prevention of  
29.9 pesticide occurrence in ~~groundwaters~~ groundwater and surface water of the state.

29.10 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.316, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

29.11 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** (a) A person must not ~~distribute~~ offer for sale or sell  
29.12 an agricultural pesticide in the state or into the state without first obtaining an agricultural  
29.13 pesticide dealer license.

29.14 (b) Each location or place of business from which an agricultural pesticide is  
29.15 ~~distributed~~ offered for sale or sold in the state or into the state is required to have a  
29.16 separate agricultural pesticide dealer license.

29.17 (c) A person who is a licensed pesticide dealer under section 18B.31 is not required  
29.18 to also be licensed under this subdivision.

29.19 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.316, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

29.20 Subd. 3. **Resident agent.** A person required to be licensed under subdivisions 1  
29.21 and 2, or a person licensed as a pesticide dealer pursuant to section 18B.31 and who  
29.22 operates from a location or place of business outside the state and who ~~distributes~~ offers  
29.23 for sale or sells an agricultural pesticide into the state, must continuously maintain in  
29.24 this state the following:

29.25 (1) a registered office; and

29.26 (2) a registered agent, who may be either a resident of this state whose business  
29.27 office or residence is identical with the registered office under clause (1), a domestic  
29.28 corporation or limited liability company, or a foreign corporation of limited liability  
29.29 company authorized to transact business in this state and having a business office identical  
29.30 with the registered office.

29.31 A person licensed under this section or section 18B.31 shall annually file with the  
29.32 commissioner, either at the time of initial licensing or as part of license renewal, the name,  
29.33 address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the licensee's registered agent.

30.1 For licensees under section 18B.31 who are located in the state, the licensee is  
30.2 the registered agent.

30.3 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.316, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

30.4 Subd. 4. **Responsibility.** The resident agent is responsible for the acts of a licensed  
30.5 agricultural pesticide dealer, or of a licensed pesticide dealer under section 18B.31 who  
30.6 operates from a location or place of business outside the state and who ~~distributes~~ offers  
30.7 for sale or sells an agricultural pesticide into the state, as well as the acts of the employees  
30.8 of those licensees.

30.9 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.316, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

30.10 Subd. 8. **Report of sales and payment to commissioner.** A person who is an  
30.11 agricultural pesticide dealer, or is a licensed pesticide dealer under section 18B.31, who  
30.12 ~~distributes~~ offers for sale or sells an agricultural pesticide in or into the state, and a  
30.13 pesticide registrant pursuant to section 18B.26, subdivision 3, paragraph (d), shall no  
30.14 later than January 31 of each year report and pay applicable fees on annual gross sales  
30.15 of agricultural pesticides to the commissioner pursuant to requirements under section  
30.16 18B.26, subdivision 3, paragraphs (c) and (h).

30.17 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.316, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

30.18 Subd. 9. **Application.** (a) A person must apply to the commissioner for an  
30.19 agricultural pesticide dealer license on forms and in a manner approved by the  
30.20 commissioner.

30.21 (b) The applicant must be the person in charge of each location or place of business  
30.22 from which agricultural pesticides are ~~distributed~~ offered for sale or sold in or into the state.

30.23 (c) The commissioner may require that the applicant provide information regarding  
30.24 the applicant's proposed operations and other information considered pertinent by the  
30.25 commissioner.

30.26 (d) The commissioner may require additional demonstration of licensee qualification  
30.27 if the licensee has had a license suspended or revoked, or has otherwise had a history of  
30.28 violations in another state or violations of this chapter.

30.29 (e) A licensed agricultural pesticide dealer who changes the dealer's address or place  
30.30 of business must immediately notify the commissioner of the change.

30.31 (f) Beginning January 1, 2011, an application for renewal of an agricultural pesticide  
30.32 dealer license is complete only when a report and any applicable payment of fees under  
30.33 subdivision 8 are received by the commissioner.

31.1 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18B.37, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

31.2 Subd. 4. **Storage, handling, Incident response, and disposal plan.** A pesticide  
 31.3 dealer, agricultural pesticide dealer, or a commercial, noncommercial, or structural pest  
 31.4 control applicator or the business that the applicator is employed by business must develop  
 31.5 and maintain a an incident response plan that describes its pesticide storage, handling,  
 31.6 incident response, and disposal practices the actions that will be taken to prevent and  
 31.7 respond to pesticide incidents. The plan must contain the same information as forms  
 31.8 provided by the commissioner. The plan must be kept at a principal business site or location  
 31.9 within this state and must be submitted to the commissioner upon request ~~on forms provided~~  
 31.10 ~~by the commissioner.~~ The plan must be available for inspection by the commissioner.

31.11 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18C.430, is amended to read:

31.12 **18C.430 COMMERCIAL ANIMAL WASTE TECHNICIAN.**

31.13 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** (a) ~~Except as provided in paragraph (c), after March~~  
 31.14 ~~1, 2000,~~ A person may not manage or apply animal wastes to the land for hire ~~without a~~  
 31.15 ~~valid commercial animal waste technician license. This section does not apply to a person~~  
 31.16 ~~managing or applying animal waste on land managed by the person's employer.:~~

31.17 (1) without a valid commercial animal waste technician applicator license;

31.18 (2) without a valid commercial animal waste technician site manager license; or

31.19 (3) as a sole proprietorship, company, partnership, or corporation unless a  
 31.20 commercial animal waste technician company license is held and a commercial animal  
 31.21 waste technical site manager is employed by the entity.

31.22 (b) A person managing or applying animal wastes for hire must have a valid  
 31.23 license identification card when managing or applying animal wastes for hire and must  
 31.24 display it upon demand by an authorized representative of the commissioner or a law  
 31.25 enforcement officer. The commissioner shall prescribe the information required on the  
 31.26 license identification card.

31.27 (c) ~~A person who is not a licensed commercial animal waste technician who has had~~  
 31.28 ~~at least two hours of training or experience in animal waste management may manage~~  
 31.29 ~~or apply animal waste for hire under the supervision of a commercial animal waste~~  
 31.30 ~~technician. A commercial animal waste technician applicator must have a minimum of~~  
 31.31 two hours of certification training in animal waste management and may only manage or  
 31.32 apply animal waste for hire under the supervision of a commercial animal waste technician  
 31.33 site manager. The commissioner shall prescribe the conditions of the supervision and the  
 31.34 form and format required on the certification training.

32.1 (d) This section does not apply to a person managing or applying animal waste on  
32.2 land managed by the person's employer.

32.3 Subd. 2. **Responsibility.** A person required to be licensed under this section who  
32.4 performs animal waste management or application for hire or who employs a person to  
32.5 perform animal waste management or application for compensation is responsible for  
32.6 proper management or application of the animal wastes.

32.7 Subd. 3. **License.** (a) A commercial animal waste technician license, including  
32.8 applicator, site manager, and company:

32.9 (1) is valid for ~~three years~~ one year and expires on December 31 of the ~~third~~ year for  
32.10 which it is issued, unless suspended or revoked before that date;

32.11 (2) is not transferable to another person; and

32.12 (3) must be prominently displayed to the public in the commercial animal waste  
32.13 technician's place of business.

32.14 (b) The commercial animal waste technician company license number assigned by  
32.15 the commissioner must appear on the application equipment when a person manages  
32.16 or applies animal waste for hire.

32.17 Subd. 4. **Application.** (a) A person must apply to the commissioner for a commercial  
32.18 animal waste technician license on forms and in the manner required by the commissioner  
32.19 and must include the application fee. The commissioner shall prescribe and administer  
32.20 an examination or equivalent measure to determine if the applicant is eligible for the  
32.21 commercial animal waste technician license, site manager license, or applicator license.

32.22 (b) The commissioner of agriculture, in cooperation with ~~the~~ University of  
32.23 Minnesota Extension Service and appropriate educational institutions, shall establish and  
32.24 implement a program for training and licensing commercial animal waste technicians.

32.25 Subd. 5. **Renewal application.** (a) A person must apply to the commissioner of  
32.26 agriculture to renew a commercial animal waste technician license and must include the  
32.27 application fee. The commissioner may renew a commercial animal waste technician  
32.28 applicator or site manager license, subject to reexamination, attendance at workshops  
32.29 approved by the commissioner, or other requirements imposed by the commissioner to  
32.30 provide the animal waste technician with information regarding changing technology and  
32.31 to help ensure a continuing level of competence and ability to manage and apply animal  
32.32 wastes properly. The applicant may renew a commercial animal waste technician license  
32.33 within 12 months after expiration of the license without having to meet initial testing  
32.34 requirements. The commissioner may require additional demonstration of animal waste  
32.35 technician qualification if a person has had a license suspended or revoked or has had a  
32.36 history of violations of this section.

33.1 (b) An applicant who meets renewal requirements by reexamination instead  
33.2 of attending workshops must pay a fee for the reexamination as determined by the  
33.3 commissioner.

33.4 Subd. 6. **Financial responsibility.** (a) A commercial animal waste technician  
33.5 license may not be issued unless the applicant furnishes proof of financial responsibility.  
33.6 The financial responsibility may be demonstrated by (1) proof of net assets equal to or  
33.7 greater than \$50,000, or (2) a performance bond or insurance of the kind and in an amount  
33.8 determined by the commissioner of agriculture.

33.9 (b) The bond or insurance must cover a period of time at least equal to the term of  
33.10 the applicant's license. The commissioner shall immediately suspend the license of a  
33.11 person who fails to maintain the required bond or insurance.

33.12 (c) An employee of a licensed person is not required to maintain an insurance policy  
33.13 or bond during the time the employer is maintaining the required insurance or bond.

33.14 (d) Applications for reinstatement of a license suspended under paragraph (b) must  
33.15 be accompanied by proof of satisfaction of judgments previously rendered.

33.16 Subd. 7. **Application fee.** (a) A person initially applying for or renewing  
33.17 a commercial animal waste technician applicator license must pay a nonrefundable  
33.18 ~~application~~ fee of \$50 ~~and a fee of \$10 for each additional identification card requested.~~  
33.19 \$25. A person initially applying for or renewing a commercial animal waste technician  
33.20 site manager license must pay a nonrefundable application fee of \$50. A person initially  
33.21 applying for or renewing a commercial animal waste technician company license must  
33.22 pay a nonrefundable application fee of \$100.

33.23 (b) A license renewal application received after March 1 in the year for which the  
33.24 license is to be issued is subject to a penalty fee of 50 percent of the application fee. The  
33.25 penalty fee must be paid before the renewal license may be issued.

33.26 (c) An application for a duplicate commercial animal waste technician license must  
33.27 be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of \$10.

33.28 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 18C.433, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

33.29 Subdivision 1. **Requirement.** Beginning January 1, 2006, only a commercial  
33.30 animal waste technician; site manager or commercial animal waste technician applicator  
33.31 may apply animal waste from a feedlot that:

33.32 (1) has a capacity of 300 animal units or more; and

33.33 (2) does not have an updated manure management plan that meets the requirements  
33.34 of Pollution Control Agency rules.

34.1 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 31.94, is amended to read:

34.2 **31.94 COMMISSIONER DUTIES.**

34.3 (a) In order to promote opportunities for organic agriculture in Minnesota, the  
34.4 commissioner shall:

34.5 (1) survey producers and support services and organizations to determine  
34.6 information and research needs in the area of organic agriculture practices;

34.7 (2) work with the University of Minnesota to demonstrate the on-farm applicability  
34.8 of organic agriculture practices to conditions in this state;

34.9 (3) direct the programs of the department so as to work toward the promotion of  
34.10 organic agriculture in this state;

34.11 (4) inform agencies of how state or federal programs could utilize and support  
34.12 organic agriculture practices; and

34.13 (5) work closely with producers, the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Trade  
34.14 Office, and other appropriate organizations to identify opportunities and needs as well  
34.15 as ensure coordination and avoid duplication of state agency efforts regarding research,  
34.16 teaching, marketing, and extension work relating to organic agriculture.

34.17 (b) By November 15 of each year that ends in a zero or a five, the commissioner,  
34.18 in conjunction with the task force created in paragraph (c), shall report on the status of  
34.19 organic agriculture in Minnesota to the legislative policy and finance committees and  
34.20 divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture. The report must include available data on  
34.21 organic acreage and production, available data on the sales or market performance of  
34.22 organic products, and recommendations regarding programs, policies, and research efforts  
34.23 that will benefit Minnesota's organic agriculture sector.

34.24 (c) A Minnesota Organic Advisory Task Force shall advise the commissioner and the  
34.25 University of Minnesota on policies and programs that will improve organic agriculture in  
34.26 Minnesota, including how available resources can most effectively be used for outreach,  
34.27 education, research, and technical assistance that meet the needs of the organic agriculture  
34.28 community. The task force must consist of the following residents of the state:

34.29 (1) three organic farmers ~~using organic agriculture methods~~;

34.30 (2) one wholesaler or distributor of organic products;

34.31 (3) one representative of organic certification agencies;

34.32 (4) two organic processors;

34.33 (5) one representative from University of Minnesota Extension;

34.34 (6) one University of Minnesota faculty member;

34.35 (7) one representative from a nonprofit organization representing producers;

34.36 (8) two public members;

- 35.1 (9) one representative from the United States Department of Agriculture;  
35.2 (10) one retailer of organic products; and  
35.3 (11) one organic consumer representative.

35.4 The commissioner, in consultation with the director of the Minnesota Agricultural  
35.5 Experiment Station; the dean and director of University of Minnesota Extension; and the  
35.6 dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, shall appoint  
35.7 members to serve ~~staggered two-year~~ three-year terms.

35.8 Compensation and removal of members are governed by section 15.059, subdivision  
35.9 6. The task force must meet at least twice each year and expires on June 30, ~~2013~~ 2016.

35.10 (d) For the purposes of expanding, improving, and developing production and  
35.11 marketing of the organic products of Minnesota agriculture, the commissioner may  
35.12 receive funds from state and federal sources and spend them, including through grants or  
35.13 contracts, to assist producers and processors to achieve certification, to conduct education  
35.14 or marketing activities, to enter into research and development partnerships, or to address  
35.15 production or marketing obstacles to the growth and well-being of the industry.

35.16 (e) The commissioner may facilitate the registration of state organic production  
35.17 and handling operations including those exempt from organic certification according to  
35.18 Code of Federal Regulations, title 7, section 205.101, and certification agents operating  
35.19 within the state.

35.20 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.10, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

35.21 Subd. 2. **Cellulosic biofuel production goal.** The state cellulosic biofuel production  
35.22 goal is one-quarter of the total amount necessary for ~~ethanol~~ biofuel use required under  
35.23 section 239.791, subdivision ~~1a~~ 1, by 2015 or when cellulosic biofuel facilities in the state  
35.24 attain a total annual production level of 60,000,000 gallons, whichever is first.

35.25 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.10, is amended by adding a subdivision  
35.26 to read:

35.27 Subd. 3. **Expiration.** This section expires January 1, 2015.

35.28 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.105, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

35.29 Subd. 1a. **Definitions.** For the purpose of this section:

35.30 (1) "biobased content" means a chemical, polymer, monomer, or plastic that is not  
35.31 sold primarily for use as food, feed, or fuel and that has a biobased percentage of at least  
35.32 51 percent as determined by testing representative samples using American Society for  
35.33 Testing and Materials specification D6866;

36.1 (2) "biobased formulated product" means a product that is not sold primarily for use  
 36.2 as food, feed, or fuel and that has a biobased content percentage of at least ten percent  
 36.3 as determined by testing representative samples using American Society for Testing  
 36.4 and Materials specification D6866, or that contains a biobased chemical constituent  
 36.5 that displaces a known hazardous or toxic constituent previously used in the product  
 36.6 formulation;

36.7 ~~(1)~~ (3) "biobutanol facility" means a facility at which biobutanol is produced; and

36.8 ~~(2)~~ (4) "biobutanol" means fermentation isobutyl alcohol that is derived from  
 36.9 agricultural products, including potatoes, cereal grains, cheese whey, and sugar beets;  
 36.10 forest products; or other renewable resources, including residue and waste generated  
 36.11 from the production, processing, and marketing of agricultural products, forest products,  
 36.12 and other renewable resources.

36.13 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.105, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

36.14 Subd. 3. **Duties.** The board shall research and report to the commissioner of  
 36.15 agriculture and to the legislature recommendations as to how the state can invest its  
 36.16 resources to most efficiently achieve energy independence, agricultural and natural  
 36.17 resources sustainability, and rural economic vitality. The board shall:

36.18 (1) examine the future of fuels, such as synthetic gases, biobutanol, hydrogen,  
 36.19 methanol, biodiesel, and ethanol within Minnesota;

36.20 (2) examine the opportunity for biobased content and biobased formulated product  
 36.21 production at integrated biorefineries or stand alone facilities using agricultural and  
 36.22 forestry feedstocks;

36.23 ~~(2)~~ (3) develop equity grant programs to assist locally owned facilities;

36.24 ~~(3)~~ (4) study the proper role of the state in creating financing and investing and  
 36.25 providing incentives;

36.26 ~~(4)~~ (5) evaluate how state and federal programs, including the Farm Bill, can best  
 36.27 work together and leverage resources;

36.28 ~~(5)~~ (6) work with other entities and committees to develop a clean energy program;  
 36.29 and

36.30 ~~(6)~~ (7) report to the legislature before February 1 each year with recommendations  
 36.31 as to appropriations and results of past actions and projects.

36.32 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.105, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

36.33 Subd. 5. **Expiration.** This section expires June 30, ~~2014~~ 2015.

37.1 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41A.12, is amended by adding a subdivision  
37.2 to read:

37.3 Subd. 3a. **Grant awards.** Grant projects may continue for up to three years.  
37.4 Multiyear projects must be reevaluated by the commissioner before second- and third-year  
37.5 funding is approved. A project is limited to one grant for its funding.

37.6 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41B.04, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

37.7 Subd. 9. **Restructured loan agreement.** (a) For a deferred restructured loan, all  
37.8 payments on the primary and secondary principal, all payments of interest on the secondary  
37.9 principal, and an agreed portion of the interest payable to the eligible agricultural lender  
37.10 on the primary principal must be deferred to the end of the term of the loan.

37.11 (b) Interest on secondary principal must accrue at a below market interest rate.

37.12 (c) At the conclusion of the term of the restructured loan, the borrower owes primary  
37.13 principal, secondary principal, and deferred interest on primary and secondary principal.  
37.14 However, part of this balloon payment may be forgiven following an appraisal by the  
37.15 lender and the authority to determine the current market value of the real estate subject to  
37.16 the mortgage. If the current market value of the land after appraisal is less than the amount  
37.17 of debt owed by the borrower to the lender and authority on this obligation, that portion of  
37.18 the obligation that exceeds the current market value of the real property must be forgiven  
37.19 by the lender and the authority in the following order:

37.20 (1) deferred interest on secondary principal;

37.21 (2) secondary principal;

37.22 (3) deferred interest on primary principal;

37.23 (4) primary principal as provided in an agreement between the authority and the  
37.24 lender; and

37.25 (5) accrued but not deferred interest on primary principal.

37.26 (d) For an amortized restructured loan, payments must include installments on  
37.27 primary principal and interest on the primary principal. An amortized restructured loan  
37.28 must be amortized over a time period and upon terms to be established by the authority by  
37.29 rule.

37.30 (e) A borrower may prepay the restructured loan, with all primary and secondary  
37.31 principal and interest and deferred interest at any time ~~without prepayment penalty~~.

37.32 (f) The authority may not participate in refinancing a restructured loan at the  
37.33 conclusion of the restructured loan.

37.34 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 41D.01, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

38.1 Subd. 4. **Expiration.** This section expires on June 30, ~~2013~~ 2018.

38.2 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 116J.437, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

38.3 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For the purpose of this section, the following terms  
38.4 have the meanings given.

38.5 (b) "Green economy" means products, processes, methods, technologies, or services  
38.6 intended to do one or more of the following:

38.7 (1) increase the use of energy from renewable sources, including through achieving  
38.8 the renewable energy standard established in section 216B.1691;

38.9 (2) achieve the statewide energy-savings goal established in section 216B.2401,  
38.10 including energy savings achieved by the conservation investment program under section  
38.11 216B.241;

38.12 (3) achieve the greenhouse gas emission reduction goals of section 216H.02,  
38.13 subdivision 1, including through reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, as defined in  
38.14 section 216H.01, subdivision 2, or mitigation of the greenhouse gas emissions through,  
38.15 but not limited to, carbon capture, storage, or sequestration;

38.16 (4) monitor, protect, restore, and preserve the quality of surface waters, including  
38.17 actions to further the purposes of the Clean Water Legacy Act as provided in section  
38.18 114D.10, subdivision 1;

38.19 (5) expand the use of biofuels, including by expanding the feasibility or reducing the  
38.20 cost of producing biofuels or the types of equipment, machinery, and vehicles that can  
38.21 use biofuels, including activities to achieve the ~~biofuels 25 by 2025 initiative in sections~~  
38.22 ~~41A.10, subdivision 2, and 41A.11~~ petroleum replacement goal in section 239.7911; or

38.23 (6) increase the use of green chemistry, as defined in section 116.9401.

38.24 For the purpose of clause (3), "green economy" includes strategies that reduce carbon  
38.25 emissions, such as utilizing existing buildings and other infrastructure, and utilizing mass  
38.26 transit or otherwise reducing commuting for employees.

38.27 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 216E.12, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

38.28 Subd. 4. **Contiguous land.** (a) When private real property that is an agricultural or  
38.29 nonagricultural homestead, nonhomestead agricultural land, rental residential property,  
38.30 and both commercial and noncommercial seasonal residential recreational property, as  
38.31 those terms are defined in section 273.13 is proposed to be acquired for the construction of  
38.32 a site or route for a high-voltage transmission line with a capacity of 200 kilovolts or more  
38.33 by eminent domain proceedings, the fee owner, or when applicable, the fee owner with the  
38.34 written consent of the contract for deed vendee, or the contract for deed vendee with the

39.1 ~~written consent of the fee owner~~, shall have the option to require the utility to condemn a  
39.2 fee interest in any amount of contiguous, ~~commercially viable~~ land which the owner or  
39.3 vendee wholly owns or ~~has contracted to own~~ in undivided fee and elects in writing to  
39.4 transfer to the utility within 60 days after receipt of the notice of the objects of the petition  
39.5 filed pursuant to section 117.055. ~~Commercial viability shall be determined without regard~~  
39.6 ~~to the presence of the utility route or site.~~ Within 60 days after receipt by the utility of  
39.7 an owner's election to exercise this option, the utility shall provide written notice to the  
39.8 owner of any objection the utility has to the owner's election, and if no objection is made  
39.9 within that time, any objection shall be deemed waived. Within 90 days of the service of  
39.10 an objection by the utility, the district court having jurisdiction over the eminent domain  
39.11 proceeding shall hold a hearing to determine whether the utility's objection is upheld or  
39.12 rejected. The owner or, ~~when applicable, the contract vendee~~ shall have only one such  
39.13 option and may not expand or otherwise modify an election without the consent of the  
39.14 utility. The required acquisition of land pursuant to this subdivision shall be considered  
39.15 an acquisition for a public purpose and for use in the utility's business, for purposes of  
39.16 chapter 117 and section 500.24, respectively; provided that a utility shall divest itself  
39.17 completely of all such lands used for farming or capable of being used for farming not  
39.18 later than the time it can receive the market value paid at the time of acquisition of lands  
39.19 less any diminution in value by reason of the presence of the utility route or site. Upon  
39.20 the owner's election made under this subdivision, the easement interest over and adjacent  
39.21 to the lands designated by the owner to be acquired in fee, sought in the condemnation  
39.22 petition for a right-of-way for a high-voltage transmission line with a capacity of 200  
39.23 kilovolts or more shall automatically be converted into a fee taking.

39.24 (b) All rights and protections provided to an owner under chapter 117, including in  
39.25 particular sections 117.031, 117.036, 117.186, and 117.52, apply to acquisition of land  
39.26 or an interest in land under this section.

39.27 (c) Within 90 days of an owner's election under this subdivision to require the utility  
39.28 to acquire land, or 90 days after a district court decision overruling a utility objection to an  
39.29 election made pursuant to paragraph (a), the utility must make a written offer to acquire  
39.30 that land and amend its condemnation petition to include the additional land.

39.31 (d) For purposes of this subdivision, "owner" means the fee owner or, when  
39.32 applicable, the fee owner with the written consent of the contract for deed vendee or the  
39.33 contract for deed vendee with the written consent of the fee owner.

39.34 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment  
39.35 and applies to eminent domain proceedings or actions pending or commenced on or after

40.1 that date. "Commenced" means when service of notice of the petition under Minnesota  
40.2 Statutes, section 117.055, is made.

40.3 **Sec. 53. [216E.121] PROPERTY RIGHTS OMBUDSMAN.**

40.4 The Department of Agriculture shall provide a property rights ombudsman to assist  
40.5 landowners who may be affected by a proposed high-voltage transmission line of 100  
40.6 kilovolts or more, or ancillary substations, or a natural gas, petroleum, or petroleum  
40.7 products pipeline, or ancillary compressor stations or pump stations that require a certificate  
40.8 of need under chapter 216B or a site or route permit under this chapter. The ombudsman  
40.9 shall provide impartial information to landowners or others facing a potential right-of-way  
40.10 acquisition from a project described in this section, including, but not limited to:

40.11 (1) the steps and procedures an acquiring authority must comply with in seeking to  
40.12 obtain a right-of-way by negotiation or eminent domain;

40.13 (2) the timelines associated with various procedures under clause (1);

40.14 (3) options and rights of property owners and other persons faced with a right-of-way  
40.15 acquisition under the law, including rights for reimbursement of costs of appraisals and  
40.16 relocation costs; and

40.17 (4) how to find appraisers and attorneys specializing in right-of-way acquisition to  
40.18 assist landowners or others.

40.19 The department's cost of providing a property rights ombudsman shall be reimbursed  
40.20 on a prorated basis by the proposers whose projects generate inquiries to the property  
40.21 rights ombudsman.

40.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

40.23 **Sec. 54.** Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 223.17, is amended by adding a subdivision  
40.24 to read:

40.25 Subd. 7a. **Bond requirements; claims.** For entities licensed under this chapter  
40.26 and chapter 232, the bond requirements and claims against the bond are governed under  
40.27 section 232.22, subdivision 6a.

40.28 **Sec. 55.** Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 232.22, is amended by adding a subdivision  
40.29 to read:

40.30 Subd. 6a. **Bond determinations.** If a public grain warehouse operator is licensed  
40.31 under both this chapter and chapter 223, the warehouse shall have its bond determined  
40.32 by its gross annual grain purchase amount or its annual average grain storage value,

41.1 whichever is greater. For those entities licensed under this chapter and chapter 223, the  
 41.2 entire bond shall be available to any claims against the bond for claims filed under this  
 41.3 chapter and chapter 223.

41.4 Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 239.051, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 41.5 to read:

41.6 Subd. 1a. **Advanced biofuel.** "Advanced biofuel" has the meaning given in Public  
 41.7 Law 110-140, title 2, subtitle A, section 201.

41.8 Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 239.051, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 41.9 to read:

41.10 Subd. 5a. **Biofuel.** "Biofuel" means a renewable fuel with an approved pathway  
 41.11 under authority of the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58, as amended  
 41.12 by the federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, Public Law 110-140, and  
 41.13 approved for sale by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. As such, biofuel  
 41.14 includes both advanced and conventional biofuels.

41.15 Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 239.051, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 41.16 to read:

41.17 Subd. 7a. **Conventional biofuel.** "Conventional biofuel" means ethanol derived  
 41.18 from cornstarch, as defined in Public Law 110-140, title 2, subtitle A, section 201.

41.19 Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 239.791, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

41.20 Subdivision 1. **Minimum ethanol biofuel content required.** (a) Except as provided  
 41.21 in subdivisions 10 to 14, a person responsible for the product shall ensure that all gasoline  
 41.22 sold or offered for sale in Minnesota must contain at least the quantity of ethanol biofuel  
 41.23 required by clause (1) or (2), whichever is greater at the option of the person responsible  
 41.24 for the product:

41.25 (1) the greater of:

41.26 (i) 10.0 percent ~~denatured ethanol~~ conventional biofuel by volume; or

41.27 (2) (ii) the maximum percent of ~~denatured ethanol~~ conventional biofuel by volume  
 41.28 authorized in a waiver granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; or

41.29 (2) 10.0 percent of a biofuel, other than a conventional biofuel, by volume authorized  
 41.30 in a waiver granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or a biofuel  
 41.31 formulation registered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under  
 41.32 United States Code, title 42, section 7545.

42.1 (b) For purposes of enforcing the ~~minimum ethanol~~ requirement of paragraph  
 42.2 (a), clause (1), item (i), or clause (2), a ~~gasoline/ethanol~~ gasoline/biofuel blend will be  
 42.3 construed to be in compliance if the ~~ethanol~~ biofuel content, exclusive of denaturants and  
 42.4 other permitted components, comprises not less than 9.2 percent by volume and not more  
 42.5 than 10.0 percent by volume of the blend as determined by an appropriate United States  
 42.6 Environmental Protection Agency or American Society of Testing Materials standard  
 42.7 method of analysis of ~~alcohol/ether content in engine fuels~~.

42.8 (c) ~~The provisions of this subdivision are suspended during any period of time that~~  
 42.9 ~~subdivision 1a, paragraph (a), is in effect.~~ The aggregate amount of biofuel blended  
 42.10 pursuant to this subdivision may be any biofuel; however, conventional biofuel must  
 42.11 comprise no less than the portion specified on and after the specified dates:

42.12	<u>(1)</u>	<u>July 1, 2013</u>	<u>90 percent</u>
42.13	<u>(2)</u>	<u>January 1, 2015</u>	<u>80 percent</u>
42.14	<u>(3)</u>	<u>January 1, 2017</u>	<u>70 percent</u>
42.15	<u>(4)</u>	<u>January 1, 2020</u>	<u>60 percent</u>
42.16	<u>(5)</u>	<u>January 1, 2025</u>	<u>no minimum</u>

42.17 Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 239.791, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

42.18 Subd. 2a. **Federal Clean Air Act waivers; conditions.** (a) Before a waiver granted  
 42.19 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under ~~section 211(f)(4) of the~~  
 42.20 ~~Clean Air Act~~, United States Code, title 42, section 7545, ~~subsection (f), paragraph (4)~~;  
 42.21 may alter the minimum content level required by subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause ~~(2)~~;  
 42.22 ~~or subdivision 1a, paragraph (a), clause (2)~~ (1), item (ii), the waiver must:

- 42.23 (1) apply to all gasoline-powered motor vehicles irrespective of model year; and
- 42.24 (2) allow for special regulatory treatment of Reid vapor pressure under Code of  
 42.25 Federal Regulations, title 40, section 80.27, paragraph (d), for blends of gasoline and  
 42.26 ethanol up to the maximum percent of denatured ethanol by volume authorized under  
 42.27 the waiver.

42.28 (b) The minimum ~~ethanol~~ biofuel requirement in subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause  
 42.29 (2), ~~or subdivision 1a, paragraph (a), clause (2)~~, shall, upon the grant of the federal waiver  
 42.30 or authority specified in United States Code, title 42, section 7545, that allows for greater  
 42.31 blends of gasoline and biofuel in this state, be effective the day after the commissioner  
 42.32 of commerce publishes notice in the State Register. In making this determination, the  
 42.33 commissioner shall consider the amount of time required by refiners, retailers, pipeline  
 42.34 and distribution terminal companies, and other fuel suppliers, acting expeditiously, to  
 42.35 make the operational and logistical changes required to supply fuel in compliance with  
 42.36 the minimum ~~ethanol~~ biofuel requirement.

43.1 Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 239.791, subdivision 2b, is amended to read:

43.2 Subd. 2b. **Limited liability waiver.** No motor fuel shall be deemed to be a defective  
 43.3 product by virtue of the fact that the motor fuel is formulated or blended pursuant to  
 43.4 the requirements of subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), ~~or subdivision 1a,~~ under  
 43.5 any theory of liability except for simple or willful negligence or fraud. This subdivision  
 43.6 does not preclude an action for negligent, fraudulent, or willful acts. This subdivision  
 43.7 does not affect a person whose liability arises under chapter 115, water pollution control;  
 43.8 115A, waste management; 115B, environmental response and liability; 115C, leaking  
 43.9 underground storage tanks; or 299J, pipeline safety; under public nuisance law for damage  
 43.10 to the environment or the public health; under any other environmental or public health  
 43.11 law; or under any environmental or public health ordinance or program of a municipality  
 43.12 as defined in section 466.01.

43.13 Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 239.7911, is amended to read:

43.14 **239.7911 PETROLEUM REPLACEMENT PROMOTION.**

43.15 Subdivision 1. **Petroleum replacement goal.** The tiered petroleum replacement  
 43.16 goal of the state of Minnesota is that biofuel comprises at least the specified portion of  
 43.17 total gasoline sold or offered for sale in this state by each specified year:

43.18 ~~(1) at least 20 percent of the liquid fuel sold in the state is derived from renewable~~  
 43.19 ~~sources by December 31, 2015; and~~

43.20 ~~(2) at least 25 percent of the liquid fuel sold in the state is derived from renewable~~  
 43.21 ~~sources by December 31, 2025.~~

43.22	<u>(1)</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>14 percent</u>
43.23	<u>(2)</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>18 percent</u>
43.24	<u>(3)</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>25 percent</u>
43.25	<u>(4)</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>30 percent</u>

43.26 Subd. 2. **Promotion of renewable liquid fuels.** (a) The commissioner of agriculture,  
 43.27 in consultation with the commissioners of commerce and the Pollution Control Agency,  
 43.28 shall identify and implement activities necessary ~~for the widespread use of renewable~~  
 43.29 ~~liquid fuels in the state to achieve the goals in subdivision 1.~~ Beginning November  
 43.30 1, 2005, and continuing through 2015, the commissioners, or their designees, shall  
 43.31 ~~work with~~ convene a task force pursuant to section 15.014 that includes representatives  
 43.32 from the renewable fuels industry, petroleum retailers, refiners, automakers, small  
 43.33 engine manufacturers, and other interested groups; ~~to.~~ The task force shall assist the  
 43.34 commissioners in carrying out the activities in paragraph (b) and eliminating barriers to the  
 43.35 use of greater biofuel blends in this state. The task force must coordinate efforts with the

44.1 NextGen Energy Board, the biodiesel task force, and the Renewable Energy Roundtable  
 44.2 and develop annual recommendations for administrative and legislative action.

44.3 (b) The activities of the commissioners under this subdivision shall include, but not  
 44.4 be limited to:

44.5 (1) developing recommendations for specific, cost-effective incentives necessary  
 44.6 to expedite the use of greater biofuel blends in this state including, but not limited to,  
 44.7 incentives for retailers to install equipment necessary for dispensing to dispense renewable  
 44.8 liquid fuels to the public;

44.9 (2) expanding the renewable-fuel options available to Minnesota consumers by  
 44.10 obtaining federal approval for the use of E20 ~~and~~ additional blends that contain a greater  
 44.11 percentage of ethanol, ~~including but not limited to E30 and E50, as gasoline biofuel;~~

44.12 (3) developing recommendations for ~~ensuring~~ to ensure that motor vehicles and  
 44.13 small engine equipment have access to an adequate supply of fuel;

44.14 (4) working with the owners and operators of large corporate automotive fleets in the  
 44.15 state to increase their use of renewable fuels; ~~and~~

44.16 (5) working to maintain an affordable retail price for liquid fuels;

44.17 (6) facilitating the production and use of advanced biofuels in this state; and

44.18 (7) developing procedures for reporting the amount and type of biofuel under  
 44.19 subdivision 1 and section 239.791, subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

44.20 (c) Notwithstanding section 15.014, the task force required under paragraph (a)  
 44.21 expires on December 31, 2015.

44.22 Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 296A.01, is amended by adding a  
 44.23 subdivision to read:

44.24 Subd. 8b. **Biobutanol.** "Biobutanol" means isobutyl alcohol produced by  
 44.25 fermenting agriculturally generated organic material that is to be blended with gasoline  
 44.26 and meets either:

44.27 (1) the initial ASTM Standard Specification for Butanol for Blending with Gasoline  
 44.28 for Use as an Automotive Spark-Ignition Engine Fuel once it has been released by ASTM  
 44.29 for general distribution; or

44.30 (2) in the absence of an ASTM standard specification, the following list of  
 44.31 requirements:

44.32 (i) visually free of sediment and suspended matter;

44.33 (ii) clear and bright at the ambient temperature of 21 degrees Celsius or the ambient  
 44.34 temperature, whichever is higher;

- 45.1 (iii) free of any adulterant or contaminant that can render it unacceptable for its  
45.2 commonly used applications;
- 45.3 (iv) contains not less than 96 volume percent isobutyl alcohol;  
45.4 (v) contains not more than 0.4 volume percent methanol;  
45.5 (vi) contains not more than 1.0 volume percent water as determined by ASTM  
45.6 standard test method E203 or E1064;
- 45.7 (vii) acidity (as acetic acid) of not more than 0.007 mass percent as determined  
45.8 by ASTM standard test method D1613;
- 45.9 (viii) solvent washed gum content of not more than 5.0 milligrams per 100 milliliters  
45.10 as determined by ASTM standard test method D381;
- 45.11 (ix) sulfur content of not more than 30 parts per million as determined by ASTM  
45.12 standard test method D2622 or D5453; and
- 45.13 (x) contains not more than four parts per million total inorganic sulfate.

45.14 Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 296A.01, subdivision 19, is amended to read:

45.15 Subd. 19. **E85.** "E85" means a petroleum product that is a blend of agriculturally  
45.16 derived denatured ethanol and gasoline or natural gasoline that typically contains not more  
45.17 than 85 percent ethanol by volume, but at a minimum must contain 60 51 percent ethanol by  
45.18 volume. For the purposes of this chapter, the energy content of E85 will be considered to be  
45.19 82,000 BTUs per gallon. E85 produced for use as a motor fuel in alternative fuel vehicles  
45.20 as defined in subdivision 5 must comply with ASTM specification ~~D5798-07~~ D5798-11.

45.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

45.22 Sec. 65. **REVISOR'S INSTRUCTION.**

45.23 The revisor of statutes shall renumber Minnesota Statutes, section 18B.01,  
45.24 subdivision 4a, as subdivision 4b and correct any cross-references.

45.25 Sec. 66. **REPEALER.**

45.26 Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 18.91, subdivisions 3 and 5; 18B.07, subdivision  
45.27 6; and 239.791, subdivision 1a, are repealed.

## 45.28 **ARTICLE 3**

### 45.29 **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS**

45.30 Section 1. **SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

46.1 The amounts shown in this section summarize direct appropriations, by fund, made  
 46.2 in this article.

46.3		<u>2014</u>		<u>2015</u>		<u>Total</u>
46.4	<u>General</u>	\$ 87,464,000	\$	87,843,000	\$	175,307,000
46.5	<u>State Government Special</u>					
46.6	<u>Revenue</u>	75,000		75,000		150,000
46.7	<u>Environmental</u>	68,680,000		68,825,000		137,505,000
46.8	<u>Natural Resources</u>	91,724,000		94,184,000		185,908,000
46.9	<u>Game and Fish</u>	91,372,000		91,372,000		182,744,000
46.10	<u>Remediation</u>	10,596,000		10,596,000		21,192,000
46.11	<u>Permanent School</u>	200,000		200,000		400,000
46.12	<u>Special Revenue</u>	1,422,000		1,377,000		2,799,000
46.13	<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b>\$ 351,533,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>354,472,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>706,005,000</b>

46.14 **Sec. 2. ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS.**

46.15 The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the  
 46.16 agencies and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the  
 46.17 general fund, or another named fund, and are available for the fiscal years indicated  
 46.18 for each purpose. The figures "2014" and "2015" used in this article mean that the  
 46.19 appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, or  
 46.20 June 30, 2015, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2014. "The second year" is fiscal  
 46.21 year 2015. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2014 and 2015. Appropriations for the fiscal  
 46.22 year ending June 30, 2013, are effective the day following final enactment.

46.23	<b><u>APPROPRIATIONS</u></b>	
46.24	<b><u>Available for the Year</u></b>	
46.25	<b><u>Ending June 30</u></b>	
46.26	<b><u>2014</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>

46.27 **Sec. 3. POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY**

46.28 **Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation** **\$ 85,806,000 \$ 85,931,000**

46.29	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
46.30	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
46.31	<u>5,133,000</u>	<u>5,158,000</u>
46.32		
46.33	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>
46.34	<u>1,422,000</u>	<u>1,377,000</u>
46.35	<u>68,680,000</u>	<u>68,825,000</u>
46.36	<u>10,496,000</u>	<u>10,496,000</u>

47.1 The amounts that may be spent for each  
 47.2 purpose are specified in the following  
 47.3 subdivisions.

47.4 Subd. 2. Water 24,697,000 24,697,000

47.5	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
47.6		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
47.7	<u>General</u>	<u>3,737,000</u>	<u>3,737,000</u>
47.8	<u>State Government</u>		
47.9	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>
47.10	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>20,885,000</u>	<u>20,885,000</u>

47.11 \$1,378,000 the first year and \$1,378,000 the  
 47.12 second year are for water program operations.

47.13 \$1,959,000 the first year and \$1,959,000  
 47.14 the second year are for grants to delegated  
 47.15 counties to administer the county feedlot  
 47.16 program under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 47.17 116.0711, subdivisions 2 and 3. By January  
 47.18 15, 2016, the commissioner shall submit a  
 47.19 report detailing the results achieved with  
 47.20 this appropriation to the chairs and ranking  
 47.21 minority members of the senate and house  
 47.22 of representatives committees and divisions  
 47.23 with jurisdiction over environment and  
 47.24 natural resources policy and finance. Money  
 47.25 remaining after the first year is available for  
 47.26 the second year.

47.27 \$740,000 the first year and \$740,000 the  
 47.28 second year are from the environmental  
 47.29 fund to address the need for continued  
 47.30 increased activity in the areas of new  
 47.31 technology review, technical assistance  
 47.32 for local governments, and enforcement  
 47.33 under Minnesota Statutes, sections 115.55  
 47.34 to 115.58, and to complete the requirements  
 47.35 of Laws 2003, chapter 128, article 1, section  
 47.36 165.

48.1 \$400,000 the first year and \$400,000  
48.2 the second year are for the clean water  
48.3 partnership program. Any unexpended  
48.4 balance in the first year does not cancel but  
48.5 is available in the second year. Priority shall  
48.6 be given to projects preventing impairments  
48.7 and degradation of lakes, rivers, streams,  
48.8 and groundwater according to Minnesota  
48.9 Statutes, section 114D.20, subdivision 2,  
48.10 clause (4).

48.11 \$664,000 the first year and \$664,000 the  
48.12 second year are from the environmental  
48.13 fund for subsurface sewage treatment  
48.14 system (SSTS) program administration  
48.15 and community technical assistance and  
48.16 education, including grants and technical  
48.17 assistance to communities for water quality  
48.18 protection. Of this amount, \$80,000 each  
48.19 year is for assistance to counties through  
48.20 grants for SSTS program administration.

48.21 A county receiving a grant from this  
48.22 appropriation shall submit a report detailing  
48.23 the results achieved with the grant to the  
48.24 commissioner. The county is not eligible for  
48.25 funds from the second year appropriation  
48.26 until the commissioner receives the report.

48.27 Any unexpended balance in the first year does  
48.28 not cancel but is available in the second year.

48.29 \$105,000 the first year and \$105,000 the  
48.30 second year are from the environmental fund  
48.31 for registration of wastewater laboratories.

48.32 \$50,000 the first year is from the  
48.33 environmental fund for providing technical  
48.34 assistance to local units of government to  
48.35 address the water quality impacts from

49.1 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons resulting  
 49.2 from the use of coal tar products as regulated  
 49.3 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116.201.  
 49.4 \$313,000 the first year and \$313,000 the  
 49.5 second year are from the environmental  
 49.6 fund to be transferred to the commissioner  
 49.7 of health to continue perfluorochemical  
 49.8 biomonitoring in eastern metropolitan  
 49.9 communities, as recommended by the  
 49.10 Environmental Health Tracking and  
 49.11 Biomonitoring Advisory Panel.

49.12 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 49.13 16A.28, the appropriations encumbered on or  
 49.14 before June 30, 2015, as grants or contracts  
 49.15 for SSTS's, surface water and groundwater  
 49.16 assessments, total maximum daily loads,  
 49.17 storm water, and water quality protection in  
 49.18 this subdivision are available until June 30,  
 49.19 2018.

49.20 Subd. 3. Air 15,031,000 15,201,000

49.21	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
49.22		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
49.23	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>15,031,000</u>	<u>15,201,000</u>

49.24 \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the  
 49.25 second year are from the environmental fund  
 49.26 for a monitoring program under Minnesota  
 49.27 Statutes, section 116.454.

49.28 Up to \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000  
 49.29 the second year may be transferred from the  
 49.30 environmental fund to the small business  
 49.31 environmental improvement loan account  
 49.32 established in Minnesota Statutes, section  
 49.33 116.993.

49.34 \$125,000 the first year and \$125,000 the  
 49.35 second year are from the environmental fund

50.1 for monitoring ambient air for hazardous  
 50.2 pollutants in the metropolitan area.  
 50.3 \$360,000 the first year and \$360,000 the  
 50.4 second year are from the environmental fund  
 50.5 for systematic, localized monitoring efforts  
 50.6 in the state that:  
 50.7 (1) sample ambient air for a period of one to  
 50.8 three months at various sites;  
 50.9 (2) analyze the samples and compare the data  
 50.10 to the agency's fixed air monitoring sites; and  
 50.11 (3) determine whether significant localized  
 50.12 differences exist.  
 50.13 The commissioner, when selecting areas to  
 50.14 monitor, shall give priority to areas where low  
 50.15 income, indigenous American Indians, and  
 50.16 communities of color are disproportionately  
 50.17 impacted by pollution from highway traffic,  
 50.18 air traffic, and industrial sources to assist  
 50.19 with efforts to ensure environmental justice  
 50.20 for those areas. For the purposes of this  
 50.21 paragraph, "environmental justice" means the  
 50.22 fair treatment of people of all races, cultures,  
 50.23 and income levels in the development,  
 50.24 adoption, implementation, and enforcement  
 50.25 of environmental laws and policies.  
 50.26 \$540,000 the first year and \$540,000 the  
 50.27 second year are from the environmental  
 50.28 fund for emission reduction activities and  
 50.29 grants to small businesses and other nonpoint  
 50.30 emission reduction efforts. Any unexpended  
 50.31 balance in the first year does not cancel but is  
 50.32 available in the second year.

50.33 Subd. 4. Land 17,412,000 17,412,000

51.1	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
51.2		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
51.3	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>6,916,000</u>	<u>6,916,000</u>
51.4	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>10,496,000</u>	<u>10,496,000</u>
51.5	<u>All money for environmental response,</u>		
51.6	<u>compensation, and compliance in the</u>		
51.7	<u>remediation fund not otherwise appropriated</u>		
51.8	<u>is appropriated to the commissioners of the</u>		
51.9	<u>Pollution Control Agency and agriculture</u>		
51.10	<u>for purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
51.11	<u>115B.20, subdivision 2, clauses (1), (2),</u>		
51.12	<u>(3), (6), and (7). At the beginning of each</u>		
51.13	<u>fiscal year, the two commissioners shall</u>		
51.14	<u>jointly submit an annual spending plan</u>		
51.15	<u>to the commissioner of management and</u>		
51.16	<u>budget that maximizes the utilization of</u>		
51.17	<u>resources and appropriately allocates the</u>		
51.18	<u>money between the two departments. This</u>		
51.19	<u>appropriation is available until June 30, 2015.</u>		
51.20	<u>\$3,616,000 the first year and \$3,616,000 the</u>		
51.21	<u>second year are from the remediation fund for</u>		
51.22	<u>purposes of the leaking underground storage</u>		
51.23	<u>tank program to protect the land. These same</u>		
51.24	<u>annual amounts are transferred from the</u>		
51.25	<u>petroleum tank fund to the remediation fund.</u>		
51.26	<u>\$252,000 the first year and \$252,000 the</u>		
51.27	<u>second year are from the remediation fund</u>		
51.28	<u>for transfer to the commissioner of health for</u>		
51.29	<u>private water supply monitoring and health</u>		
51.30	<u>assessment costs in areas contaminated</u>		
51.31	<u>by unpermitted mixed municipal solid</u>		
51.32	<u>waste disposal facilities and drinking water</u>		
51.33	<u>advisories and public information activities</u>		
51.34	<u>for areas contaminated by hazardous releases.</u>		
51.35	<u>Subd. 5. <b>Environmental Assistance and</b></u>		
51.36	<u><b>Cross-Media</b></u>	<u>28,271,000</u>	<u>28,201,000</u>

52.1	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
52.2	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
52.3	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>1,422,000</u>
52.4	<u>Environmental</u>	<u>1,377,000</u>
52.5	<u>General</u>	<u>25,848,000</u>
		<u>25,823,000</u>
52.5		<u>1,001,000</u>
		<u>1,001,000</u>

52.6 \$14,450,000 the first year and \$14,450,000  
 52.7 the second year are from the environmental  
 52.8 fund for SCORE grants to counties. Of  
 52.9 this amount, \$14,250,000 each year is for  
 52.10 SCORE block grants and \$200,000 each year  
 52.11 is for competitive grants.

52.12 \$119,000 the first year and \$119,000 the  
 52.13 second year are from the environmental  
 52.14 fund for environmental assistance grants  
 52.15 or loans under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 52.16 115A.0716. Any unencumbered grant and  
 52.17 loan balances in the first year do not cancel  
 52.18 but are available for grants and loans in the  
 52.19 second year.

52.20 \$89,000 the first year and \$89,000 the  
 52.21 second year are from the environmental fund  
 52.22 for duties related to harmful chemicals in  
 52.23 products under Minnesota Statutes, sections  
 52.24 116.9401 to 116.9407. Of this amount,  
 52.25 \$57,000 each year is transferred to the  
 52.26 commissioner of health.

52.27 \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the  
 52.28 second year are from the environmental  
 52.29 fund to address environmental health risks.  
 52.30 Of this amount, \$499,000 the first year and  
 52.31 \$499,000 the second year are for transfer to  
 52.32 the Department of Health.

52.33 \$312,000 the first year and \$312,000 the  
 52.34 second year are from the general fund and  
 52.35 \$188,000 the first year and \$188,000 the

53.1 second year are from the environmental fund  
53.2 for Environmental Quality Board operations  
53.3 and support.

53.4 \$75,000 the first year and \$50,000 the second  
53.5 year are from the environmental fund for  
53.6 transfer to the Office of Administrative  
53.7 Hearings to establish sanitary districts.

53.8 \$1,422,000 the first year and \$1,377,000 the  
53.9 second year are from the special revenue  
53.10 fund for the Environmental Quality Board to  
53.11 lead an interagency team to provide technical  
53.12 assistance regarding the mining, processing,  
53.13 and transporting of silica sand and develop  
53.14 the model standards and criteria required  
53.15 under Minnesota Statutes, section 116C.99.

53.16 Of this amount, \$266,000 the first year and  
53.17 \$263,000 the second year are for transfer to  
53.18 the commissioner of health, \$447,000 the  
53.19 first year and \$420,000 the second year are  
53.20 for transfer to the commissioner of natural  
53.21 resources, \$5,000 the first year and \$10,000  
53.22 the second year are for transfer to the Board  
53.23 of Water and Soil Resources, and \$150,000  
53.24 the first year and \$140,000 the second year  
53.25 are for transfer to the commissioner of  
53.26 transportation.

53.27 \$5,000 the first year is from the environmental  
53.28 fund to prepare and submit a report to the  
53.29 chairs and ranking minority members of  
53.30 the senate and house of representatives  
53.31 committees and divisions with jurisdiction  
53.32 over the environment and natural resources,  
53.33 by December 1, 2013, with recommendations  
53.34 for a statewide recycling refund program

54.1 for beverage containers that achieves an 80  
 54.2 percent recycling rate.

54.3 All money deposited in the environmental  
 54.4 fund for the metropolitan solid waste  
 54.5 landfill fee in accordance with Minnesota  
 54.6 Statutes, section 473.843, and not otherwise  
 54.7 appropriated, is appropriated for the purposes  
 54.8 of Minnesota Statutes, section 473.844.

54.9 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 54.10 16A.28, the appropriations encumbered on  
 54.11 or before June 30, 2015, as contracts or  
 54.12 grants for surface water and groundwater  
 54.13 assessments; environmental assistance  
 54.14 awarded under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 54.15 115A.0716; technical and research assistance  
 54.16 under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.152;  
 54.17 technical assistance under Minnesota  
 54.18 Statutes, section 115A.52; and pollution  
 54.19 prevention assistance under Minnesota  
 54.20 Statutes, section 115D.04, are available until  
 54.21 June 30, 2017.

54.22 Subd. 6. **Administrative Support** 395,000 420,000

54.23 The commissioner shall submit the agency's  
 54.24 budget for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 to  
 54.25 the legislature in a manner that allows  
 54.26 the legislature and public to understand  
 54.27 the outcomes that will be achieved with  
 54.28 the appropriations. The budget must be  
 54.29 structured so that a significantly larger  
 54.30 portion of the revenues from solid waste  
 54.31 taxes are spent on solid waste activities.

54.32 **Sec. 4. NATURAL RESOURCES**

54.33 **Subdivision 1. Total Appropriation** **\$ 236,483,000** **\$ 239,514,000**

55.1	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
55.2		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
55.3	<u>General</u>	<u>59,707,000</u>	<u>59,978,000</u>
55.4	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>85,104,000</u>	<u>87,864,000</u>
55.5	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>91,372,000</u>	<u>91,372,000</u>
55.6	<u>Remediation</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
55.7	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>

55.8 The amounts that may be spent for each  
 55.9 purpose are specified in the following  
 55.10 subdivisions.

55.11	<u>Subd. 2. Land and Mineral Resources</u>		
55.12	<u>Management</u>	<u>6,073,000</u>	<u>6,073,000</u>

55.13	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
55.14		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
55.15	<u>General</u>	<u>722,000</u>	<u>722,000</u>
55.16	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>3,700,000</u>	<u>3,700,000</u>
55.17	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>1,451,000</u>	<u>1,451,000</u>
55.18	<u>Permanent School</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>200,000</u>

55.19 \$68,000 the first year and \$68,000 the  
 55.20 second year are for minerals cooperative  
 55.21 environmental research, of which \$34,000  
 55.22 the first year and \$34,000 the second year are  
 55.23 available only as matched by \$1 of nonstate  
 55.24 money for each \$1 of state money. The  
 55.25 match may be cash or in-kind.

55.26 \$251,000 the first year and \$251,000 the  
 55.27 second year are for iron ore cooperative  
 55.28 research. Of this amount, \$200,000 each year  
 55.29 is from the minerals management account  
 55.30 in the natural resources fund. \$175,000 the  
 55.31 first year and \$175,000 the second year are  
 55.32 available only as matched by \$1 of nonstate  
 55.33 money for each \$1 of state money. The match  
 55.34 may be cash or in-kind. Any unencumbered  
 55.35 balance from the first year does not cancel  
 55.36 and is available in the second year.

56.1 \$2,779,000 the first year and \$2,779,000  
 56.2 the second year are from the minerals  
 56.3 management account in the natural resources  
 56.4 fund for use as provided in Minnesota  
 56.5 Statutes, section 93.2236, paragraph (c),  
 56.6 for mineral resource management, projects  
 56.7 to enhance future mineral income, and  
 56.8 projects to promote new mineral resource  
 56.9 opportunities.

56.10 \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the  
 56.11 second year are from the state forest suspense  
 56.12 account in the permanent school fund to  
 56.13 accelerate land exchanges, land sales, and  
 56.14 commercial leasing of school trust lands and  
 56.15 to identify, evaluate, and lease construction  
 56.16 aggregate located on school trust lands. This  
 56.17 appropriation is to be used for securing  
 56.18 long-term economic return from the  
 56.19 school trust lands consistent with fiduciary  
 56.20 responsibilities and sound natural resources  
 56.21 conservation and management principles.

56.22 \$145,000 the first year and \$145,000  
 56.23 the second year are from the minerals  
 56.24 management account in the natural resources  
 56.25 fund for transfer to the commissioner of  
 56.26 administration for the school trust lands  
 56.27 director.

56.28 The appropriations in Laws 2007, chapter 57,  
 56.29 article 1, section 4, subdivision 2, as amended  
 56.30 by Laws 2009, chapter 37, article 1, section  
 56.31 60, and as extended in Laws 2011, First  
 56.32 Special Session chapter 2, article 1, section 4,  
 56.33 subdivision 2, for support of the land records  
 56.34 management system are available until spent.

56.35 Subd. 3. **Ecological and Water Resources** 28,227,000 30,987,000

57.1	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
57.2	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
57.3	<u>General</u>	<u>11,262,000</u> <u>11,262,000</u>
57.4	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>12,902,000</u> <u>15,662,000</u>
57.5	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>4,063,000</u> <u>4,063,000</u>

57.6 \$2,942,000 the first year and \$2,942,000 the  
 57.7 second year are from the invasive species  
 57.8 account in the natural resources fund and  
 57.9 \$3,706,000 the first year and \$3,706,000 the  
 57.10 second year are from the general fund for  
 57.11 management, public awareness, assessment  
 57.12 and monitoring research, and water access  
 57.13 inspection to prevent the spread of invasive  
 57.14 species; management of invasive plants in  
 57.15 public waters; and management of terrestrial  
 57.16 invasive species on state-administered lands.

57.17 Of this amount, up to \$200,000 each year  
 57.18 is from the invasive species account in the  
 57.19 natural resources fund for liability insurance  
 57.20 coverage for Asian carp deterrent barriers.

57.21 \$5,000,000 the first year and \$5,000,000 the  
 57.22 second year are from the water management  
 57.23 account in the natural resources fund for only  
 57.24 the purposes specified in Minnesota Statutes,  
 57.25 section 103G.27, subdivision 2. Of this  
 57.26 amount, \$190,000 the first year and \$170,000  
 57.27 the second year are for enhancements to  
 57.28 the online system for water appropriation  
 57.29 permits to account for preliminary approval  
 57.30 requirements and related water appropriation  
 57.31 permit activities.

57.32 \$53,000 the first year and \$53,000 the  
 57.33 second year are for a grant to the Mississippi  
 57.34 Headwaters Board for up to 50 percent of the  
 57.35 cost of implementing the comprehensive plan  
 57.36 for the upper Mississippi within areas under

58.1 the board's jurisdiction. By January 15, 2016,  
58.2 the board shall submit a report detailing the  
58.3 results achieved with this appropriation to  
58.4 the commissioner and the chairs and ranking  
58.5 minority members of the senate and house  
58.6 of representatives committees and divisions  
58.7 with jurisdiction over environment and  
58.8 natural resources policy and finance.

58.9 \$5,000 the first year and \$5,000 the second  
58.10 year are for payment to the Leech Lake Band  
58.11 of Chippewa Indians to implement the band's  
58.12 portion of the comprehensive plan for the  
58.13 upper Mississippi.

58.14 \$264,000 the first year and \$264,000 the  
58.15 second year are for grants for up to 50  
58.16 percent of the cost of implementation of  
58.17 the Red River mediation agreement. The  
58.18 commissioner shall submit a report by  
58.19 January 15, 2015, to the chairs of the  
58.20 legislative committees having primary  
58.21 jurisdiction over environment and natural  
58.22 resources policy and finance on the  
58.23 accomplishments achieved with the grants.

58.24 \$1,643,000 the first year and \$1,643,000  
58.25 the second year are from the heritage  
58.26 enhancement account in the game and  
58.27 fish fund for only the purposes specified  
58.28 in Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,  
58.29 paragraph (e), clause (1).

58.30 \$1,223,000 the first year and \$1,223,000 the  
58.31 second year are from the nongame wildlife  
58.32 management account in the natural resources  
58.33 fund for the purpose of nongame wildlife  
58.34 management. Notwithstanding Minnesota  
58.35 Statutes, section 290.431, \$100,000 the first

59.1 year and \$100,000 the second year may  
59.2 be used for nongame wildlife information,  
59.3 education, and promotion.

59.4 \$2,500,000 the first year and \$5,260,000 the  
59.5 second year are from the water management  
59.6 account in the natural resources fund for the  
59.7 following activities:

59.8 (1) installation of additional groundwater  
59.9 monitoring wells;

59.10 (2) increased financial reimbursement  
59.11 and technical support to soil and water  
59.12 conservation districts or other local units  
59.13 of government for groundwater level  
59.14 monitoring;

59.15 (3) additional surface water monitoring and  
59.16 analysis, including installation of monitoring  
59.17 gauges;

59.18 (4) additional groundwater analysis to  
59.19 assist with water appropriation permitting  
59.20 decisions;

59.21 (5) additional permit application review  
59.22 incorporating surface water and groundwater  
59.23 technical analysis;

59.24 (6) enhancement of precipitation data and  
59.25 analysis to improve the use of irrigation;

59.26 (7) enhanced information technology,  
59.27 including electronic permitting and  
59.28 integrated data systems; and

59.29 (8) increased compliance and monitoring.

59.30 \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000  
59.31 the second year are for grants to local units  
59.32 of government and tribes to prevent the  
59.33 spread of aquatic invasive species, including  
59.34 inspection and decontamination programs.

60.1	<b><u>Subd. 4. Forest Management</u></b>	<u>34,310,000</u>	<u>34,260,000</u>
60.2	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
60.3		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
60.4	<u>General</u>	<u>21,900,000</u>	<u>21,850,000</u>
60.5	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>11,123,000</u>	<u>11,123,000</u>
60.6	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>1,287,000</u>	<u>1,287,000</u>
60.7	<u>\$7,145,000 the first year and \$7,145,000</u>		
60.8	<u>the second year are for prevention,</u>		
60.9	<u>presuppression, and suppression costs of</u>		
60.10	<u>emergency firefighting and other costs</u>		
60.11	<u>incurred under Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
60.12	<u>88.12. The amount necessary to pay for</u>		
60.13	<u>presuppression and suppression costs during</u>		
60.14	<u>the biennium is appropriated from the general</u>		
60.15	<u>fund.</u>		
60.16	<u>By January 15 of each year, the commissioner</u>		
60.17	<u>of natural resources shall submit a report to</u>		
60.18	<u>the chairs and ranking minority members</u>		
60.19	<u>of the house of representatives and senate</u>		
60.20	<u>committees and divisions having jurisdiction</u>		
60.21	<u>over environment and natural resources</u>		
60.22	<u>finance, identifying all firefighting costs</u>		
60.23	<u>incurred and reimbursements received in</u>		
60.24	<u>the prior fiscal year. These appropriations</u>		
60.25	<u>may not be transferred. Any reimbursement</u>		
60.26	<u>of firefighting expenditures made to the</u>		
60.27	<u>commissioner from any source other than</u>		
60.28	<u>federal mobilizations shall be deposited into</u>		
60.29	<u>the general fund.</u>		
60.30	<u>\$11,123,000 the first year and \$11,123,000</u>		
60.31	<u>the second year are from the forest</u>		
60.32	<u>management investment account in the</u>		
60.33	<u>natural resources fund for only the purposes</u>		
60.34	<u>specified in Minnesota Statutes, section</u>		
60.35	<u>89.039, subdivision 2.</u>		

61.1 \$1,287,000 the first year and \$1,287,000  
61.2 the second year are from the game and fish  
61.3 fund to advance ecological classification  
61.4 systems (ECS) scientific management tools  
61.5 for forest and invasive species management.  
61.6 This appropriation is from revenue deposited  
61.7 in the game and fish fund under Minnesota  
61.8 Statutes, section 297A.94, paragraph (e),  
61.9 clause (1).

61.10 \$580,000 the first year and \$580,000 the  
61.11 second year are for the Forest Resources  
61.12 Council for implementation of the  
61.13 Sustainable Forest Resources Act.

61.14 \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the  
61.15 second year are for the FORIST system.

61.16 \$50,000 the first year is for development of  
61.17 a plan and recommendations, in consultation  
61.18 with the University of Minnesota,  
61.19 Department of Forest Resources, on utilizing  
61.20 the state forest nurseries to: ensure the  
61.21 long-term availability of ecologically  
61.22 appropriate and genetically diverse native  
61.23 forest seed and seedlings to support state  
61.24 conservation projects and initiatives;  
61.25 protect the genetic fitness and resilience of  
61.26 native forest ecosystems; and support tree  
61.27 improvement research to address evolving  
61.28 pressures such as invasive species and  
61.29 climate change. By December 31, 2013,  
61.30 the commissioner shall submit a report with  
61.31 the plan and recommendations to the chairs  
61.32 and ranking minority members of the senate  
61.33 and house of representatives committees  
61.34 and divisions with jurisdiction over natural  
61.35 resources. The report shall address funding

62.1 to improve state forest nursery and tree  
 62.2 improvement capabilities. The report shall  
 62.3 also provide updated recommendations from  
 62.4 those contained in the budget and financial  
 62.5 plan required under Laws 2011, First Special  
 62.6 Session chapter 2, article 4, section 30.

62.7 **Subd. 5. Parks and Trails Management** 68,202,000      67,902,000

62.8	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
62.9		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
62.10	<u>General</u>	<u>20,130,000</u>	<u>20,130,000</u>
62.11	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>45,813,000</u>	<u>45,513,000</u>
62.12	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>2,259,000</u>	<u>2,259,000</u>

62.13 \$1,075,000 the first year and \$1,075,000 the  
 62.14 second year are from the water recreation  
 62.15 account in the natural resources fund for  
 62.16 enhancing public water access facilities.

62.17 This appropriation is not available until the  
 62.18 commissioner develops and implements  
 62.19 design standards and best management  
 62.20 practices for public water access sites that  
 62.21 maintain and improve water quality by  
 62.22 avoiding shoreline erosion and runoff.

62.23 \$300,000 the first year is from the water  
 62.24 recreation account in the natural resources  
 62.25 fund for construction of restroom facilities  
 62.26 at the public water access for Crane Lake  
 62.27 on Handberg Road. This is a onetime  
 62.28 appropriation and is available until the  
 62.29 construction is completed.

62.30 \$5,740,000 the first year and \$5,740,000 the  
 62.31 second year are from the natural resources  
 62.32 fund for state trail, park, and recreation area  
 62.33 operations. This appropriation is from the  
 62.34 revenue deposited in the natural resources  
 62.35 fund under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 62.36 297A.94, paragraph (e), clause (2).

63.1 \$1,005,000 the first year and \$1,005,000 the  
63.2 second year are from the natural resources  
63.3 fund for trail grants to local units of  
63.4 government on land to be maintained for at  
63.5 least 20 years for the purposes of the grants.  
63.6 This appropriation is from the revenue  
63.7 deposited in the natural resources fund  
63.8 under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,  
63.9 paragraph (e), clause (4). Any unencumbered  
63.10 balance does not cancel at the end of the first  
63.11 year and is available for the second year.

63.12 \$8,424,000 the first year and \$8,424,000  
63.13 the second year are from the snowmobile  
63.14 trails and enforcement account in the  
63.15 natural resources fund for the snowmobile  
63.16 grants-in-aid program. Any unencumbered  
63.17 balance does not cancel at the end of the first  
63.18 year and is available for the second year.

63.19 \$1,460,000 the first year and \$1,460,000 the  
63.20 second year are from the natural resources  
63.21 fund for the off-highway vehicle grants-in-aid  
63.22 program. Of this amount, \$1,210,000 each  
63.23 year is from the all-terrain vehicle account;  
63.24 \$150,000 each year is from the off-highway  
63.25 motorcycle account; and \$100,000 each year  
63.26 is from the off-road vehicle account. Any  
63.27 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the  
63.28 end of the first year and is available for the  
63.29 second year.

63.30 \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second  
63.31 year are from the cross-country ski account  
63.32 in the natural resources fund for grooming  
63.33 and maintaining cross-country ski trails in  
63.34 state parks, trails, and recreation areas.

64.1 \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the  
 64.2 second year are for prairie restorations in  
 64.3 state parks and trails located in various parts  
 64.4 of the state that are visible to the public under  
 64.5 the pollinator habitat program established  
 64.6 under Minnesota Statutes, section 84.973.

64.7 \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the  
 64.8 second year are from the state land and  
 64.9 water conservation account (LAWCON)  
 64.10 in the natural resources fund for priorities  
 64.11 established by the commissioner for eligible  
 64.12 state projects and administrative and  
 64.13 planning activities consistent with Minnesota  
 64.14 Statutes, section 84.0264, and the federal  
 64.15 Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

64.16 Any unencumbered balance does not cancel  
 64.17 at the end of the first year and is available for  
 64.18 the second year.

64.19 The appropriation in Laws 2009, chapter  
 64.20 37, article 1, section 4, subdivision 5, from  
 64.21 the natural resources fund from the revenue  
 64.22 deposited under Minnesota Statutes, section  
 64.23 297A.94, paragraph (e), clause (4), for local  
 64.24 grants is available until June 30, 2014.

64.25 Subd. 6. **Fish and Wildlife Management** 62,775,000 62,775,000

64.26	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
64.27		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
64.28	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>1,906,000</u>	<u>1,906,000</u>
64.29	<u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>60,869,000</u>	<u>60,869,000</u>

64.30 \$8,167,000 the first year and \$8,167,000  
 64.31 the second year are from the heritage  
 64.32 enhancement account in the game and fish  
 64.33 fund only for activities specified in Minnesota  
 64.34 Statutes, section 297A.94, paragraph (e),  
 64.35 clause (1). Notwithstanding Minnesota

65.1 Statutes, section 297A.94, five percent of  
 65.2 this appropriation may be used for expanding  
 65.3 hunter and angler recruitment and retention  
 65.4 activities that emphasize the recruitment and  
 65.5 retention of underrepresented groups.

65.6 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section  
 65.7 84.943, \$13,000 the first year and \$13,000  
 65.8 the second year from the critical habitat  
 65.9 private sector matching account may be used  
 65.10 to publicize the critical habitat license plate  
 65.11 match program.

65.12 Subd. 7. Enforcement 36,558,000 36,558,000

65.13	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
65.14	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
65.15 <u>General</u>	<u>5,375,000</u>	<u>5,375,000</u>
65.16 <u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>9,640,000</u>	<u>9,640,000</u>
65.17 <u>Game and Fish</u>	<u>21,443,000</u>	<u>21,443,000</u>
65.18 <u>Remediation</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

65.19 \$1,638,000 the first year and \$1,638,000 the  
 65.20 second year are from the general fund for  
 65.21 enforcement efforts to prevent the spread of  
 65.22 aquatic invasive species.

65.23 \$1,450,000 the first year and \$1,450,000  
 65.24 the second year are from the heritage  
 65.25 enhancement account in the game and  
 65.26 fish fund for only the purposes specified  
 65.27 in Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,  
 65.28 paragraph (e), clause (1).

65.29 \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the  
 65.30 second year are for the conservation officer  
 65.31 pre-employment education program. Of this  
 65.32 amount, \$30,000 each year is from the water  
 65.33 recreation account, \$13,000 each year is  
 65.34 from the snowmobile account, and \$20,000  
 65.35 each year is from the all-terrain vehicle

66.1 account in the natural resources fund; and  
66.2 \$187,000 each year is from the game and fish  
66.3 fund, of which \$17,000 each year is from  
66.4 revenue deposited to the game and fish fund  
66.5 under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,  
66.6 paragraph (e), clause (1).

66.7 \$1,082,000 the first year and \$1,082,000 the  
66.8 second year are from the water recreation  
66.9 account in the natural resources fund for  
66.10 grants to counties for boat and water safety.

66.11 Any unencumbered balance does not cancel  
66.12 at the end of the first year and is available for  
66.13 the second year.

66.14 \$315,000 the first year and \$315,000 the  
66.15 second year are from the snowmobile  
66.16 trails and enforcement account in the  
66.17 natural resources fund for grants to local  
66.18 law enforcement agencies for snowmobile  
66.19 enforcement activities. Any unencumbered  
66.20 balance does not cancel at the end of the first  
66.21 year and is available for the second year.

66.22 \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the  
66.23 second year are from the all-terrain vehicle  
66.24 account for grants to qualifying organizations  
66.25 to assist in safety and environmental  
66.26 education and monitoring trails on public  
66.27 lands under Minnesota Statutes, section  
66.28 84.9011. Grants issued under this paragraph:  
66.29 (1) must be issued through a formal  
66.30 agreement with the organization; and  
66.31 (2) must not be used as a substitute for  
66.32 traditional spending by the organization.

66.33 By December 15 each year, an organization  
66.34 receiving a grant under this paragraph shall  
66.35 report to the commissioner with details on

67.1 expenditures and outcomes from the grant.  
67.2 Of this appropriation, \$25,000 each year  
67.3 is for administration of these grants. Any  
67.4 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the  
67.5 end of the first year and is available for the  
67.6 second year.  
67.7 \$510,000 the first year and \$510,000  
67.8 the second year are from the natural  
67.9 resources fund for grants to county law  
67.10 enforcement agencies for off-highway  
67.11 vehicle enforcement and public education  
67.12 activities based on off-highway vehicle use  
67.13 in the county. Of this amount, \$498,000 each  
67.14 year is from the all-terrain vehicle account;  
67.15 \$11,000 each year is from the off-highway  
67.16 motorcycle account; and \$1,000 each year  
67.17 is from the off-road vehicle account. The  
67.18 county enforcement agencies may use  
67.19 money received under this appropriation  
67.20 to make grants to other local enforcement  
67.21 agencies within the county that have a high  
67.22 concentration of off-highway vehicle use.  
67.23 Of this appropriation, \$25,000 each year  
67.24 is for administration of these grants. Any  
67.25 unencumbered balance does not cancel at the  
67.26 end of the first year and is available for the  
67.27 second year.  
67.28 \$719,000 the first year and \$719,000 the  
67.29 second year are for development and  
67.30 maintenance of a records management  
67.31 system capable of providing real time data  
67.32 with global positioning system information.  
67.33 Of this amount, \$480,000 each year is from  
67.34 the general fund, \$119,000 each year is  
67.35 from the game and fish fund, and \$120,000

68.1 each year is from the heritage enhancement  
 68.2 account in the game and fish fund.

68.3 **Subd. 8. Operations Support** 638,000 959,000

68.4	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
68.5	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
68.6	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>318,000</u> <u>639,000</u>
68.7	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>320,000</u> <u>320,000</u>

68.8 \$320,000 the first year and \$320,000 the  
 68.9 second year are from the natural resources  
 68.10 fund for grants to be divided equally between  
 68.11 the city of St. Paul for the Como Park Zoo  
 68.12 and Conservatory and the city of Duluth  
 68.13 for the Duluth Zoo. This appropriation  
 68.14 is from the revenue deposited to the fund  
 68.15 under Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,  
 68.16 paragraph (e), clause (5).

68.17 \$300,000 the first year and \$300,000 the  
 68.18 second year are from the special revenue fund  
 68.19 to improve data analytics. The commissioner  
 68.20 may bill the divisions of the agency an  
 68.21 appropriate share of costs associated with  
 68.22 this project. Any information technology  
 68.23 development, support, or costs necessary for  
 68.24 this project shall be incorporated into the  
 68.25 agency's service level agreement with and  
 68.26 paid to the Office of Enterprise Technology.

68.27 **Sec. 5. BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL**  
 68.28 **RESOURCES** \$ 13,472,000 \$ 13,502,000

68.29 \$3,423,000 the first year and \$3,423,000 the  
 68.30 second year are for natural resources block  
 68.31 grants to local governments. Grants must be  
 68.32 matched with a combination of local cash or  
 68.33 in-kind contributions. The base grant portion  
 68.34 related to water planning must be matched  
 68.35 by an amount as specified by Minnesota

69.1 Statutes, section 103B.3369. The board may  
69.2 reduce the amount of the natural resources  
69.3 block grant to a county by an amount equal to  
69.4 any reduction in the county's general services  
69.5 allocation to a soil and water conservation  
69.6 district from the county's previous year  
69.7 allocation when the board determines that  
69.8 the reduction was disproportionate.

69.9 \$3,116,000 the first year and \$3,116,000  
69.10 the second year are for grants requested  
69.11 by soil and water conservation districts for  
69.12 general purposes, nonpoint engineering, and  
69.13 implementation of the reinvest in Minnesota  
69.14 reserve program. Upon approval of the  
69.15 board, expenditures may be made from these  
69.16 appropriations for supplies and services  
69.17 benefiting soil and water conservation  
69.18 districts. Any district requesting a grant  
69.19 under this paragraph shall maintain a Web  
69.20 site that publishes, at a minimum, its annual  
69.21 report, annual audit, annual budget, and  
69.22 meeting notices and minutes.

69.23 \$1,602,000 the first year and \$1,662,000 the  
69.24 second year are for the following cost-share  
69.25 programs:

69.26 (1) \$302,000 each year is for feedlot water  
69.27 quality grants for feedlots under 300 animal  
69.28 units in areas where there are impaired  
69.29 waters;

69.30 (2) \$1,200,000 each year is for soil and water  
69.31 conservation district cost-sharing contracts  
69.32 for erosion control, nutrient and manure  
69.33 management, vegetative buffers, and water  
69.34 quality management; and

70.1 (3) \$100,000 each year is for county  
70.2 cooperative weed management programs and  
70.3 to restore native plants in selected invasive  
70.4 species management sites by providing local  
70.5 native seeds and plants to landowners for  
70.6 implementation.

70.7 The board shall submit a report to the  
70.8 commissioner of the Pollution Control  
70.9 Agency on the status of subsurface sewage  
70.10 treatment systems in order to ensure a single,  
70.11 comprehensive inventory of the systems for  
70.12 planning purposes.

70.13 \$386,000 the first year and \$386,000  
70.14 the second year are for implementation,  
70.15 enforcement, and oversight of the Wetland  
70.16 Conservation Act.

70.17 \$166,000 the first year and \$166,000  
70.18 the second year are to provide technical  
70.19 assistance to local drainage management  
70.20 officials and for the costs of the Drainage  
70.21 Work Group.

70.22 \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000  
70.23 the second year are for a grant to the  
70.24 Red River Basin Commission for water  
70.25 quality and floodplain management,  
70.26 including administration of programs. This  
70.27 appropriation must be matched by nonstate  
70.28 funds. If the appropriation in either year is  
70.29 insufficient, the appropriation in the other  
70.30 year is available for it.

70.31 \$120,000 the first year and \$60,000  
70.32 the second year are for grants to Area II  
70.33 Minnesota River Basin Projects for floodplain  
70.34 management. The area shall transition to a  
70.35 watershed district by July 1, 2015.



72.1 \$2,870,000 the first year and \$2,870,000 the  
 72.2 second year are for metropolitan area regional  
 72.3 parks operation and maintenance according  
 72.4 to Minnesota Statutes, section 473.351.

72.5 \$5,670,000 the first year and \$5,670,000 the  
 72.6 second year are from the natural resources  
 72.7 fund for metropolitan area regional parks  
 72.8 and trails maintenance and operations. This  
 72.9 appropriation is from the revenue deposited  
 72.10 in the natural resources fund under Minnesota  
 72.11 Statutes, section 297A.94, paragraph (e),  
 72.12 clause (3).

72.13 \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the  
 72.14 second year are for grants to implementing  
 72.15 agencies to acquire and install solar energy  
 72.16 panels made in Minnesota in metropolitan  
 72.17 regional parks and trails. An implementing  
 72.18 agency receiving a grant under this  
 72.19 appropriation shall provide signage near  
 72.20 the solar equipment installed that provides  
 72.21 education on solar energy.

72.22 **Sec. 7. CONSERVATION CORPS**  
 72.23 **MINNESOTA**

**\$ 945,000 \$ 945,000**

72.24 Appropriations by Fund

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
72.25 <u>General</u>	<u>455,000</u>	<u>455,000</u>
72.26 <u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>490,000</u>	<u>490,000</u>

72.27  
 72.28 Conservation Corps Minnesota may receive  
 72.29 money appropriated from the natural  
 72.30 resources fund under this section only  
 72.31 as provided in an agreement with the  
 72.32 commissioner of natural resources.

72.33 **Sec. 8. ZOOLOGICAL BOARD**

**\$ 5,637,000 \$ 5,690,000**

73.1	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>		
73.2		<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
73.3	<u>General</u>	<u>5,477,000</u>	<u>5,530,000</u>
73.4	<u>Natural Resources</u>	<u>160,000</u>	<u>160,000</u>

73.5 \$160,000 the first year and \$160,000 the  
 73.6 second year are from the natural resources  
 73.7 fund from the revenue deposited under  
 73.8 Minnesota Statutes, section 297A.94,  
 73.9 paragraph (e), clause (5).

73.10 **ARTICLE 4**

73.11 **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY**

73.12 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.027, is amended by adding a  
 73.13 subdivision to read:

73.14 Subd. 19. **Federal law compliance.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary,  
 73.15 the commissioner may establish, by written order, policies for the use and operation of  
 73.16 other power-driven mobility devices, as defined under Code of Federal Regulations, title  
 73.17 28, section 35.104, on lands and in facilities administered by the commissioner for the  
 73.18 purposes of implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act, United States Code, title  
 73.19 42, section 12101 et seq. These policies are exempt from the rulemaking provisions of  
 73.20 chapter 14 and section 14.386 does not apply.

73.21 Sec. 2. **[84.633] EXCHANGE OF ROAD EASEMENTS.**

73.22 Subdivision 1. **Authority.** The commissioner of natural resources, on behalf of  
 73.23 the state, may convey a road easement according to this section for access across state  
 73.24 land under the commissioner's jurisdiction in exchange for a road easement for access to  
 73.25 property owned by the United States, the state of Minnesota or any of its subdivisions, or a  
 73.26 private party. The exercise of the easement across state land must not cause significant  
 73.27 adverse environmental or natural resources management impacts.

73.28 Subd. 2. **Substantially equal acres.** The acres covered by the state easement  
 73.29 conveyed by the commissioner must be substantially equal to the acres covered by the  
 73.30 easement being received by the commissioner. For purposes of this section, "substantially  
 73.31 equal" means that the acres do not differ by more than 20 percent. The commissioner's  
 73.32 finding of substantially equal acres is in lieu of an appraisal or other determination of  
 73.33 value of the lands.

74.1 Subd. 3. **School trust lands.** If the commissioner conveys a road easement over  
74.2 school trust land to a nongovernmental entity, the term of the road easement is limited  
74.3 to 50 years. The easement exchanged with the state may be limited to 50 years or may  
74.4 be perpetual.

74.5 Subd. 4. **Terms and conditions.** The commissioner may impose terms and  
74.6 conditions of use as necessary and appropriate under the circumstances. The state may  
74.7 accept an easement with similar terms and conditions as the state easement.

74.8 Subd. 5. **Survey.** If the commissioner determines that a survey is required, the  
74.9 governmental unit or private landowner shall pay to the commissioner a survey fee of not  
74.10 less than one half of the cost of the survey as determined by the commissioner.

74.11 Subd. 6. **Application fee.** When a private landowner or governmental unit, except  
74.12 the state, presents to the commissioner an offer to exchange road easements, the private  
74.13 landowner or governmental unit shall pay an application fee as provided under section  
74.14 84.63 to cover reasonable costs for reviewing the application and preparing the easements.

74.15 Subd. 7. **Title.** If the commissioner determines it is necessary to obtain an opinion  
74.16 as to the title of the land being encumbered by the easement that will be received by the  
74.17 commissioner, the governmental unit or private landowner shall submit an abstract of title  
74.18 or other title information sufficient to determine possession of the land, improvements,  
74.19 liens, encumbrances, and other matters affecting title.

74.20 Subd. 8. **Disposition of fees.** (a) Any fee paid under subdivision 5 must be credited  
74.21 to the account from which expenses are or will be paid and the fee is appropriated for the  
74.22 expenditures in the same manner as other money in the account.

74.23 (b) Any fee paid under subdivision 6 must be deposited in the land management  
74.24 account in the natural resources fund and is appropriated to the commissioner to cover the  
74.25 reasonable costs incurred for preparing and issuing the state road easement and accepting  
74.26 the road easement from the private landowner or governmental entity.

74.27 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.788, is amended by adding a subdivision  
74.28 to read:

74.29 Subd. 13. **Grant-in-aid donations.** (a) At the time of registration, a person  
74.30 may agree to add a donation of any amount to the off-highway motorcycle registration  
74.31 fee for grant-in-aid off-highway motorcycle trails. An additional commission may not  
74.32 be assessed on the donation. The commissioner shall offer the opportunity to make a  
74.33 donation under this subdivision to all registrants and shall issue a recognition grant-in-aid  
74.34 trail sticker to registrants contributing \$20 or more.

75.1 (b) Money donated under this subdivision shall be deposited in the off-highway  
75.2 motorcycle account in the natural resources fund and shall be used for the grant-in-aid  
75.3 program as provided under section 84.794, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (3).

75.4 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.794, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

75.5 Subdivision 1. **Registration revenue.** Fees from the registration of off-highway  
75.6 motorcycles, donations received under section 84.788, subdivision 13, and the unrefunded  
75.7 gasoline tax attributable to off-highway motorcycle use under section 296A.18 must be  
75.8 deposited in the state treasury and credited to the off-highway motorcycle account in  
75.9 the natural resources fund.

75.10 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.798, is amended by adding a subdivision  
75.11 to read:

75.12 Subd. 11. **Grant-in-aid trail donations.** (a) At the time of registration, a person  
75.13 may agree to add a donation of any amount to the off-road vehicle registration fee for  
75.14 grant-in-aid off-road vehicle trails. An additional commission may not be assessed on the  
75.15 donation. The commissioner shall offer the opportunity to make a donation under this  
75.16 subdivision to all registrants and shall issue a recognition grant-in-aid trail sticker to  
75.17 registrants contributing \$20 or more.

75.18 (b) Money donated under this subdivision shall be deposited in the off-road vehicle  
75.19 account in the natural resources fund and shall be used for the grant-in-aid program as  
75.20 provided under section 84.803, subdivision 2, clause (3).

75.21 Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.803, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

75.22 Subdivision 1. **Registration revenue.** Fees from the registration of off-road  
75.23 vehicles, donations received under section 84.798, subdivision 11, and unrefunded  
75.24 gasoline tax attributable to off-road vehicle use under section 296A.18 must be deposited in  
75.25 the state treasury and credited to the off-road vehicle account in the natural resources fund.

75.26 Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.82, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
75.27 read:

75.28 Subd. 2a. **Limited nontrail use registration.** A snowmobile may be registered for  
75.29 limited nontrail use. A snowmobile registered under this subdivision may be used solely  
75.30 for transportation on the frozen surface of public water for purposes of ice fishing and may  
75.31 not otherwise be operated on a state or grant-in-aid snowmobile trail. The fee for a limited  
75.32 nontrail use registration is \$45 for three years. A limited nontrail use registration is not

76.1 transferable. In addition to other penalties prescribed by law, the penalty for violation of  
76.2 this subdivision is immediate revocation of the limited nontrail use registration. The  
76.3 commissioner shall ensure that the registration sticker provided for limited nontrail use is  
76.4 of a different color and is distinguishable from other snowmobile registration and state  
76.5 trail stickers provided.

76.6 Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.82, is amended by adding a subdivision to  
76.7 read:

76.8 Subd. 12. **Grant-in-aid trail donations.** (a) At the time of registration, a person  
76.9 may agree to add a donation of any amount to the snowmobile registration fee for  
76.10 grant-in-aid snowmobile trails. An additional commission may not be assessed on the  
76.11 donation. The commissioner shall offer the opportunity to make a donation under this  
76.12 subdivision to all registrants and shall issue a recognition grant-in-aid trail sticker to  
76.13 registrants contributing \$20 or more.

76.14 (b) Money donated under this subdivision shall be deposited in the snowmobile trails  
76.15 and enforcement account in the natural resources fund and shall be used for the grant-in-aid  
76.16 program as provided under section 84.83, subdivision 3, paragraph (a), clause (1).

76.17 Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.83, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

76.18 Subd. 2. **Money deposited in the account.** Fees from the registration of  
76.19 snowmobiles and from the issuance of snowmobile state trail stickers, donations received  
76.20 under section 84.82, subdivision 12, and the unrefunded gasoline tax attributable to  
76.21 snowmobile use pursuant to section 296A.18 shall be deposited in the state treasury and  
76.22 credited to the snowmobile trails and enforcement account.

76.23 Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.922, is amended by adding a subdivision  
76.24 to read:

76.25 Subd. 13. **Grant-in-aid trail contributions.** (a) At the time of registration,  
76.26 the commissioner shall offer a registrant the opportunity to make a contribution for  
76.27 grant-in-aid trails. The commissioner shall issue a recognition grant-in-aid trail sticker to  
76.28 registrants contributing \$20 or more.

76.29 (b) Money contributed under this subdivision shall be deposited in the state treasury  
76.30 and credited to the all-terrain vehicle account and is dedicated for the grant-in-aid trail  
76.31 program.

77.1 Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.922, is amended by adding a subdivision  
77.2 to read:

77.3 Subd. 14. **No registration weekend.** The commissioner shall designate by rule one  
77.4 weekend each year when, notwithstanding subdivision 1, an all-terrain vehicle may be  
77.5 operated on state and grant-in-aid all-terrain vehicle trails without a registration issued  
77.6 under this section. Nonresidents may participate during the designated weekend without a  
77.7 state trail pass required under section 84.9275.

77.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

77.9 Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.9256, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

77.10 Subdivision 1. **Prohibitions on youthful operators.** (a) Except for operation on  
77.11 public road rights-of-way that is permitted under section 84.928 and as provided under  
77.12 paragraph (j), a driver's license issued by the state or another state is required to operate an  
77.13 all-terrain vehicle along or on a public road right-of-way.

77.14 (b) A person under 12 years of age shall not:

77.15 (1) make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way;

77.16 (2) operate an all-terrain vehicle on a public road right-of-way in the state; or

77.17 (3) operate an all-terrain vehicle on public lands or waters, except as provided in  
77.18 paragraph (f).

77.19 (c) Except for public road rights-of-way of interstate highways, a person 12 years  
77.20 of age but less than 16 years may make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way  
77.21 of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway or operate on public lands and waters or  
77.22 state or grant-in-aid trails, only if that person possesses a valid all-terrain vehicle safety  
77.23 certificate issued by the commissioner and is accompanied by a person 18 years of age or  
77.24 older who holds a valid driver's license.

77.25 (d) To be issued an all-terrain vehicle safety certificate, a person at least 12 years  
77.26 old, but less than ~~16~~ 18 years old, must:

77.27 (1) successfully complete the safety education and training program under section  
77.28 84.925, subdivision 1, including a riding component; and

77.29 (2) be able to properly reach and control the handle bars and reach the foot pegs  
77.30 while sitting upright on the seat of the all-terrain vehicle.

77.31 (e) A person at least 11 years of age may take the safety education and training  
77.32 program and may receive an all-terrain vehicle safety certificate under paragraph (d), but  
77.33 the certificate is not valid until the person reaches age 12.

78.1 (f) A person at least ten years of age but under 12 years of age may operate an  
 78.2 all-terrain vehicle with an engine capacity up to 90cc on public lands or waters if  
 78.3 accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

78.4 (g) A person under 15 years of age shall not operate a class 2 all-terrain vehicle.

78.5 (h) A person under the age of 16 may not operate an all-terrain vehicle on public  
 78.6 lands or waters or on state or grant-in-aid trails if the person cannot properly reach and  
 78.7 control the handle bars and reach the foot pegs while sitting upright on the seat of the  
 78.8 all-terrain vehicle.

78.9 (i) Notwithstanding paragraph (c), a nonresident at least 12 years old, but less than  
 78.10 16 years old, may make a direct crossing of a public road right-of-way of a trunk, county  
 78.11 state-aid, or county highway or operate an all-terrain vehicle on public lands and waters  
 78.12 or state or grant-in-aid trails if:

78.13 (1) the nonresident youth has in possession evidence of completing an all-terrain  
 78.14 safety course offered by the ATV Safety Institute or another state as provided in section  
 78.15 84.925, subdivision 3; and

78.16 (2) the nonresident youth is accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older who  
 78.17 holds a valid driver's license.

78.18 (j) A person 12 years of age but less than 16 years of age may operate an all-terrain  
 78.19 vehicle on the bank, slope, or ditch of a public road right-of-way as permitted under  
 78.20 section 84.928 if the person:

78.21 (1) possesses a valid all-terrain vehicle safety certificate issued by the commissioner;  
 78.22 and

78.23 (2) is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian on a separate all-terrain vehicle.

78.24 Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84.928, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

78.25 Subdivision 1. **Operation on roads and rights-of-way.** (a) Unless otherwise  
 78.26 allowed in sections 84.92 to 84.928, a person shall not operate an all-terrain vehicle in  
 78.27 this state along or on the roadway, shoulder, or inside bank or slope of a public road  
 78.28 right-of-way of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway.

78.29 (b) A person may operate a class 1 all-terrain vehicle in the ditch or the outside  
 78.30 bank or slope of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway unless prohibited under  
 78.31 paragraph (d) or (f).

78.32 (c) A person may operate a class 2 all-terrain vehicle:

78.33 (1) within the public road right-of-way of a county state-aid or county highway on  
 78.34 the extreme right-hand side of the road and left turns may be made from any part of

79.1 the road if it is safe to do so under the prevailing conditions, unless prohibited under  
79.2 paragraph (d) or (f);

79.3 (2) on the bank, slope, or ditch of a public road right-of-way of a trunk highway,  
79.4 but only to access businesses or make trail connections, and left turns may be made from  
79.5 any part of the road if it is safe to do so under the prevailing conditions, unless prohibited  
79.6 under paragraph (d) or (f); and

79.7 (3) A person may operate a class 2 all-terrain vehicle on the bank or ditch of a  
79.8 public road right-of-way;

79.9 (i) on a designated class 2 all-terrain vehicle trail; or

79.10 (ii) to access businesses or make trail connections when operation within the public  
79.11 road right-of-way is unsafe.

79.12 (d) A road authority as defined under section 160.02, subdivision 25, may after a  
79.13 public hearing restrict the use of all-terrain vehicles in the public road right-of-way under  
79.14 its jurisdiction.

79.15 (e) The restrictions in paragraphs (a), (d), (h), (i), and (j) do not apply to the  
79.16 operation of an all-terrain vehicle on the shoulder, inside bank or slope, ditch, or outside  
79.17 bank or slope of a trunk, interstate, county state-aid, or county highway:

79.18 (1) that is part of a funded grant-in-aid trail; or

79.19 (2) when the all-terrain vehicle is owned by or operated under contract with a publicly  
79.20 or privately owned utility or pipeline company and used for work on utilities or pipelines.

79.21 (f) The commissioner may limit the use of a right-of-way for a period of time if the  
79.22 commissioner determines that use of the right-of-way causes:

79.23 (1) degradation of vegetation on adjacent public property;

79.24 (2) siltation of waters of the state;

79.25 (3) impairment or enhancement to the act of taking game; or

79.26 (4) a threat to safety of the right-of-way users or to individuals on adjacent public  
79.27 property.

79.28 The commissioner must notify the road authority as soon as it is known that a closure  
79.29 will be ordered. The notice must state the reasons and duration of the closure.

79.30 (g) A person may operate an all-terrain vehicle registered for private use and used  
79.31 for agricultural purposes on a public road right-of-way of a trunk, county state-aid, or  
79.32 county highway in this state if the all-terrain vehicle is operated on the extreme right-hand  
79.33 side of the road, and left turns may be made from any part of the road if it is safe to do so  
79.34 under the prevailing conditions.

79.35 (h) A person shall not operate an all-terrain vehicle within the public road  
79.36 right-of-way of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway from April 1 to August 1 in

80.1 the agricultural zone unless the vehicle is being used exclusively as transportation to and  
80.2 from work on agricultural lands. This paragraph does not apply to an agent or employee  
80.3 of a road authority, as defined in section 160.02, subdivision 25, or the Department of  
80.4 Natural Resources when performing or exercising official duties or powers.

80.5 (i) A person shall not operate an all-terrain vehicle within the public road right-of-way  
80.6 of a trunk, county state-aid, or county highway between the hours of one-half hour after  
80.7 sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, except on the right-hand side of the right-of-way  
80.8 and in the same direction as the highway traffic on the nearest lane of the adjacent roadway.

80.9 (j) A person shall not operate an all-terrain vehicle at any time within the  
80.10 right-of-way of an interstate highway or freeway within this state.

80.11 Sec. 14. **[84.973] POLLINATOR HABITAT PROGRAM.**

80.12 (a) The commissioner shall develop best management practices and habitat  
80.13 restoration guidelines for pollinator habitat enhancement. Best management practices  
80.14 and guidelines developed under this section must be used for all projects on state lands  
80.15 and must be a condition of any contract for habitat enhancement or restoration of lands  
80.16 under the commissioner's control.

80.17 (b) Prairie restorations must include an appropriate diversity of native species  
80.18 selected to provide habitat for pollinators throughout the growing season.

80.19 Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 84D.108, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

80.20 Subd. 2. **Permit requirements.** (a) Service providers must complete invasive  
80.21 species training provided by the commissioner and pass an examination to qualify for a  
80.22 permit. Service provider permits are valid for three calendar years.

80.23 (b) A \$50 application and testing fee is required for service provider permit  
80.24 applications.

80.25 (c) Persons working for a permittee must satisfactorily complete aquatic invasive  
80.26 species-related training provided by the commissioner, except as provided under  
80.27 paragraph (d).

80.28 (d) A person working for and supervised by a permittee is not required to complete  
80.29 the training under paragraph (c) if the water-related equipment or other water-related  
80.30 structures remain on the riparian property owned or controlled by the permittee and are  
80.31 only removed from and placed into the same water of the state.

80.32 Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.015, subdivision 13, is amended to read:

81.1 Subd. 13. **Arrowhead Region Trails, Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Pine, Carlton,**  
 81.2 **Koochiching, and Itasca Counties.** (a)(1) The Taconite Trail shall originate at Ely in St.  
 81.3 Louis County and extend southwesterly to Tower in St. Louis County, thence westerly to  
 81.4 McCarthy Beach State Park in St. Louis County, thence southwesterly to Grand Rapids in  
 81.5 Itasca County and there terminate;

81.6 (2) The C. J. Ramstad/Northshore Trail shall originate in Duluth in St. Louis County  
 81.7 and extend northeasterly to Two Harbors in Lake County, thence northeasterly to Grand  
 81.8 Marais in Cook County, thence northeasterly to the international boundary in the vicinity  
 81.9 of the north shore of Lake Superior, and there terminate;

81.10 (3) The Grand Marais to International Falls Trail shall originate in Grand Marais  
 81.11 in Cook County and extend northwesterly, outside of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area,  
 81.12 to Ely in St. Louis County, thence southwesterly along the route of the Taconite Trail to  
 81.13 Tower in St. Louis County, thence northwesterly through the Pelican Lake area in St.  
 81.14 Louis County to International Falls in Koochiching County, and there terminate;

81.15 (4) The Matthew Lourey Trail shall originate in Duluth in St. Louis County and  
 81.16 extend southerly to ~~St. Croix~~ Chengwatana State Forest in Pine County.

81.17 (b) The trails shall be developed primarily for riding and hiking.

81.18 (c) In addition to the authority granted in subdivision 1, lands and interests in lands  
 81.19 for the Arrowhead Region trails may be acquired by eminent domain. Before acquiring  
 81.20 any land or interest in land by eminent domain the commissioner of administration shall  
 81.21 obtain the approval of the governor. The governor shall consult with the Legislative  
 81.22 Advisory Commission before granting approval. Recommendations of the Legislative  
 81.23 Advisory Commission shall be advisory only. Failure or refusal of the commission to  
 81.24 make a recommendation shall be deemed a negative recommendation.

81.25 Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.052, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

81.26 Subd. 6. **State park reservation system.** (a) The commissioner may, by written  
 81.27 order, develop reasonable reservation policies for campsites and other lodging. These  
 81.28 policies are exempt from rulemaking provisions under chapter 14 and section 14.386  
 81.29 does not apply.

81.30 (b) The revenue collected from the state park reservation fee established under  
 81.31 subdivision 5, including interest earned, shall be deposited in the state park account in the  
 81.32 natural resources fund and is annually appropriated to the commissioner for the cost of  
 81.33 the state park reservation system.

81.34 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective retroactively from March 1, 2012.

82.1 Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.054, is amended by adding a subdivision  
82.2 to read:

82.3 Subd. 18. **La Salle Lake State Recreation Area.** A state park permit is not  
82.4 required and a fee may not be charged for motor vehicle entry, use, or parking in La  
82.5 Salle Lake State Recreation Area unless the occupants of the vehicle enter, use, or park  
82.6 in a developed overnight or day-use area.

82.7 Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.055, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

82.8 Subdivision 1. **Fees.** The fee for state park permits for:

82.9 (1) an annual use of state parks is \$25;

82.10 (2) a second or subsequent vehicle state park permit is \$18;

82.11 (3) a state park permit valid for one day is \$5;

82.12 (4) a daily vehicle state park permit for groups is \$3;

82.13 (5) an annual permit for motorcycles is \$20;

82.14 (6) an employee's state park permit is without charge; and

82.15 (7) a state park permit for disabled persons under section 85.053, subdivision 7,  
82.16 clauses (1) ~~and (2)~~ to (3), is \$12.

82.17 The fees specified in this subdivision include any sales tax required by state law.

82.18 Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.055, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

82.19 Subd. 2. **Fee deposit and appropriation.** The fees collected under this section shall  
82.20 be deposited in the natural resources fund and credited to the state parks account. Money  
82.21 in the account, except for the electronic licensing system commission established by the  
82.22 commissioner under section 84.027, subdivision 15, and the state park reservation system  
82.23 fee established by the commissioner under section 85.052, subdivisions 5 and 6, is available  
82.24 for appropriation to the commissioner to operate and maintain the state park system.

82.25 Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.41, is amended by adding a subdivision  
82.26 to read:

82.27 Subd. 6. **Grant-in-aid trail donations.** (a) At the time of purchasing the pass  
82.28 required under subdivision 1, a person may agree to add a donation of any amount to  
82.29 the cross-country ski pass fee for grant-in-aid cross-country ski trails. An additional  
82.30 commission may not be assessed on the donation. The commissioner shall offer the  
82.31 opportunity to make a donation under this subdivision to all pass purchasers and shall  
82.32 issue a recognition grant-in-aid trail sticker to a person contributing \$20 or more.

83.1 (b) Money donated under this subdivision shall be deposited in the cross-country ski  
83.2 account in the natural resources fund and shall be used for the grant-in-aid program as  
83.3 provided under section 85.43, paragraph (a), clause (1).

83.4 Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.42, is amended to read:

83.5 **85.42 USER FEE; VALIDITY.**

83.6 (a) The fee for an annual cross-country ski pass is \$19 for an individual age 16 and  
83.7 over. The fee for a three-year pass is \$54 for an individual age 16 and over. This fee  
83.8 shall be collected at the time the pass is purchased. Three-year passes are valid for three  
83.9 years beginning the previous July 1. Annual passes are valid for one year beginning  
83.10 the previous July 1.

83.11 (b) The cost for a daily cross-country skier pass is \$5 for an individual age 16 and  
83.12 over. This fee shall be collected at the time the pass is purchased. The daily pass is valid  
83.13 only for the date designated on the pass form.

83.14 (c) A pass must be signed by the skier across the front of the pass to be valid and  
83.15 becomes nontransferable on signing.

83.16 (d) The commissioner and agents shall issue a duplicate pass to a person whose pass  
83.17 is lost or destroyed, using the process established under section 97A.405, subdivision 3,  
83.18 and rules adopted thereunder. The fee for a duplicate cross-country ski pass is \$2.

83.19 Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.43, is amended to read:

83.20 **85.43 DISPOSITION OF RECEIPTS; PURPOSE.**

83.21 (a) Fees from cross-country ski passes and donations received under section 85.41,  
83.22 subdivision 6, shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to a cross-country ski  
83.23 account in the natural resources fund and, except for the electronic licensing system  
83.24 commission established by the commissioner under section 84.027, subdivision 15, are  
83.25 appropriated to the commissioner of natural resources for the following purposes:

83.26 (1) grants-in-aid for cross-country ski trails to:

83.27 (i) counties and municipalities for construction and maintenance of cross-country  
83.28 ski trails; and

83.29 (ii) special park districts as provided in section 85.44 for construction and  
83.30 maintenance of cross-country ski trails; and

83.31 (2) administration of the cross-country ski trail grant-in-aid program.

83.32 (b) Development and maintenance of state cross-country ski trails are eligible for  
83.33 funding from the cross-country ski account if the money is appropriated by law.

84.1 Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.46, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

84.2 Subd. 6. **Disposition of receipts.** Fees and donations collected under this section,  
84.3 except for the issuing fee, shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the horse  
84.4 pass account in the natural resources fund. Except for the electronic licensing system  
84.5 commission established by the commissioner under section 84.027, subdivision 15, the  
84.6 fees are appropriated to the commissioner of natural resources for trail acquisition, trail  
84.7 and facility development, and maintenance, enforcement, and rehabilitation of horse  
84.8 trails or trails authorized for horse use, whether for riding, leading, or driving, on land  
84.9 administered by the commissioner.

84.10 Sec. 25. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 85.46, is amended by adding a subdivision  
84.11 to read:

84.12 Subd. 8. **Trail donations.** At the time of purchasing the pass required under  
84.13 subdivision 1, a person may agree to add a donation of any amount to the horse pass  
84.14 fee for horse trails. An additional commission may not be assessed on the donation.  
84.15 The commissioner shall offer the opportunity to make a donation under this subdivision  
84.16 to all pass purchasers and shall issue a recognition trail sticker to a person contributing  
84.17 \$20 or more.

84.18 Sec. 26. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 89.0385, is amended to read:

84.19 **89.0385 FOREST MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT ACCOUNT; COST**  
84.20 **CERTIFICATION.**

84.21 (a) ~~After each fiscal year,~~ The commissioner shall certify the total costs incurred for  
84.22 forest management, forest improvement, and road improvement on state-managed lands  
84.23 during that year. The commissioner shall distribute forest management receipts credited to  
84.24 various accounts according to this section.

84.25 (b) The amount of the certified costs incurred for forest management activities on  
84.26 state lands shall be transferred from the account where receipts are deposited to the forest  
84.27 management investment account in the natural resources fund, except for those costs  
84.28 certified under section 16A.125. Transfers may occur quarterly, based on quarterly cost and  
84.29 revenue reports, throughout the fiscal year, with final certification and reconciliation after  
84.30 each fiscal year. Transfers in a fiscal year cannot exceed receipts credited to the account.

84.31 Sec. 27. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 89.17, is amended to read:

84.32 **89.17 LEASES AND PERMITS.**

85.1 (a) Notwithstanding the permit procedures of chapter 90, the commissioner shall  
85.2 have power to grant and execute, in the name of the state, leases and permits for the use of  
85.3 any forest lands under the authority of the commissioner for any purpose which in the  
85.4 commissioner's opinion is not inconsistent with the maintenance and management of the  
85.5 forest lands, on forestry principles for timber production. Every such lease or permit shall  
85.6 be revocable at the discretion of the commissioner at any time subject to such conditions  
85.7 as may be agreed on in the lease. The approval of the commissioner of administration  
85.8 shall not be required upon any such lease or permit. No such lease or permit for a period  
85.9 exceeding 21 years shall be granted except with the approval of the Executive Council.

85.10 (b) Public access to the leased land for outdoor recreation shall be the same as  
85.11 access would be under state management.

85.12 (c) The commissioner shall, by written order, establish the schedule of application  
85.13 fees for all leases issued under this section. Notwithstanding section 16A.1285, subdivision  
85.14 2, the application fees shall be set at a rate that neither significantly overrecovers nor  
85.15 underrecovers costs, including overhead costs, involved in providing the services at the  
85.16 time of issuing the leases. The commissioner shall update the schedule of application fees  
85.17 every five years. The schedule of application fees and any adjustment to the schedule are  
85.18 not subject to the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14 and section 14.386 does not apply.

85.19 (d) Money received under paragraph (c) must be deposited in the land management  
85.20 account in the natural resources fund and is appropriated to the commissioner to cover the  
85.21 reasonable costs incurred for issuing leases.

85.22 (e) Notwithstanding section 16A.125, subdivision 5, after deducting the reasonable  
85.23 ~~costs incurred for preparing and issuing the lease~~ application fee paid according to  
85.24 paragraph (c), all remaining proceeds from the leasing of school trust land and university  
85.25 land for roads on forest lands must be deposited into the respective permanent fund for  
85.26 the lands.

85.27 Sec. 28. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.01, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

85.28 Subd. 4. **Scaler.** "Scaler" means a qualified bonded person designated by the  
85.29 commissioner to measure timber and cut forest products.

85.30 Sec. 29. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.01, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

85.31 Subd. 5. **State appraiser.** "State appraiser" means an employee of the department  
85.32 designated by the commissioner to appraise state lands, which includes, but is not limited  
85.33 to, timber and other forest resource products, for volume, quality, and value.

86.1 Sec. 30. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.01, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

86.2 Subd. 6. **Timber.** "Timber" means trees, shrubs, or woody plants, that will produce  
86.3 forest products of value whether standing or down, and including but not limited to logs,  
86.4 sawlogs, posts, poles, bolts, pulpwood, cordwood, fuelwood, woody biomass, lumber,  
86.5 and woody decorative material.

86.6 Sec. 31. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.01, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

86.7 Subd. 8. **Permit holder.** "Permit holder" means the person holding who is the  
86.8 signatory of a permit to cut timber on state lands.

86.9 Sec. 32. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.01, subdivision 11, is amended to read:

86.10 Subd. 11. **Effective permit.** "Effective permit" means a permit for which the  
86.11 commissioner has on file full or partial surety security as required by section 90.161; or  
86.12 90.162, 90.163, or 90.173 or, in the case of permits issued according to section 90.191 or  
86.13 90.195, the commissioner has received a down payment equal to the full appraised value.

86.14 Sec. 33. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.031, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

86.15 Subd. 4. **Timber rules.** The Executive Council may formulate and establish, from  
86.16 time to time, rules it deems advisable for the transaction of timber business of the state,  
86.17 including approval of the sale of timber on any tract in a lot exceeding ~~6,000~~ 12,000 cords  
86.18 in volume when the sale is in the best interests of the state, and may abrogate, modify,  
86.19 or suspend rules at its pleasure.

86.20 Sec. 34. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.041, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

86.21 Subd. 2. **Trespass on state lands.** The commissioner may compromise and settle,  
86.22 ~~with the approval of~~ notification to the attorney general, upon terms the commissioner  
86.23 deems just, any claim of the state for casual and involuntary trespass upon state lands or  
86.24 timber; provided that no claim shall be settled for less than the full value of all timber  
86.25 or other materials taken in casual trespass or the full amount of all actual damage or  
86.26 loss suffered by the state as a result. Upon request, the commissioner shall advise the  
86.27 Executive Council of any information acquired by the commissioner concerning any  
86.28 trespass on state lands, giving all details and names of witnesses and all compromises and  
86.29 settlements made under this subdivision.

86.30 Sec. 35. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.041, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

87.1 Subd. 5. **Forest improvement contracts.** The commissioner may contract as part  
87.2 of the timber sale with the purchaser of state timber at either informal or auction sale  
87.3 for ~~the following~~ forest improvement work to be done on the land included within the  
87.4 sale area: Forest improvement work may include activities relating to preparation of  
87.5 the site for seeding or planting of seedlings or trees, seeding or planting of seedlings or  
87.6 trees, and other activities relating related to forest regeneration or deemed necessary by  
87.7 the commissioner to accomplish forest management objectives, including those related  
87.8 to water quality protection, trail development, and wildlife habitat enhancement. A  
87.9 contract issued under this subdivision is not subject to the competitive bidding provisions  
87.10 of chapter 16C and is exempt from the contract approval provisions of section 16C.05,  
87.11 subdivision 2. The bid value received in the sale of the timber and the contract bid  
87.12 cost of the improvement work may be combined and the total value may be considered  
87.13 by the commissioner in awarding forest improvement contracts under this section.  
87.14 The commissioner may refuse to accept any and all bids received and cancel a forest  
87.15 improvement contract sale for good and sufficient reasons.

87.16 Sec. 36. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.041, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

87.17 Subd. 6. **Sale of damaged timber.** The commissioner may sell at public auction  
87.18 timber that has been damaged by fire, windstorm, flood, insect, disease, or other natural  
87.19 cause on notice that the commissioner considers reasonable when there is a high risk that  
87.20 the salvage value of the timber would be lost.

87.21 Sec. 37. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.041, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

87.22 Subd. 9. **Reoffering unsold timber.** ~~To maintain and enhance forest ecosystems on~~  
87.23 ~~state forest lands;~~ The commissioner may reoffer timber tracts remaining unsold under the  
87.24 provisions of section 90.101 below appraised value at public auction with the required  
87.25 30-day notice under section 90.101, subdivision 2.

87.26 Sec. 38. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.041, is amended by adding a subdivision  
87.27 to read:

87.28 Subd. 10. **Fees.** (a) The commissioner may establish a fee schedule that covers the  
87.29 commissioner's cost of issuing, administering, and processing various permits, permit  
87.30 modifications, transfers, assignments, amendments, and other transactions necessary to the  
87.31 administration of activities under this chapter.

88.1 (b) A fee established under this subdivision is not subject to the rulemaking  
88.2 provisions of chapter 14 and section 14.386 does not apply. The commissioner may  
88.3 establish fees under this subdivision notwithstanding section 16A.1283.

88.4 Sec. 39. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.041, is amended by adding a subdivision  
88.5 to read:

88.6 Subd. 11. **Debarment.** The commissioner may debar a permit holder if the holder  
88.7 is convicted in Minnesota at the gross misdemeanor or felony level of criminal willful  
88.8 trespass, theft, fraud, or antitrust violation involving state, federal, county, or privately  
88.9 owned timber in Minnesota or convicted in any other state involving similar offenses and  
88.10 penalties for timber owned in that state. The commissioner shall cancel and repossess the  
88.11 permit directly involved in the prosecution of the crime. The commissioner shall cancel  
88.12 and repossess all other state timber permits held by the permit holder after taking from  
88.13 all security deposits money to which the state is entitled. The commissioner shall return  
88.14 the remainder of the security deposits, if any, to the permit holder. The debarred permit  
88.15 holder is prohibited from bidding, possessing, or being employed on any state timber  
88.16 permit during the period of debarment. The period of debarment is not less than one year  
88.17 or greater than three years. The duration of the debarment is based on the severity of the  
88.18 violation, past history of compliance with timber permits, and the amount of loss incurred  
88.19 by the state arising from violations of timber permits.

88.20 Sec. 40. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.045, is amended to read:

88.21 **90.045 APPRAISAL STANDARDS.**

88.22 By July 1, 1983, the commissioner shall establish specific timber appraisal standards  
88.23 according to which all timber appraisals will be conducted under this chapter. The  
88.24 standards shall include a specification of the maximum allowable appraisal sampling error,  
88.25 ~~and~~ including the procedures for tree defect allowance, tract area estimation, product  
88.26 volume estimation, and product value determination. The timber appraisal standards shall  
88.27 be included in each edition of the timber sales manual published by the commissioner. In  
88.28 addition to the duties pursuant to section 90.061, every state appraiser shall work within  
88.29 the guidelines of the timber appraisal standards. The standards shall not be subject to  
88.30 the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14.

88.31 Sec. 41. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.061, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

88.32 Subd. 8. **Appraiser authority; form of documents.** State appraisers are  
88.33 empowered, with the consent of the commissioner, to perform any scaling, and generally

89.1 to supervise the cutting and removal of timber and forest products on or from state lands  
89.2 so far as may be reasonably necessary to insure compliance with the terms of the permits  
89.3 or other contracts governing the same and protect the state from loss.

89.4 The form of appraisal reports, records, and notes to be kept by state appraisers  
89.5 shall be as the commissioner prescribes.

89.6 Sec. 42. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.101, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

89.7 Subdivision 1. **Sale requirements.** The commissioner may sell the timber on any  
89.8 tract of state land and may determine the number of sections or fractional sections of land  
89.9 to be included in the permit area covered by any one permit issued to the purchaser of  
89.10 timber on state lands, or in any one contract or other instrument relating thereto. No  
89.11 timber shall be sold, except (1) to the highest responsible bidder at public auction, or  
89.12 (2) if unsold at public auction, the commissioner may offer the timber for private sale  
89.13 for a period of no more than ~~six months~~ one year after the public auction to any ~~person~~  
89.14 responsible bidder who pays the appraised value for the timber. The minimum price shall  
89.15 be the appraised value as fixed by the report of the state appraiser. Sales may include tracts  
89.16 in more than one contiguous county or forestry administrative area and shall be held either  
89.17 in the county or forestry administrative area in which the tract is located or in an adjacent  
89.18 county or forestry administrative area that is nearest the tract offered for sale or that is  
89.19 most accessible to potential bidders. In adjoining counties or forestry administrative areas,  
89.20 sales may not be held less than two hours apart.

89.21 Sec. 43. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.121, is amended to read:

89.22 **90.121 INTERMEDIATE AUCTION SALES; MAXIMUM LOTS OF 3,000**  
89.23 **CORDS.**

89.24 (a) The commissioner may sell the timber on any tract of state land in lots not  
89.25 exceeding 3,000 cords in volume, in the same manner as timber sold at public auction under  
89.26 section 90.101, and related laws, subject to the following special exceptions and limitations:

89.27 (1) the commissioner shall offer all tracts authorized for sale by this section  
89.28 separately from the sale of tracts of state timber made pursuant to section 90.101;

89.29 (2) no bidder may be awarded more than 25 percent of the total tracts offered at the  
89.30 first round of bidding unless fewer than four tracts are offered, in which case not more than  
89.31 one tract shall be awarded to one bidder. Any tract not sold at public auction may be offered  
89.32 for private sale as authorized by section 90.101, subdivision 1, 30 days after the auction to  
89.33 ~~persons~~ responsible bidders eligible under this section at the appraised value; and

90.1 (3) no sale may be made to a ~~person~~ responsible bidder having more than 30  
 90.2 employees. For the purposes of this clause, "employee" means an individual working in  
 90.3 the timber or wood products industry for salary or wages on a full-time or part-time basis.

90.4 (b) The auction sale procedure set forth in this section constitutes an additional  
 90.5 alternative timber sale procedure available to the commissioner and is not intended to  
 90.6 replace other authority possessed by the commissioner to sell timber in lots of 3,000  
 90.7 cords or less.

90.8 (c) Another bidder or the commissioner may request that the number of employees a  
 90.9 bidder has pursuant to paragraph (a), clause (3), be confirmed by signed affidavit if there is  
 90.10 evidence that the bidder may be ineligible due to exceeding the employee threshold. The  
 90.11 commissioner shall request information from the commissioners of labor and industry and  
 90.12 employment and economic development including the premiums paid by the bidder in  
 90.13 question for workers' compensation insurance coverage for all employees of the bidder.  
 90.14 The commissioner shall review the information submitted by the commissioners of labor  
 90.15 and industry and employment and economic development and make a determination based  
 90.16 on that information as to whether the bidder is eligible. A bidder is considered eligible and  
 90.17 may participate in intermediate auctions until determined ineligible under this paragraph.

90.18 Sec. 44. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.145, is amended to read:

90.19 **90.145 PURCHASER QUALIFICATIONS AND, REGISTRATION, AND**  
 90.20 **REQUIREMENTS.**

90.21 Subdivision 1. **Purchaser qualifications requirements.** (a) In addition to any other  
 90.22 requirements imposed by this chapter, the purchaser of a state timber permit issued under  
 90.23 section 90.151 must meet the requirements in paragraphs (b) to ~~(d)~~ (e).

90.24 (b) The purchaser ~~and~~ or the purchaser's agents, employees, subcontractors, and  
 90.25 assigns conducting logging operations on the timber permit must comply with general  
 90.26 industry safety standards for logging adopted by the commissioner of labor and industry  
 90.27 under chapter 182. The commissioner of natural resources ~~shall~~ may require a purchaser  
 90.28 to provide proof of compliance with the general industry safety standards.

90.29 (c) The purchaser ~~and~~ or the purchaser's agents, subcontractors, and assigns  
 90.30 conducting logging operations on the timber permit must comply with the mandatory  
 90.31 insurance requirements of chapter 176. The commissioner ~~shall~~ may require a purchaser  
 90.32 to provide a copy of the proof of insurance required by section 176.130 before the start of  
 90.33 harvesting operations on any permit.

90.34 (d) Before the start of harvesting operations on any permit, the purchaser must certify  
 90.35 that a foreperson or other designated employee who has a current certificate of completion,

91.1 which includes instruction in site-level forest management guidelines or best management  
 91.2 practices, from the Minnesota Logger Education Program (MLEP), the Wisconsin Forest  
 91.3 Industry Safety and Training Alliance (FISTA), or any similar continuous education  
 91.4 program acceptable to the commissioner, is supervising active logging operations.

91.5 (e) The purchaser and the purchaser's agents, employees, subcontractors, and assigns  
 91.6 who will be involved with logging or scaling state timber must be in compliance with  
 91.7 this chapter.

91.8 Subd. 2. **Purchaser preregistration registration.** To facilitate the sale of permits  
 91.9 issued under section 90.151, the commissioner may establish a ~~purchaser preregistration~~  
 91.10 registration system to verify the qualifications of a person as a responsible bidder to  
 91.11 purchase a timber permit. Any system implemented by the commissioner shall be limited  
 91.12 in scope to only that information that is required for the efficient administration of the  
 91.13 purchaser qualification ~~provisions~~ requirements of this chapter ~~and shall conform with the~~  
 91.14 ~~requirements of chapter 13.~~ The registration system established under this subdivision is  
 91.15 not subject to the rulemaking provisions of chapter 14 and section 14.386 does not apply.

91.16 Sec. 45. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

91.17 Subdivision 1. **Issuance; expiration.** (a) Following receipt of the down payment  
 91.18 for state timber required under section 90.14 or 90.191, the commissioner shall issue a  
 91.19 numbered permit to the purchaser, in a form approved by the attorney general, by the  
 91.20 terms of which the purchaser shall be authorized to enter upon the land, and to cut and  
 91.21 remove the timber therein described as designated for cutting in the report of the state  
 91.22 appraiser, according to the provisions of this chapter. The permit shall be correctly  
 91.23 dated and executed by the commissioner and signed by the purchaser. If a permit is not  
 91.24 signed by the purchaser within ~~60~~ 45 days from the date of purchase, the permit cancels  
 91.25 and the down payment for timber required under section 90.14 forfeits to the state. The  
 91.26 commissioner may grant an additional period for the purchaser to sign the permit, not to  
 91.27 exceed ~~five~~ ten business days, provided the purchaser pays a ~~\$125~~ \$200 penalty fee.

91.28 (b) The permit shall expire no later than five years after the date of sale as the  
 91.29 commissioner shall specify or as specified under section 90.191, and the timber shall  
 91.30 be cut and removed within the time specified therein. ~~All cut timber, equipment, and~~  
 91.31 ~~buildings not removed from the land within 90 days after expiration of the permit shall~~  
 91.32 ~~become the property of the state.~~ If additional time is needed, the permit holder must  
 91.33 request, prior to the expiration date, and may be granted, for good and sufficient reasons,  
 91.34 up to 90 additional days for the completion of skidding, hauling, and removing all

92.1 equipment and buildings. All cut timber, equipment, and buildings not removed from the  
92.2 land after expiration of the permit becomes the property of the state.

92.3 (c) The commissioner may grant an additional period of time not to exceed ~~120~~ 240  
92.4 days for the removal of cut timber, equipment, and buildings upon receipt of ~~such a written~~  
92.5 request by the permit holder for good and sufficient reasons. ~~The commissioner may grant~~  
92.6 ~~a second period of time not to exceed 120 days for the removal of cut timber, equipment,~~  
92.7 ~~and buildings upon receipt of a request by the permit holder for hardship reasons only.~~  
92.8 The permit holder may combine in the written request under this paragraph the request  
92.9 for additional time under paragraph (b).

92.10 Sec. 46. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

92.11 Subd. 2. **Permit requirements.** The permit shall state the amount of timber  
92.12 estimated for cutting on the land, the estimated value thereof, and the price at which it is  
92.13 sold in units of per thousand feet, per cord, per piece, per ton, or by whatever description  
92.14 sold, and shall specify that all landings of cut products shall be legibly marked with the  
92.15 assigned permit number. The permit shall provide for the continuous identification  
92.16 and control of the cut timber from the time of cutting until delivery to the consumer.  
92.17 The permit shall provide that failure to continuously identify the timber as specified in  
92.18 the permit constitutes trespass.

92.19 Sec. 47. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

92.20 Subd. 3. **Security provisions.** The permit shall contain such provisions as may be  
92.21 necessary to secure to the state the title of all timber cut thereunder wherever found until  
92.22 full payment therefor and until all provisions of the permit have been fully complied  
92.23 with. The permit shall provide that from the date ~~the same becomes effective~~ cutting  
92.24 commences until the expiration ~~thereof~~ of the permit, including all extensions, the  
92.25 purchaser and successors in interest shall be liable to the state for the full permit price of  
92.26 all timber covered thereby, notwithstanding any subsequent damage or injury thereto or  
92.27 trespass thereon or theft thereof, and without prejudice to the right of the state to pursue  
92.28 such timber and recover the value thereof anywhere prior to the payment therefor in full to  
92.29 the state. If an effective permit is forfeited prior to any cutting activity, the purchaser is  
92.30 liable to the state for a sum equal to the down payment and bid guarantee. Upon recovery  
92.31 from any person other than the permit holder, the permit holder shall be deemed released  
92.32 to the extent of the net amount, after deducting all expenses of collecting same, recovered  
92.33 by the state from such other person.

93.1 Sec. 48. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

93.2 Subd. 4. **Permit terms.** Once a permit becomes effective and cutting commences,  
93.3 the permit holder is liable to the state for the permit price for all timber required to be cut,  
93.4 including timber not cut. The permit shall provide that all timber sold or designated for  
93.5 cutting shall be cut ~~without~~ in such a manner so as not to cause damage to other timber;  
93.6 that the permit holder shall remove all timber authorized and designated to be cut under  
93.7 the permit; that timber sold by ~~board~~ measure identified in the permit, but later determined  
93.8 by the commissioner not to be convertible into ~~board~~ the permit's measure, shall be paid  
93.9 for by the piece or cord or other unit of measure according to the size, species, or value, as  
93.10 may be determined by the commissioner; and that all timber products, except as specified  
93.11 by the commissioner, shall be scaled and the final settlement for the timber cut shall be  
93.12 made on this scale; ~~and that the permit holder shall pay to the state the permit price for~~  
93.13 ~~all timber authorized to be cut, including timber not cut.~~

93.14 Sec. 49. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

93.15 Subd. 6. **Notice and approval required.** The permit shall provide that the permit  
93.16 holder shall not start cutting any state timber nor clear ~~building sites~~ landings nor logging  
93.17 roads until the commissioner has been notified and has given prior approval to such  
93.18 cutting operations. Approval shall not be granted until the permit holder has completed  
93.19 a presale conference with the state appraiser designated to supervise the cutting. The  
93.20 permit holder shall also give prior notice whenever permit operations are to be temporarily  
93.21 halted, whenever permit operations are to be resumed, and when permit operations are to  
93.22 be completed.

93.23 Sec. 50. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

93.24 Subd. 7. **Liability for timber cut in trespass.** The permit shall provide that the  
93.25 permit holder shall pay the permit price value for any timber sold which is negligently  
93.26 destroyed or damaged by the permit holder in cutting or removing other timber sold. If the  
93.27 permit holder shall cut or remove or negligently destroy or damage any timber upon the  
93.28 land described, not sold under the permit, except such timber as it may be necessary to cut  
93.29 and remove in the construction of necessary logging roads and landings approved as to  
93.30 location and route by the commissioner, such timber shall be deemed to have been cut in  
93.31 trespass. The permit holder shall be liable for any such timber and recourse may be had  
93.32 upon the ~~bond~~ security deposit.

93.33 Sec. 51. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

94.1 Subd. 8. **Suspension; cancellation.** The permit shall provide that the commissioner  
 94.2 shall have the power to order suspension of all operations under the permit when ~~in the~~  
 94.3 ~~commissioner's judgment~~ the conditions thereof have not been complied with and any  
 94.4 timber cut or removed during such suspension shall be deemed to have been cut in trespass;  
 94.5 that the commissioner may cancel the permit at any time ~~when in the commissioner's~~  
 94.6 ~~judgment the conditions thereof have not been complied with~~ due to a breach of the permit  
 94.7 conditions and such cancellation shall constitute repossession of the timber by the state;  
 94.8 that the permit holder shall remove equipment and buildings from such land within 90 days  
 94.9 after such cancellation; that, if the purchaser at any time fails to pay any obligations to the  
 94.10 state under any other permits, any or all permits may be canceled; and that any timber cut  
 94.11 or removed in violation of the terms of the permit or of any law shall constitute trespass.

94.12 Sec. 52. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.151, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

94.13 Subd. 9. **Slashings disposal.** The permit shall provide that the permit holder shall  
 94.14 ~~burn or otherwise dispose of~~ or treat all slashings or other refuse resulting from cutting  
 94.15 operations, as specified in the permit, in the manner now or hereafter provided by law.

94.16 Sec. 53. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.161, is amended to read:

94.17 **90.161 SURETY BONDS FOR AUCTION SECURITY DEPOSITS**  
 94.18 **REQUIRED FOR EFFECTIVE TIMBER PERMITS.**

94.19 Subdivision 1. **Bond Security deposit required.** (a) Except as otherwise provided  
 94.20 by law, the purchaser of any state timber, before any timber permit becomes effective for  
 94.21 any purpose, shall give a good and valid ~~bond~~ security in the form of cash; a certified  
 94.22 check; a cashier's check; a postal, bank, or express money order; a corporate surety bond;  
 94.23 or an irrevocable bank letter of credit to the state of Minnesota equal to the value of all  
 94.24 timber covered or to be covered by the permit, as shown by the sale price bid and the  
 94.25 appraisal report as to quantity, less the amount of any payments pursuant to ~~sections~~  
 94.26 section 90.14 and 90.163.

94.27 (b) The ~~bond~~ security deposit shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance  
 94.28 by the purchaser and successors in interest of all terms and conditions of the permit and  
 94.29 all requirements of law in respect to timber sales. The ~~bond~~ security deposit shall be  
 94.30 approved in writing by the commissioner and filed for record in the commissioner's office.

94.31 (c) ~~In the alternative to cash and bond requirements, but upon the same conditions,~~  
 94.32 A purchaser may post bond for 100 percent of the purchase price and request refund of the  
 94.33 amount of any payments pursuant to ~~sections~~ section 90.14 and 90.163. The commissioner  
 94.34 may credit the refund to any other permit held by the same permit holder if the permit is

95.1 delinquent as provided in section 90.181, subdivision 2, or may credit the refund to any  
95.2 other permit to which the permit holder requests that it be credited.

95.3 (d) In the event of a default, the commissioner may take from the deposit the sum of  
95.4 money to which the state is entitled. The commissioner shall return the remainder of the  
95.5 deposit, if any, to the person making the deposit. When cash is deposited as security, it  
95.6 shall be applied to the amount due when a statement is prepared and transmitted to the  
95.7 permit holder according to section 90.181. Any balance due to the state shall be shown on  
95.8 the statement and shall be paid as provided in section 90.181. Any amount of the deposit  
95.9 in excess of the amount determined to be due according to section 90.181 shall be returned  
95.10 to the permit holder when a final statement is transmitted under section 90.181. All or  
95.11 part of a cash deposit may be withheld from application to an amount due on a nonfinal  
95.12 statement if it appears that the total amount due on the permit will exceed the bid price.

95.13 (e) If an irrevocable bank letter of credit is provided as security under paragraph  
95.14 (a), at the written request of the permittee, the commissioner shall annually allow the  
95.15 amount of the bank letter of credit to be reduced by an amount proportionate to the value  
95.16 of timber that has been harvested and for which the state has received payment under the  
95.17 timber permit. The remaining amount of the bank letter of credit after a reduction under  
95.18 this paragraph must not be less than the value of the timber remaining to be harvested  
95.19 under the timber permit.

95.20 (f) If cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; a personal check; or a postal, bank, or  
95.21 express money order is provided as security under paragraph (a) and no cutting of state  
95.22 timber has taken place on the permit, the commissioner may credit the security provided,  
95.23 less any deposit required under section 90.14, to any other permit to which the permit  
95.24 holder requests in writing that it be credited.

95.25 **Subd. 2. Failure to ~~bond~~ provide security deposit.** ~~If bond~~ the security deposit is  
95.26 not furnished, no harvesting may occur and the down payment for timber 15 percent of the  
95.27 permit's purchase price shall forfeit to the state when the permit expires.

95.28 **Subd. 3. Subrogation.** ~~In case of default~~ When security is provided by surety  
95.29 bond and the permit holder defaults in payment by the permit holder, the surety upon the  
95.30 bond shall make payment in full to the state of all sums of money due under such permit;  
95.31 and thereupon such surety shall be deemed immediately subrogated to all the rights of  
95.32 the state in the timber so paid for; and such subrogated party may pursue the timber and  
95.33 recover therefor, or have any other appropriate relief in relation thereto which the state  
95.34 might or could have had if such surety had not made such payment. No assignment or  
95.35 other writing on the part of the state shall be necessary to make such subrogation effective,  
95.36 but the certificate signed by and bearing the official seal of the commissioner, showing the

96.1 amount of such timber, the lands from which it was cut or upon which it stood, and the  
 96.2 amount paid therefor, shall be prima facie evidence of such facts.

96.3 Subd. 4. **Change of security.** Prior to any ~~harvest~~ cutting activity, or activities  
 96.4 incidental to the preparation for harvest, a purchaser having posted a ~~bond~~ security deposit  
 96.5 for 100 percent of the purchase price of a sale may request the release of the ~~bond~~ security  
 96.6 and the commissioner shall grant the release ~~upon cash payment to the commissioner of~~  
 96.7 ~~15 percent of the appraised value of the sale, plus eight percent interest on the appraised~~  
 96.8 ~~value of the sale from the date of purchase to the date of release~~ while retaining, or upon  
 96.9 repayment of, the permit's down payment and bid guarantee deposit requirement.

96.10 Subd. 5. **Return of security.** Any security required under this section shall be  
 96.11 returned to the purchaser within 60 days after the final scale.

96.12 Sec. 54. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.162, is amended to read:

96.13 **90.162 ALTERNATIVE TO BOND OR DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS**  
 96.14 **SECURING TIMBER PERMITS WITH CUTTING BLOCKS.**

96.15 In lieu of the ~~bond or cash~~ security deposit equal to the value of all timber covered  
 96.16 by the permit required by section 90.161 ~~or 90.173~~, a purchaser of state timber may elect  
 96.17 in writing on a form prescribed by the attorney general to give good and valid surety to the  
 96.18 state of Minnesota equal to the purchase price for any designated cutting block identified  
 96.19 on the permit before the date the purchaser enters upon the land to begin harvesting the  
 96.20 timber on the designated cutting block.

96.21 Sec. 55. **[90.164] TIMBER PERMIT DEVELOPMENT OPTION.**

96.22 With the completion of the presale conference requirement under section 90.151,  
 96.23 subdivision 6, a permit holder may access the permit area in advance of the permit being  
 96.24 fully secured as required by section 90.161, for the express purpose of clearing approved  
 96.25 landings and logging roads. No cutting of state timber except that incidental to the clearing  
 96.26 of approved landings and logging roads is allowed under this section.

96.27 Sec. 56. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.171, is amended to read:

96.28 **90.171 ASSIGNMENT OF AUCTION TIMBER PERMITS.**

96.29 Any permit sold at public auction may be assigned upon written approval of the  
 96.30 commissioner. The assignment of any permit shall be signed and acknowledged by the  
 96.31 permit holder. The commissioner shall not approve any assignment until the assignee has  
 96.32 been determined to meet the qualifications of a responsible bidder and has given to the state  
 96.33 a ~~bond~~ security deposit which shall be substantially in the form of, and shall be deemed

97.1 of the same effect as, the ~~bond~~ security deposit required of the original purchaser. The  
97.2 commissioner may accept the an agreement of the assignee and any corporate surety upon  
97.3 ~~such an~~ an original bond, substituting the assignee in the place of ~~such~~ the original purchaser  
97.4 and continuing ~~such~~ the original bond in full force and effect, as to the assignee. Thereupon  
97.5 but not otherwise the permit holder making the assignment shall be released from all  
97.6 liability arising or accruing from actions taken after the assignment became effective.

97.7 Sec. 57. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.181, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

97.8 Subd. 2. **Deferred payments.** (a) If the amount of the statement is not paid within  
97.9 30 days of the date thereof, it shall bear interest at the rate determined pursuant to section  
97.10 16A.124, except that the purchaser shall not be required to pay interest that totals \$1 or  
97.11 less. If the amount is not paid within 60 days, the commissioner shall place the account in  
97.12 the hands of the commissioner of revenue according to chapter 16D, who shall proceed to  
97.13 collect the same. When deemed in the best interests of the state, the commissioner shall  
97.14 take possession of the timber for which an amount is due wherever it may be found and  
97.15 sell the same informally or at public auction after giving reasonable notice.

97.16 (b) The proceeds of the sale shall be applied, first, to the payment of the expenses  
97.17 of seizure and sale; and, second, to the payment of the amount due for the timber, with  
97.18 interest; and the surplus, if any, shall belong to the state; and, in case a sufficient amount is  
97.19 not realized to pay these amounts in full, the balance shall be collected by the attorney  
97.20 general. Neither payment of the amount, nor the recovery of judgment therefor, nor  
97.21 satisfaction of the judgment, nor the seizure and sale of timber, shall release the sureties  
97.22 on any ~~bond~~ security deposit given pursuant to this chapter, or preclude the state from  
97.23 afterwards claiming that the timber was cut or removed contrary to law and recovering  
97.24 damages for the trespass thereby committed, or from prosecuting the offender criminally.

97.25 Sec. 58. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.191, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

97.26 Subdivision 1. **Sale requirements.** The commissioner may sell the timber on any  
97.27 tract of state land in lots not exceeding 500 cords in volume, without formalities but for  
97.28 not less than the full appraised value thereof, to any person. No sale shall be made under  
97.29 this section to any person holding ~~two~~ more than four permits issued hereunder which are  
97.30 still in effect; ~~except that (1) a partnership as defined in chapter 323, which may include~~  
97.31 ~~spouses but which shall provide evidence that a partnership exists, may be holding two~~  
97.32 ~~permits for each of not more than three partners who are actively engaged in the business~~  
97.33 ~~of logging or who are the spouses of persons who are actively engaged in the business of~~  
97.34 ~~logging with that partnership; and (2) a corporation, a majority of whose shares and voting~~

98.1 power are owned by natural persons related to each other within the fourth degree of  
98.2 kindred according to the rules of the civil law or their spouses or estates, may be holding  
98.3 two permits for each of not more than three shareholders who are actively engaged in the  
98.4 business of logging or who are the spouses of persons who are actively engaged in the  
98.5 business of logging with that corporation.

98.6 Sec. 59. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.193, is amended to read:

98.7 **90.193 EXTENSION OF TIMBER PERMITS.**

98.8 The commissioner may, in the case of an exceptional circumstance beyond the  
98.9 control of the timber permit holder which makes it unreasonable, impractical, and not  
98.10 feasible to complete cutting and removal under the permit within the time allowed, grant  
98.11 ~~an~~ one regular extension ~~of~~ for one year. A written request for the regular extension must  
98.12 be received by the commissioner before the permit expires. The request must state the  
98.13 reason the extension is necessary and be signed by the permit holder. An interest rate of  
98.14 eight percent may be charged for the period of extension.

98.15 Sec. 60. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.195, is amended to read:

98.16 **90.195 SPECIAL USE AND PRODUCT PERMIT.**

98.17 (a) The commissioner may issue a permit to salvage or cut not to exceed 12 cords of  
98.18 fuelwood per year for personal use from either or both of the following sources: (1) dead,  
98.19 down, and ~~diseased~~ damaged trees; (2) other trees that are of negative value under good  
98.20 forest management practices. The permits may be issued for a period not to exceed one  
98.21 year. The commissioner shall charge a fee for the permit ~~that shall cover the commissioner's~~  
98.22 ~~cost of issuing the permit and~~ as provided under section 90.041, subdivision 10. The fee  
98.23 shall not exceed the current market value of fuelwood of similar species, grade, and volume  
98.24 that is being sold in the area where the salvage or cutting is authorized under the permit.

98.25 (b) The commissioner may issue a special product permit under section 89.42 for  
98.26 commercial use, which may include incidental volumes of boughs, gravel, hay, biomass,  
98.27 and other products derived from forest management activities. The value of the products  
98.28 is the current market value of the products that are being sold in the area. The permit may  
98.29 be issued for a period not to exceed one year and the commissioner shall charge a fee for  
98.30 the permit as provided under section 90.041, subdivision 10.

98.31 (c) The commissioner may issue a special use permit for incidental volumes of  
98.32 timber from approved right-of-way road clearing across state land for the purpose of  
98.33 accessing a state timber permit. The permit shall include the volume and value of timber  
98.34 to be cleared and may be issued for a period not to exceed one year. A presale conference

99.1 as required under section 90.151, subdivision 6, must be completed before the start of  
 99.2 any activities under the permit.

99.3 Sec. 61. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.201, subdivision 2a, is amended to read:

99.4 Subd. 2a. **Prompt payment of refunds.** Any refund of cash that is due to a permit  
 99.5 holder as determined on a final statement transmitted pursuant to section 90.181 or a  
 99.6 refund of cash made pursuant to section 90.161, subdivision 1, ~~or 90.173, paragraph~~  
 99.7 ~~(a)~~, shall be paid to the permit holder according to section 16A.124 unless the refund is  
 99.8 credited on another permit as provided in this chapter.

99.9 Sec. 62. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.211, is amended to read:

99.10 **90.211 PURCHASE MONEY, WHEN FORFEITED.**

99.11 If the holder of an effective permit begins to cut and then fails to ~~cut~~ complete any  
 99.12 part ~~thereof~~ of the permit before the expiration of the permit, the permit holder shall  
 99.13 nevertheless pay the price therefor; but under no circumstances shall timber be cut after  
 99.14 the expiration of the permit or extension thereof.

99.15 Sec. 63. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.221, is amended to read:

99.16 **90.221 TIMBER SALES RECORDS.**

99.17 The commissioner shall keep timber sales records, including the description of each  
 99.18 tract of land from which any timber is sold; the date of the report of the state appraisers;  
 99.19 the kind, amount, and value of the timber as shown by such report; the date of the sale;  
 99.20 the price for which the timber was sold; the name of the purchaser; the number, date  
 99.21 of issuance and date of expiration of each permit; the date of any assignment of the  
 99.22 permit; the name of the assignee; the dates of the filing and the amounts of the respective  
 99.23 ~~bonds~~ security deposits by the purchaser and assignee; the names of the sureties thereon;  
 99.24 the amount of timber taken from the land; the date of the report of the scaler and state  
 99.25 appraiser; the names of the scaler and the state appraiser who scaled the timber; and the  
 99.26 amount paid for such timber and the date of payment.

99.27 Sec. 64. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.252, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

99.28 Subdivision 1. **Consumer scaling.** The commissioner may enter into an agreement  
 99.29 with either a timber sale permittee, or the purchaser of the cut products, or both, so  
 99.30 that the scaling of the cut timber and the collection of the payment for the same can be  
 99.31 consummated by the ~~consumer~~ state. Such an agreement shall be approved as to form and  
 99.32 content by the attorney general and shall provide for a bond or cash in lieu of a bond and

100.1 such other safeguards as are necessary to protect the interests of the state. The scaling  
100.2 and payment collection procedure may be used for any state timber sale, except that no  
100.3 permittee who is also the consumer shall both cut and scale the timber sold unless such  
100.4 scaling is supervised by a state scaler.

100.5 Sec. 65. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.301, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

100.6 Subd. 2. **Seizure of unlawfully cut timber.** The commissioner may take possession  
100.7 of any timber hereafter unlawfully cut upon or taken from any land owned by the state  
100.8 wherever found and may sell the same informally or at public auction after giving such  
100.9 notice as the commissioner deems reasonable and after deducting all the expenses of such  
100.10 sale the proceeds thereof shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the proper  
100.11 fund; and when any timber so unlawfully cut has been intermingled with any other timber  
100.12 or property so that it cannot be identified or plainly separated therefrom the commissioner  
100.13 may so seize and sell the whole quantity so intermingled and, in such case, the whole  
100.14 quantity of such timber shall be conclusively presumed to have been unlawfully taken  
100.15 from state land. When the timber unlawfully cut or removed from state land is so seized  
100.16 and sold, the seizure shall not in any manner relieve the trespasser who cut or removed, or  
100.17 caused the cutting or removal of, any such timber from the full liability imposed by this  
100.18 chapter for the trespass so committed, but the net amount realized from such sale shall  
100.19 be credited on whatever judgment is recovered against such trespasser, if the trespass  
100.20 was deemed to be casual and involuntary.

100.21 Sec. 66. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.301, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

100.22 Subd. 4. **Apprehension of trespassers; reward.** The commissioner may offer a  
100.23 reward to be paid to a person giving to the proper authorities any information that leads to  
100.24 the conviction of a person violating this chapter. The reward is limited to the greater of  
100.25 \$100 or ten percent of the single stumpage value of any timber unlawfully cut or removed.  
100.26 The commissioner shall pay the reward from funds appropriated for that purpose or from  
100.27 receipts from the sale of state timber. A reward shall not be paid to salaried forest officers,  
100.28 state appraisers, scalers, conservation officers, or licensed peace officers.

100.29 Sec. 67. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 90.41, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

100.30 Subdivision 1. **Violations and penalty.** (a) Any state scaler or state appraiser who  
100.31 shall accept any compensation or gratuity for services as such from any other source  
100.32 except the state of Minnesota, or any state scaler, or other person authorized to scale state  
100.33 timber, or state appraiser, who shall make any false report, or insert in any such report any

101.1 false statement, or shall make any such report without having examined the land embraced  
101.2 therein or without having actually been upon the land, or omit from any such report any  
101.3 statement required by law to be made therein, or who shall fail to report any known trespass  
101.4 committed upon state lands, or who shall conspire with any other person in any manner, by  
101.5 act or omission or otherwise, to defraud or unlawfully deprive the state of Minnesota of any  
101.6 land or timber, or the value thereof, shall be guilty of a felony. Any material discrepancy  
101.7 between the facts and the scale returned by any such person scaling timber for the state  
101.8 shall be considered prima facie evidence that such person is guilty of violating this statute.

101.9 (b) No such appraiser or scaler who has been once discharged for cause shall ever  
101.10 again be appointed. This provision shall not apply to resignations voluntarily made by and  
101.11 accepted from such employees.

101.12 Sec. 68. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 92.50, is amended to read:

101.13 **92.50 UNSOLD LANDS SUBJECT TO SALE MAY BE LEASED.**

101.14 Subdivision 1. **Lease terms.** (a) The commissioner of natural resources may lease  
101.15 land under the commissioner's jurisdiction and control:

101.16 (1) to remove sand, gravel, clay, rock, marl, peat, and black dirt;

101.17 (2) to store ore, waste materials from mines, or rock and tailings from ore milling  
101.18 plants;

101.19 (3) for roads or railroads; or

101.20 (4) for other uses consistent with the interests of the state.

101.21 (b) The commissioner shall offer the lease at public or private sale for an amount  
101.22 and under terms and conditions prescribed by the commissioner. Commercial leases for  
101.23 more than ten years and leases for removal of peat that cover 320 or more acres must be  
101.24 approved by the Executive Council.

101.25 (c) The lease term may not exceed 21 years except:

101.26 (1) leases of lands for storage sites for ore, waste materials from mines, or rock and  
101.27 tailings from ore milling plants, or for the removal of peat for nonagricultural purposes  
101.28 may not exceed a term of 25 years; and

101.29 (2) leases for commercial purposes, including major resort, convention center, or  
101.30 recreational area purposes, may not exceed a term of 40 years.

101.31 (d) Leases must be subject to sale and leasing of the land for mineral purposes and  
101.32 contain a provision for cancellation for just cause at any time by the commissioner upon  
101.33 six months' written notice. A longer notice period, not exceeding three years, may be  
101.34 provided in leases for storing ore, waste materials from mines or rock or tailings from ore

102.1 milling plants. The commissioner may determine the terms and conditions, including the  
102.2 notice period, for cancellation of a lease for the removal of peat and commercial leases.

102.3 (e) Except as provided in subdivision 3, money received from leases under this  
102.4 section must be credited to the fund to which the land belongs.

102.5 Subd. 2. **Leases for tailings deposits.** The commissioner may grant leases and  
102.6 licenses to deposit tailings from any iron ore beneficiation plant in any public lake not  
102.7 exceeding 160 acres in area after holding a public hearing in the manner and under the  
102.8 procedure provided in Laws 1937, chapter 468, as amended and finding in pursuance  
102.9 of the hearing:

102.10 (a) that such use of each lake is necessary and in the best interests of the public; and

102.11 (b) that the proposed use will not result in pollution or sedimentation of any outlet  
102.12 stream.

102.13 The lease or license may not exceed a term of 25 years and must be subject to  
102.14 cancellation on three years' notice. The commissioner may further restrict use of the lake  
102.15 to safeguard the public interest, and may require that the lessee or licensee acquire suitable  
102.16 permits or easements from the owners of lands riparian to the lake. Except as provided  
102.17 in subdivision 3, money received from the leases or licenses must be deposited in the  
102.18 permanent school fund.

102.19 Subd. 3. **Application fees.** (a) The commissioner shall, by written order, establish  
102.20 the schedule of application fees for all leases issued under this section. Notwithstanding  
102.21 section 16A.1285, subdivision 2, the application fees shall be set at a rate that neither  
102.22 significantly overrecovers nor underrecovers costs, including overhead costs, involved in  
102.23 providing the services at the time of issuing the leases. The commissioner shall update  
102.24 the schedule of application fees every five years. The schedule of application fees and  
102.25 any adjustment to the schedule are not subject to the rulemaking provision of chapter 14  
102.26 and section 14.386 does not apply.

102.27 (b) Money received under this subdivision must be deposited in the land management  
102.28 account in the natural resources fund and is appropriated to the commissioner to cover the  
102.29 reasonable costs incurred for issuing leases.

102.30 Sec. 69. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.17, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

102.31 Subdivision 1. **Lease application.** (a) Applications for leases to prospect for iron  
102.32 ore shall be presented to the commissioner in writing in such form as the commissioner  
102.33 may prescribe at any time before 4:30 p.m., St. Paul, Minnesota time, on the last business  
102.34 day before the day specified for the opening of bids, and no bids submitted after that time  
102.35 shall be considered. The application shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's

103.1 check, or bank money order payable to the Department of Natural Resources in the sum of  
103.2 ~~\$100~~ \$1,000 for each mining unit. The fee shall be deposited in the minerals management  
103.3 account in the natural resources fund.

103.4 (b) Each application shall be accompanied by a sealed bid setting forth the amount  
103.5 of royalty per gross ton of crude ore based upon the iron content of the ore when dried at  
103.6 212 degrees Fahrenheit, in its natural condition or when concentrated, as set out in section  
103.7 93.20, subdivisions 12 to 18, that the applicant proposes to pay to the state of Minnesota  
103.8 in case the lease shall be awarded.

103.9 Sec. 70. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.1925, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

103.10 Subd. 2. **Application.** (a) An application for a negotiated lease shall be submitted to  
103.11 the commissioner of natural resources. The commissioner shall prescribe the information  
103.12 to be included in the application. The applicant shall submit with the application a certified  
103.13 check, cashier's check, or bank money order, payable to the Department of Natural  
103.14 Resources in the sum of ~~\$100~~ \$2,000, as a fee for filing the application. The application  
103.15 fee shall not be refunded under any circumstances. The application fee shall be deposited  
103.16 in the minerals management account in the natural resources fund.

103.17 (b) The right is reserved to the state to reject any or all applications for a negotiated  
103.18 lease.

103.19 Sec. 71. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.25, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

103.20 Subd. 2. **Lease requirements.** (a) All leases for nonferrous metallic minerals or  
103.21 petroleum must be approved by the Executive Council, and any other mineral lease issued  
103.22 pursuant to this section that covers 160 or more acres must be approved by the Executive  
103.23 Council. The rents, royalties, terms, conditions, and covenants of all such leases shall be  
103.24 fixed by the commissioner according to rules adopted by the commissioner, but no lease  
103.25 shall be for a longer term than 50 years, and all rents, royalties, terms, conditions, and  
103.26 covenants shall be fully set forth in each lease issued. The rents and royalties shall be  
103.27 credited to the funds as provided in section 93.22.

103.28 (b) The applicant for a lease must submit with the application a certified check,  
103.29 cashier's check, or bank money order payable to the Department of Natural Resources  
103.30 in the sum of:

103.31 (1) \$1,000 as a fee for filing an application for a lease being offered at public sale;

103.32 (2) \$1,000 as a fee for filing an application for a lease being offered under the  
103.33 preference rights lease availability list; and

104.1 (3) \$2,000 as a fee for filing an application for a lease through negotiation. The  
104.2 application fee for a negotiated lease shall not be refunded under any circumstances.  
104.3 The application fee must be deposited in the minerals management account in the natural  
104.4 resources fund.

104.5 Sec. 72. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.285, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

104.6 Subd. 3. **Stockpile mining unit.** (a) Any stockpiled iron ore, wherever situated,  
104.7 may, in the discretion of the commissioner of natural resources, be designated as a  
104.8 stockpile mining unit for disposal separately from ore in the ground, such designation to  
104.9 be made according to section 93.15, so far as applicable.

104.10 (b) The commissioner may lease the mining unit at public or private sale for an  
104.11 amount and under terms and conditions prescribed by the commissioner.

104.12 (c) The applicant must submit with the application a certified check, cashier's check,  
104.13 or bank money order payable to the Department of Natural Resources in the sum of \$1,000  
104.14 as a fee for filing an application for a lease being offered at public sale and in the sum of  
104.15 \$2,000 as a fee for filing an application for a lease through negotiation. The application  
104.16 fee for a negotiated lease shall not be refunded under any circumstances. The application  
104.17 fee must be deposited in the minerals management account in the natural resources fund.

104.18 (d) The lease term may not exceed 25 years. The amount payable for stockpiled iron  
104.19 ore material shall be at least equivalent to the minimum royalty that would be payable  
104.20 under section 93.20.

104.21 Sec. 73. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.46, is amended by adding a subdivision  
104.22 to read:

104.23 Subd. 10. **Scram mining.** "Scram mining" means a mining operation that produces  
104.24 natural iron ore, natural iron ore concentrates, or taconite ore as described in section 93.20,  
104.25 subdivisions 12 to 18, from previously developed stockpiles, tailing basins, underground  
104.26 mine workings, or open pits and that involves no more than 80 acres of land not previously  
104.27 affected by mining, or more than 80 acres of land not previously affected by mining  
104.28 if the operator can demonstrate that impacts would be substantially the same as other  
104.29 scram operations. "Land not previously affected by mining" means land upon which mine  
104.30 wastes have not been deposited and land from which materials have not been removed in  
104.31 connection with the production or extraction of metallic minerals.

104.32 Sec. 74. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.481, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

105.1 Subd. 3. **Term of permit; amendment.** (a) A permit issued by the commissioner  
105.2 pursuant to this section shall be granted for the term determined necessary by the  
105.3 commissioner for the completion of the proposed mining operation, including reclamation  
105.4 or restoration. The term of a scam mining permit for iron ore or taconite shall be  
105.5 determined in the same manner as a permit to mine for an iron ore or taconite mining  
105.6 operation.

105.7 (b) A permit may be amended upon written application to the commissioner. A  
105.8 permit amendment application fee must be submitted with the written application.  
105.9 The permit amendment application fee is ~~ten~~ 20 percent of the amount provided for in  
105.10 subdivision 1, clause (3), for an application for the applicable permit to mine. If the  
105.11 commissioner determines that the proposed amendment constitutes a substantial change to  
105.12 the permit, the person applying for the amendment shall publish notice in the same manner  
105.13 as for a new permit, and a hearing shall be held if written objections are received in the  
105.14 same manner as for a new permit. An amendment may be granted by the commissioner if  
105.15 the commissioner determines that lawful requirements have been met.

105.16 Sec. 75. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.481, is amended by adding a subdivision  
105.17 to read:

105.18 Subd. 4a. **Release.** A permit may not be released fully or partially without the  
105.19 written approval of the commissioner. A permit release application fee must be submitted  
105.20 with the written request for the release. The permit release application fee is 20 percent of  
105.21 the amount provided for in subdivision 1, clause (3), for an application for the applicable  
105.22 permit to mine.

105.23 Sec. 76. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.481, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

105.24 Subd. 5. **Assignment.** A permit may not be assigned or otherwise transferred  
105.25 without the written approval of the commissioner. A permit assignment application fee  
105.26 must be submitted with the written application. The permit assignment application fee is  
105.27 ~~ten~~ 20 percent of the amount provided for in subdivision 1, clause (3), for an application  
105.28 for the applicable permit to mine.

105.29 Sec. 77. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.481, is amended by adding a subdivision  
105.30 to read:

105.31 Subd. 5a. **Preapplication.** Before the preparation of an application for a permit to  
105.32 mine, persons intending to submit an application must meet with the commissioner for a  
105.33 preapplication conference and site visit. Prospective applicants must also meet with the

106.1 commissioner to outline analyses and tests to be conducted if the results of the analyses  
106.2 and tests will be used for evaluation of the application. A permit preapplication fee must  
106.3 be submitted before the preapplication conferences, meetings, and site visit with the  
106.4 commissioner. The permit preapplication fee is 20 percent of the amount provided in  
106.5 subdivision 1, clause (3), for an application for the applicable permit to mine.

106.6 Sec. 78. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 93.482, is amended to read:

106.7 **93.482 RECLAMATION FEES.**

106.8 Subdivision 1. **Annual permit to mine fee.** (a) The commissioner shall charge  
106.9 every person holding a permit to mine an annual permit fee. The fee is payable to the  
106.10 commissioner by June 30 of each year, beginning in 2009.

106.11 (b) The annual permit to mine fee for a an iron ore or taconite mining operation is  
106.12 ~~\$60,000 if the operation had production within the calendar year immediately preceding~~  
106.13 ~~the year in which payment is due and \$30,000 if there was no production within the~~  
106.14 ~~immediately preceding calendar year~~ \$84,000.

106.15 (c) The annual permit to mine fee for a nonferrous metallic minerals mining  
106.16 operation is ~~\$75,000 if the operation had production within the calendar year immediately~~  
106.17 ~~preceding the year in which payment is due and \$37,500 if there was no production within~~  
106.18 ~~the immediately preceding calendar year.~~

106.19 (d) The annual permit to mine fee for a ~~scram~~ mining operation is ~~\$5,000 if the~~  
106.20 ~~operation had production within the calendar year immediately preceding the year in~~  
106.21 ~~which payment is due and \$2,500 if there was no production within the immediately~~  
106.22 ~~preceding calendar year~~ \$10,250.

106.23 (e) The annual permit to mine fee for a ~~peat~~ mining operation is ~~\$1,000 if the~~  
106.24 ~~operation had production within the calendar year immediately preceding the year in~~  
106.25 ~~which payment is due and \$500 if there was no production within the immediately~~  
106.26 ~~preceding calendar year~~ \$1,350.

106.27 Subd. 2. ~~Supplemental application fee for taconite and nonferrous metallic~~  
106.28 ~~minerals mining operation.~~ (a) In addition to the application fee specified in section  
106.29 93.481, the commissioner shall assess a person submitting an application for a permit  
106.30 to mine for a taconite ~~or~~ a nonferrous metallic minerals mining, or peat operation the  
106.31 reasonable costs for reviewing the application and preparing the permit to mine. For  
106.32 nonferrous metallic minerals mining, the commissioner shall assess reasonable costs for  
106.33 monitoring construction of the mining facilities. The commissioner may assess a person  
106.34 submitting a request for amendment, assignment, or full or partial release of a permit to  
106.35 mine the reasonable costs for reviewing the request and issuing an approval or denial. The

107.1 commissioner may assess a person submitting a request for a preapplication conference,  
 107.2 meetings, and a site visit the reasonable costs for reviewing the request and meeting  
 107.3 with the prospective applicant.

107.4 (b) The commissioner must give the applicant an estimate of the supplemental  
 107.5 application fee under this subdivision. The estimate must include a brief description  
 107.6 of the tasks to be performed and the estimated cost of each task. The application fee  
 107.7 under section 93.481 must be subtracted from the estimate of costs to determine the  
 107.8 supplemental application fee.

107.9 (c) The applicant and the commissioner shall enter into a written agreement to cover  
 107.10 the estimated costs to be incurred by the commissioner.

107.11 (d) The commissioner shall not issue the permit to mine until the applicant has paid  
 107.12 all fees in full. The commissioner shall not issue an approved assignment, amendment,  
 107.13 or release until the applicant has paid all fees in full. Upon completion of construction  
 107.14 of a nonferrous metallic minerals facility, the commissioner shall refund the unobligated  
 107.15 balance of the monitoring fee revenue.

107.16 Sec. 79. **[93.60] MINERAL DATA AND INSPECTIONS ADMINISTRATION**  
 107.17 **ACCOUNT.**

107.18 Subdivision 1. **Account established; sources.** The mineral data and inspections  
 107.19 administration account is established in the special revenue fund in the state treasury.  
 107.20 Interest on the account accrues to the account. Fees charged under sections 93.61 and  
 107.21 103I.601, subdivision 4a, shall be credited to the account.

107.22 Subd. 2. **Appropriation; purposes of account.** Money in the account is  
 107.23 appropriated annually to the commissioner of natural resources to cover the costs of:

- 107.24 (1) operating and maintaining the drill core library in Hibbing, Minnesota; and  
 107.25 (2) conducting inspections of exploratory borings.

107.26 Sec. 80. **[93.61] DRILL CORE LIBRARY ACCESS FEE.**

107.27 Notwithstanding section 13.03, subdivision 3, a person must pay a fee to access  
 107.28 exploration data, exploration drill core data, mineral evaluation data, and mining data  
 107.29 stored in the drill core library located in Hibbing, Minnesota, and managed by the  
 107.30 commissioner of natural resources. The fee is \$250 per day. Alternatively, a person may  
 107.31 obtain an annual pass for a fee of \$5,000. The fee must be credited to the mineral data and  
 107.32 inspections administration account established in section 93.60 and is appropriated to the  
 107.33 commissioner of natural resources for the reasonable costs of operating and maintaining  
 107.34 the drill core library.

108.1 Sec. 81. **[93.70] STATE-OWNED CONSTRUCTION AGGREGATES**  
108.2 **RECLAMATION ACCOUNT.**

108.3 **Subdivision 1. Account established; sources.** The state-owned construction  
108.4 aggregates reclamation account is created in the special revenue fund in the state treasury.  
108.5 Interest on the account accrues to the account. Fees charged under section 93.71 shall be  
108.6 credited to the account.

108.7 **Subd. 2. Appropriation; purposes of account.** Money in the account is  
108.8 appropriated annually to the commissioner of natural resources to cover the costs of:

108.9 (1) reclaiming state lands administered by the commissioner following cessation of  
108.10 construction aggregates mining operations on the lands; and

108.11 (2) issuing and administering contracts needed for the performance of that  
108.12 reclamation work.

108.13 Sec. 82. **[93.71] STATE-OWNED CONSTRUCTION AGGREGATES**  
108.14 **RECLAMATION FEE.**

108.15 **Subdivision 1. Annual reclamation fee; purpose.** Except as provided in  
108.16 subdivision 4, the commissioner of natural resources shall charge a person who holds  
108.17 a lease or permit to mine construction aggregates on state land administered by the  
108.18 commissioner an annual reclamation fee. The fee is payable to the commissioner by  
108.19 January 15 of each year. The purpose of the fee is to pay for reclamation or restoration of  
108.20 state lands following temporary or permanent cessation of construction aggregates mining  
108.21 operations. Reclamation and restoration include: land sloping and contouring, spreading  
108.22 soil from stockpiles, planting vegetation, removing safety hazards, or other measures  
108.23 needed to return the land to productive and safe nonmining use.

108.24 **Subd. 2. Determination of fee.** The amount of the annual reclamation fee is  
108.25 determined as follows:

108.26 (1) for aggregates measured in cubic yards upon removal, 15 cents for each cubic yard  
108.27 removed under the lease or permit within the immediately preceding calendar year; and

108.28 (2) for aggregates measured in short tons upon removal, 11 cents per short ton  
108.29 removed under the lease or permit within the immediately preceding calendar year.

108.30 **Subd. 3. Deposit of fees.** All fees collected under this section must be deposited in  
108.31 the state-owned construction aggregates reclamation account established in section 93.70  
108.32 and credited for use to the same land class from which payment of the fee was derived.

108.33 **Subd. 4. Exception.** A person who holds a lease to mine construction aggregates on  
108.34 state land is not subject to the reclamation fee under subdivision 1 if the lease provides  
108.35 for continuous mining for five or more years at an average rate of 30,000 or more cubic

109.1 yards per year over the term of the lease and requires the lessee to perform and pay for  
 109.2 the reclamation.

109.3 Sec. 83. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 97A.401, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

109.4 Subd. 3. **Taking, possessing, and transporting wild animals for certain**  
 109.5 **purposes.** (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), special permits may be issued without  
 109.6 a fee to take, possess, and transport wild animals as pets and for scientific, educational,  
 109.7 rehabilitative, wildlife disease prevention and control, and exhibition purposes. The  
 109.8 commissioner shall prescribe the conditions for taking, possessing, transporting, and  
 109.9 disposing of the wild animals.

109.10 (b) A special permit may not be issued to take or possess wild or native deer for  
 109.11 exhibition, propagation, or as pets.

109.12 (c) Notwithstanding rules adopted under this section relating to wildlife rehabilitation  
 109.13 permits, nonresident professional wildlife rehabilitators with a federal rehabilitation  
 109.14 permit may possess and transport wildlife affected by oil spills.

109.15 Sec. 84. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103G.265, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

109.16 Subd. 2. **Diversion greater than 2,000,000 gallons per day.** A water use permit  
 109.17 or a plan that requires a permit or the commissioner's approval, involving a diversion of  
 109.18 waters of the state of more than 2,000,000 gallons per day average in a 30-day period,  
 109.19 to a place outside of this state or from the basin of origin within this state may not be  
 109.20 granted or approved until:

109.21 ~~(1) a determination is made by the commissioner that the water remaining in the~~  
 109.22 ~~basin of origin will be adequate to meet the basin's water resources needs during the~~  
 109.23 ~~specified life of the diversion project~~ diversion is sustainable and meets the applicable  
 109.24 standards under section 103G.287, subdivision 5; and

109.25 ~~(2) approval of the diversion is given by the legislature.~~

109.26 Sec. 85. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103G.265, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

109.27 Subd. 3. **Consumptive use of more than 2,000,000 gallons per day.** ~~(a) Except~~  
 109.28 ~~as provided in paragraph (b),~~ A water use permit or a plan that requires a permit or the  
 109.29 commissioner's approval, involving a consumptive use of more than 2,000,000 gallons per  
 109.30 day average in a 30-day period, may not be granted or approved until:

109.31 ~~(1) a determination is made by the commissioner that the water remaining in the~~  
 109.32 ~~basin of origin will be adequate to meet the basin's water resources needs during the~~

110.1 ~~specified life of the~~ consumptive use is sustainable and meets the applicable standards  
 110.2 under section 103G.287, subdivision 5; and

110.3 ~~(2) approval of the consumptive use is given by the legislature.~~

110.4 ~~(b) Legislative approval under paragraph (a), clause (2), is not required for a~~  
 110.5 ~~consumptive use in excess of 2,000,000 gallons per day average in a 30-day period for:~~

110.6 ~~(1) a domestic water supply, excluding industrial and commercial uses of a~~  
 110.7 ~~municipal water supply;~~

110.8 ~~(2) agricultural irrigation and processing of agricultural products;~~

110.9 ~~(3) construction and mine land dewatering;~~

110.10 ~~(4) pollution abatement or remediation; and~~

110.11 ~~(5) fish and wildlife enhancement projects using surface water sources.~~

110.12 Sec. 86. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103G.271, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

110.13 Subd. 6. **Water use permit processing fee.** (a) Except as described in paragraphs  
 110.14 (b) to (f), a water use permit processing fee must be prescribed by the commissioner in  
 110.15 accordance with the schedule of fees in this subdivision for each water use permit in force  
 110.16 at any time during the year. Fees collected under this paragraph are credited to the water  
 110.17 management account in the natural resources fund. The schedule is as follows, with the  
 110.18 stated fee in each clause applied to the total amount appropriated:

110.19 ~~(1) \$140 for amounts not exceeding 50,000,000 gallons per year;~~

110.20 ~~(2) \$3.50 for residential use, \$15 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than~~  
 110.21 ~~50,000,000 gallons but less than 100,000,000 gallons per year;~~

110.22 ~~(3) \$4 (2) for use for metallic mine dewatering, mineral processing, and wood~~  
 110.23 ~~products processing, \$8 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 100,000,000~~  
 110.24 ~~gallons but less than 150,000,000 gallons per year;~~

110.25 ~~(4) \$4.50 (3) for use for agricultural irrigation, including sod farms, orchards, and~~  
 110.26 ~~nurseries, and for livestock watering, \$22 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than~~  
 110.27 ~~150,000,000 gallons but less than 200,000,000 gallons per year;~~

110.28 ~~(5) \$5 (4) for nonagricultural irrigation, \$70 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts~~  
 110.29 ~~greater than 200,000,000 gallons but less than 250,000,000 gallons per year; and~~

110.30 ~~(6) \$5.50 (5) for all other uses, \$30 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than~~  
 110.31 ~~250,000,000 gallons but less than 300,000,000 gallons per year;~~

110.32 ~~(7) \$6 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 300,000,000 gallons but less~~  
 110.33 ~~than 350,000,000 gallons per year;~~

110.34 ~~(8) \$6.50 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 350,000,000 gallons but~~  
 110.35 ~~less than 400,000,000 gallons per year;~~

111.1 (9) ~~\$7 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 400,000,000 gallons but less~~  
111.2 ~~than 450,000,000 gallons per year;~~

111.3 (10) ~~\$7.50 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 450,000,000 gallons but~~  
111.4 ~~less than 500,000,000 gallons per year; and~~

111.5 (11) ~~\$8 per 1,000,000 gallons for amounts greater than 500,000,000 gallons per year.~~

111.6 (b) For once-through cooling systems, a water use processing fee must be prescribed  
111.7 by the commissioner in accordance with the following schedule of fees for each water use  
111.8 permit in force at any time during the year:

111.9 (1) for nonprofit corporations and school districts, \$200 per 1,000,000 gallons; and

111.10 (2) for all other users, \$420 per 1,000,000 gallons.

111.11 (c) The fee is payable based on the amount of water appropriated during the year  
111.12 and, except as provided in paragraph (f), the minimum fee is ~~\$100~~ \$140.

111.13 (d) For water use processing fees other than once-through cooling systems:

111.14 (1) the fee for a city of the first class may not exceed ~~\$250,000~~ \$275,000 per year;

111.15 (2) the fee for other entities for any permitted use may not exceed:

111.16 (i) ~~\$60,000~~ \$66,000 per year for an entity holding three or fewer permits;

111.17 (ii) ~~\$90,000~~ \$99,000 per year for an entity holding four or five permits; or

111.18 (iii) ~~\$300,000~~ \$330,000 per year for an entity holding more than five permits;

111.19 (3) the fee for ~~agricultural~~ wild rice irrigation may not exceed \$750 per year;

111.20 (4) the fee for a municipality that furnishes electric service and cogenerates steam  
111.21 for home heating may not exceed \$10,000 for its permit for water use related to the  
111.22 cogeneration of electricity and steam; and

111.23 (5) no fee is required for a project involving the appropriation of surface water to  
111.24 prevent flood damage or to remove flood waters during a period of flooding, as determined  
111.25 by the commissioner.

111.26 (e) Failure to pay the fee is sufficient cause for revoking a permit. A penalty of two  
111.27 percent per month calculated from the original due date must be imposed on the unpaid  
111.28 balance of fees remaining 30 days after the sending of a second notice of fees due. A fee  
111.29 may not be imposed on an agency, as defined in section 16B.01, subdivision 2, or federal  
111.30 governmental agency holding a water appropriation permit.

111.31 (f) The minimum water use processing fee for a permit issued for irrigation of  
111.32 agricultural land is \$20 for years in which:

111.33 (1) there is no appropriation of water under the permit; or

111.34 (2) the permit is suspended for more than seven consecutive days between May 1  
111.35 and October 1.

112.1 (g) A surcharge of ~~\$30~~ \$75 per million gallons in addition to the fee prescribed  
112.2 in paragraph (a) shall be applied to the volume of water used in each of the months of  
112.3 May, June, July, and August, and September that exceeds the volume of water used in  
112.4 January for municipal water use, ~~irrigation of golf courses, and landscape irrigation~~. The  
112.5 surcharge for municipalities with more than one permit shall be determined based on the  
112.6 total appropriations from all permits that supply a common distribution system.

112.7 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2014.

112.8 Sec. 87. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103G.282, is amended to read:

112.9 **103G.282 MONITORING TO EVALUATE IMPACTS FROM**  
112.10 **APPROPRIATIONS.**

112.11 Subdivision 1. **Monitoring equipment.** The commissioner may ~~require the~~  
112.12 ~~installation and maintenance of~~ install and maintain monitoring equipment to evaluate  
112.13 water resource impacts from permitted appropriations and proposed projects that require  
112.14 a permit. ~~Monitoring for water resources that supply more than one appropriator must~~  
112.15 ~~be designed to minimize costs to individual appropriators. The cost of drilling additional~~  
112.16 ~~monitoring wells must be shared proportionally by all permit holders that are directly~~  
112.17 ~~affecting a particular water resources feature.~~ The commissioner may require a permit  
112.18 holder or a proposer of a project to install and maintain monitoring equipment to evaluate  
112.19 water resource impacts when the commissioner determines that the permitted or proposed  
112.20 water use is or has the potential to be the primary source of water resource impacts in an  
112.21 area.

112.22 Subd. 2. **Measuring devices required.** Monitoring installations ~~required~~  
112.23 established under subdivision 1 must be equipped with automated measuring devices  
112.24 to measure water levels, flows, or conditions. The commissioner may require a permit  
112.25 holder or a proposer of a project to perform water measurements. The commissioner  
112.26 may determine the frequency of measurements and other measuring methods based on  
112.27 the quantity of water appropriated or used, the source of water, potential connections to  
112.28 other water resources, the method of appropriating or using water, seasonal and long-term  
112.29 changes in water levels, and any other facts supplied to the commissioner.

112.30 Subd. 3. **Reports and costs.** (a) Records of water measurements under subdivision  
112.31 2 must be kept for each installation. The measurements must be reported annually to the  
112.32 commissioner on or before February 15 of the following year in a format or on forms  
112.33 prescribed by the commissioner.

113.1 (b) ~~The owner or person~~ permit holder or project proposer in charge of an installation  
113.2 for appropriating or using waters of the state or a proposal that requires a permit is  
113.3 responsible for all costs related to establishing and maintaining monitoring installations  
113.4 and to measuring and reporting data. ~~Monitoring costs for water resources that supply~~  
113.5 ~~more than one appropriator may be distributed among all users within a monitoring area~~  
113.6 ~~determined by the commissioner and assessed based on volumes of water appropriated~~  
113.7 ~~and proximity to resources of concern.~~ The commissioner may require a permit holder or  
113.8 project proposer utilizing monitoring equipment installed by the commissioner to meet  
113.9 water measurement requirements to cover the costs related to measuring and reporting data.

113.10 Sec. 88. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103G.287, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

113.11 Subdivision 1. **Applications for groundwater appropriations; preliminary well**  
113.12 **construction approval.** (a) Groundwater use permit applications are not complete until  
113.13 the applicant has supplied:

113.14 (1) a water well record as required by section 103I.205, subdivision 9, information  
113.15 on the subsurface geologic formations penetrated by the well and the formation or aquifer  
113.16 that will serve as the water source, and geologic information from test holes drilled to  
113.17 locate the site of the production well;

113.18 (2) the maximum daily, seasonal, and annual pumpage rates and volumes being  
113.19 requested;

113.20 (3) information on groundwater quality in terms of the measures of quality  
113.21 commonly specified for the proposed water use and details on water treatment necessary  
113.22 for the proposed use;

113.23 (4) an inventory of existing wells within 1-1/2 miles of the proposed production well  
113.24 or within the area of influence, as determined by the commissioner. The inventory must  
113.25 include information on well locations, depths, geologic formations, depth of the pump or  
113.26 intake, pumping and nonpumping water levels, and details of well construction; ~~and~~

113.27 (5) the results of an aquifer test completed according to specifications approved by  
113.28 the commissioner. The test must be conducted at the maximum pumping rate requested  
113.29 in the application and for a length of time adequate to assess or predict impacts to other  
113.30 wells and surface water and groundwater resources. The permit applicant is responsible  
113.31 for all costs related to the aquifer test, including the construction of groundwater and  
113.32 surface water monitoring installations, and water level readings before, during, and after  
113.33 the aquifer test; and

113.34 (6) the results of any assessments conducted by the commissioner under paragraph (c).

114.1 (b) The commissioner may waive an application requirement in this subdivision  
114.2 if the information provided with the application is adequate to determine whether the  
114.3 proposed appropriation and use of water is sustainable and will protect ecosystems, water  
114.4 quality, and the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

114.5 (c) The commissioner shall provide an assessment of a proposed well needing a  
114.6 groundwater appropriation permit. The commissioner shall evaluate the information  
114.7 submitted as required under section 103I.205, subdivision 1, paragraph (f), and determine  
114.8 whether the anticipated appropriation request is likely to meet the applicable requirements  
114.9 of this chapter. If the appropriation request is likely to meet applicable requirements, the  
114.10 commissioner shall provide the person submitting the information with a letter providing  
114.11 preliminary approval to construct the well.

114.12 Sec. 89. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103G.287, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

114.13 Subd. 5. ~~Interference with other wells~~ Sustainability standard. The  
114.14 commissioner may issue water use permits for appropriation from groundwater only if  
114.15 the commissioner determines that the groundwater use is sustainable to supply the needs  
114.16 of future generations and the proposed use will not harm ecosystems, degrade water, or  
114.17 reduce water levels beyond the reach of public water supply and private domestic wells  
114.18 constructed according to Minnesota Rules, chapter 4725.

114.19 Sec. 90. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103G.615, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

114.20 Subd. 2. **Fees.** (a) ~~The commissioner shall establish a fee schedule for permits to~~  
114.21 ~~control or harvest aquatic plants other than wild rice. The fees must be set by rule, and~~  
114.22 ~~section 16A.1283 does not apply, but the rule must not take effect until 45 legislative~~  
114.23 ~~days after it has been reported to the legislature. The fees shall not exceed \$2,500 per~~  
114.24 ~~permit and shall be based upon the cost of receiving, processing, analyzing, and issuing~~  
114.25 ~~the permit, and additional costs incurred after the application to inspect and monitor~~  
114.26 ~~the activities authorized by the permit, and enforce aquatic plant management rules and~~  
114.27 ~~permit requirements. The permit fee, in the form of a check or money order payable to the~~  
114.28 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, must accompany each permit application.  
114.29 When application is made to control two or more shoreline nuisance conditions, only the  
114.30 larger fee applies. Permit fees are:

114.31 (b) A fee for a permit for the (1) to control of rooted aquatic vegetation plants  
114.32 by pesticide or mechanical means, \$90 for each contiguous parcel of shoreline owned  
114.33 by an owner may be charged, including a three-year automatic aquatic plant control  
114.34 device permit. This fee may not be charged for permits issued in connection with purple

- 115.1 loosestrife control or lakewide ~~Eurasian water milfoil control programs.~~ or baywide  
 115.2 invasive aquatic plant management permits;  
 115.3 (2) to control filamentous algae, snails that carry swimmer's itch, or leeches, singly  
 115.4 or in combination, \$40 for each contiguous parcel or shoreline with a distinct owner;  
 115.5 (3) for offshore control of submersed aquatic plants by pesticide or mechanical  
 115.6 means, \$90;  
 115.7 (4) to control plankton algae or free-floating aquatic plants by lakewide or baywide  
 115.8 application of approved pesticides, \$90;  
 115.9 (5) for a commercial mechanical control permit, \$100 annually, and;  
 115.10 (6) for a commercial harvest permit, \$100 plus \$300 for each public water listed on  
 115.11 the application that requires an inspection. An inspection is required for waters with no  
 115.12 previous permit history and may be required at other times to monitor the status of the  
 115.13 aquatic plant population.  
 115.14 (b) There is no permit fee for:  
 115.15 (1) permits to transplant aquatic plants in public waters;  
 115.16 (2) permits to move or remove a floating bog in public waters if the floating bog is  
 115.17 lodged against the permittee's property and has not taken root;  
 115.18 (3) invasive aquatic plant management permits; or  
 115.19 ~~(e) A fee may not be charged to~~ (4) permits applied for by the state or a federal  
 115.20 governmental agency applying for a permit.  
 115.21 ~~(d) (c)~~ (c) A fee for a permit for the control of rooted aquatic vegetation in a public  
 115.22 water basin that is 20 acres or less in size shall be is one-half of the fee established under  
 115.23 paragraph (a), clause (1).  
 115.24 (d) If the fee does not accompany the application, the applicant shall be notified and  
 115.25 no action will be taken on the application until the fee is received.  
 115.26 (e) A fee is refundable only when the application is withdrawn prior to field  
 115.27 inspection or issuance or denial of the permit or when the commissioner determines that  
 115.28 the activity does not require a permit.  
 115.29 ~~(e) (f)~~ (f) The money received for the permits under this subdivision shall be deposited  
 115.30 in the treasury and credited to the water recreation account in the natural resources fund.  
 115.31 ~~(f) (g)~~ (g) The fee for processing a notification to request authorization for work under  
 115.32 a general permit is \$30, until the commissioner establishes a fee by rule as provided  
 115.33 under this subdivision.

115.34 Sec. 91. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103I.205, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

116.1 Subdivision 1. **Notification required.** (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (d)  
116.2 and (e), a person may not construct a well until a notification of the proposed well on a  
116.3 form prescribed by the commissioner is filed with the commissioner with the filing fee in  
116.4 section 103I.208, and, when applicable, the person has met the requirements of paragraph  
116.5 (f). If after filing the well notification an attempt to construct a well is unsuccessful, a  
116.6 new notification is not required unless the information relating to the successful well  
116.7 has substantially changed.

116.8 (b) The property owner, the property owner's agent, or the well contractor where a  
116.9 well is to be located must file the well notification with the commissioner.

116.10 (c) The well notification under this subdivision preempts local permits and  
116.11 notifications, and counties or home rule charter or statutory cities may not require a  
116.12 permit or notification for wells unless the commissioner has delegated the permitting or  
116.13 notification authority under section 103I.111.

116.14 (d) A person who is an individual that constructs a drive point well on property  
116.15 owned or leased by the individual for farming or agricultural purposes or as the individual's  
116.16 place of abode must notify the commissioner of the installation and location of the well.  
116.17 The person must complete the notification form prescribed by the commissioner and mail  
116.18 it to the commissioner by ten days after the well is completed. A fee may not be charged  
116.19 for the notification. A person who sells drive point wells at retail must provide buyers  
116.20 with notification forms and informational materials including requirements regarding  
116.21 wells, their location, construction, and disclosure. The commissioner must provide the  
116.22 notification forms and informational materials to the sellers.

116.23 (e) A person may not construct a monitoring well until a permit is issued by the  
116.24 commissioner for the construction. If after obtaining a permit an attempt to construct a  
116.25 well is unsuccessful, a new permit is not required as long as the initial permit is modified  
116.26 to indicate the location of the successful well.

116.27 (f) When the operation of a well will require an appropriation permit from the  
116.28 commissioner of natural resources, a person may not begin construction of the well until  
116.29 the person submits the following information to the commissioner of natural resources:

116.30 (1) the location of the well;

116.31 (2) the formation or aquifer that will serve as the water source;

116.32 (3) the maximum daily, seasonal, and annual pumpage rates and volumes that will  
116.33 be requested in the appropriation permit; and

116.34 (4) other information requested by the commissioner of natural resources that  
116.35 is necessary to conduct the preliminary assessment required under section 103G.287,  
116.36 subdivision 1, paragraph (c).

117.1 The person may begin construction after receiving preliminary approval from the  
117.2 commissioner of natural resources.

117.3 Sec. 92. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 103I.601, is amended by adding a  
117.4 subdivision to read:

117.5 Subd. 4a. **Exploratory boring inspection fee.** For each proposed exploratory  
117.6 boring identified on the map submitted under subdivision 4, an explorer must submit a fee  
117.7 of \$2,000 to the commissioner of natural resources. The fee must be credited to the mineral  
117.8 data and inspections administration account established in section 93.60 and is appropriated  
117.9 to the commissioner of natural resources for the reasonable costs incurred for inspections  
117.10 of exploratory borings by the commissioner of natural resources or the commissioner's  
117.11 representative. The fee is nonrefundable, even if the exploratory boring is not conducted.

117.12 Sec. 93. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 114D.50, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

117.13 **Subd. 4. Expenditures; accountability.** (a) A project receiving funding from the  
117.14 clean water fund must meet or exceed the constitutional requirements to protect, enhance,  
117.15 and restore water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams and to protect groundwater and  
117.16 drinking water from degradation. Priority may be given to projects that meet more than  
117.17 one of these requirements. A project receiving funding from the clean water fund shall  
117.18 include measurable outcomes, as defined in section 3.303, subdivision 10, and a plan for  
117.19 measuring and evaluating the results. A project must be consistent with current science  
117.20 and incorporate state-of-the-art technology.

117.21 (b) Money from the clean water fund shall be expended to balance the benefits  
117.22 across all regions and residents of the state.

117.23 (c) A state agency or other recipient of a direct appropriation from the clean  
117.24 water fund must compile and submit all information for proposed and funded projects  
117.25 or programs, including the proposed measurable outcomes and all other items required  
117.26 under section 3.303, subdivision 10, to the Legislative Coordinating Commission as soon  
117.27 as practicable or by January 15 of the applicable fiscal year, whichever comes first. The  
117.28 Legislative Coordinating Commission must post submitted information on the Web site  
117.29 required under section 3.303, subdivision 10, as soon as it becomes available. Information  
117.30 classified as not public under section 13D.05, subdivision 3, paragraph (d), is not required  
117.31 to be placed on the Web site.

117.32 (d) Grants funded by the clean water fund must be implemented according to section  
117.33 16B.98 and must account for all expenditures. Proposals must specify a process for any

118.1 regranting envisioned. Priority for grant proposals must be given to proposals involving  
118.2 grants that will be competitively awarded.

118.3 (e) Money from the clean water fund may only be spent on projects that benefit  
118.4 Minnesota waters.

118.5 (f) When practicable, a direct recipient of an appropriation from the clean water fund  
118.6 shall prominently display on the recipient's Web site home page the legacy logo required  
118.7 under Laws 2009, chapter 172, article 5, section 10, as amended by Laws 2010, chapter  
118.8 361, article 3, section 5, accompanied by the phrase "Click here for more information."  
118.9 When a person clicks on the legacy logo image, the Web site must direct the person to  
118.10 a Web page that includes both the contact information that a person may use to obtain  
118.11 additional information, as well as a link to the Legislative Coordinating Commission Web  
118.12 site required under section 3.303, subdivision 10.

118.13 (g) Future eligibility for money from the clean water fund is contingent upon a state  
118.14 agency or other recipient satisfying all applicable requirements in this section, as well as  
118.15 any additional requirements contained in applicable session law.

118.16 (h) Money from the clean water fund may be used to leverage federal funds through  
118.17 execution of formal project partnership agreements with federal agencies consistent with  
118.18 respective federal agency partnership agreement requirements.

118.19 Sec. 94. **[115.84] WASTEWATER LABORATORY CERTIFICATION.**

118.20 Subdivision 1. Wastewater laboratory certification required. (a) Laboratories  
118.21 performing wastewater or water analytical laboratory work, the results of which are  
118.22 reported to the agency to determine compliance with a national pollutant discharge  
118.23 elimination system (NPDES) permit condition or other regulatory document, must be  
118.24 certified according to this section.

118.25 (b) This section does not apply to:

118.26 (1) laboratories that are private and for-profit;

118.27 (2) laboratories that perform drinking water analyses; or

118.28 (3) laboratories that perform remediation program analyses, such as Superfund or  
118.29 petroleum analytical work.

118.30 (c) Until adoption of rules under subdivision 2, laboratories required to be certified  
118.31 under this section that submit data to the agency must register by submitting registration  
118.32 information required by the agency or be certified or accredited by a recognized authority,  
118.33 such as the commissioner of health under sections 144.97 to 144.99, for the analytical  
118.34 methods required by the agency.

119.1 Subd. 2. **Rules.** The agency may adopt rules to govern certification of laboratories  
119.2 according to this section. Notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the agency may adopt  
119.3 rules establishing fees.

119.4 Subd. 3. **Fees.** (a) Until the agency adopts a rule establishing fees for certification,  
119.5 the agency shall collect fees from laboratories registering with the agency but not  
119.6 accredited by the commissioner of health under sections 144.97 to 144.99, in amounts  
119.7 necessary to cover the reasonable costs of the certification program, including reviewing  
119.8 applications, issuing certifications, and conducting audits and compliance assistance.

119.9 (b) Fees under this section must be based on the number, type, and complexity of  
119.10 analytical methods that laboratories are certified to perform.

119.11 (c) Revenue from fees charged by the agency for certification shall be credited to  
119.12 the environmental fund.

119.13 Subd. 4. **Enforcement.** (a) The commissioner may deny, suspend, or revoke  
119.14 wastewater laboratory certification for, but is not limited to, any of the following reasons:  
119.15 fraud, failure to follow applicable requirements, failure to respond to documented  
119.16 deficiencies or complete corrective actions necessary to address deficiencies, failure to pay  
119.17 certification fees, or other violations of federal or state law.

119.18 (b) This section and the rules adopted under it may be enforced by any means  
119.19 provided in section 115.071.

119.20 Sec. 95. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 115A.1320, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

119.21 Subdivision 1. **Duties of the agency.** (a) The agency shall administer sections  
119.22 115A.1310 to 115A.1330.

119.23 (b) The agency shall establish procedures for:

119.24 (1) receipt and maintenance of the registration statements and certifications filed  
119.25 with the agency under section 115A.1312; and

119.26 (2) making the statements and certifications easily available to manufacturers,  
119.27 retailers, and members of the public.

119.28 (c) The agency shall annually review the value of the following variables that are  
119.29 part of the formula used to calculate a manufacturer's annual registration fee under section  
119.30 115A.1314, subdivision 1:

119.31 (1) the proportion of sales of video display devices sold to households that  
119.32 manufacturers are required to recycle;

119.33 (2) the estimated per-pound price of recycling covered electronic devices sold to  
119.34 households;

119.35 (3) the base registration fee; and

120.1 (4) the multiplier established for the weight of covered electronic devices collected  
120.2 in section 115A.1314, subdivision 1, paragraph (d). If the agency determines that any of  
120.3 these values must be changed in order to improve the efficiency or effectiveness of the  
120.4 activities regulated under sections 115A.1312 to 115A.1330, the agency shall submit  
120.5 recommended changes and the reasons for them to the chairs of the senate and house of  
120.6 representatives committees with jurisdiction over solid waste policy.

120.7 (d) By January 15 each year, beginning in 2008, the agency shall calculate estimated  
120.8 sales of video display devices sold to households by each manufacturer during the preceding  
120.9 program year, based on national sales data, and forward the estimates to the department.

120.10 (e) The agency shall provide a report to the governor and the legislature on the  
120.11 implementation of sections 115A.1310 to 115A.1330. For each program year, the report  
120.12 must discuss the total weight of covered electronic devices recycled and a summary  
120.13 of information in the reports submitted by manufacturers and recyclers under section  
120.14 115A.1316. The report must also discuss the various collection programs used by  
120.15 manufacturers to collect covered electronic devices; information regarding covered  
120.16 electronic devices that are being collected by persons other than registered manufacturers,  
120.17 collectors, and recyclers; and information about covered electronic devices, if any, being  
120.18 disposed of in landfills in this state. The report must include a description of enforcement  
120.19 actions under sections 115A.1310 to 115A.1330. The agency may include in its report  
120.20 other information received by the agency regarding the implementation of sections  
120.21 115A.1312 to 115A.1330. The report must be done in conjunction with the report required  
120.22 under section ~~H5D.10~~ 115A.121.

120.23 (f) The agency shall promote public participation in the activities regulated under  
120.24 sections 115A.1312 to 115A.1330 through public education and outreach efforts.

120.25 (g) The agency shall enforce sections 115A.1310 to 115A.1330 in the manner  
120.26 provided by sections 115.071, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6; and 116.072, except for those  
120.27 provisions enforced by the department, as provided in subdivision 2. The agency may  
120.28 revoke a registration of a collector or recycler found to have violated sections 115A.1310  
120.29 to 115A.1330.

120.30 (h) The agency shall facilitate communication between counties, collection and  
120.31 recycling centers, and manufacturers to ensure that manufacturers are aware of video  
120.32 display devices available for recycling.

120.33 (i) The agency shall develop a form retailers must use to report information to  
120.34 manufacturers under section 115A.1318 and post it on the agency's Web site.

120.35 (j) The agency shall post on its Web site the contact information provided by each  
120.36 manufacturer under section 115A.1318, paragraph (e).

121.1 Sec. 96. [115A.141] CARPET PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM;  
121.2 STEWARDSHIP PLAN.

121.3 Subdivision 1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
121.4 the meanings given:

121.5 (1) "brand" means a name, symbol, word, or mark that identifies carpet, rather than its  
121.6 components, and attributes the carpet to the owner or licensee of the brand as the producer;

121.7 (2) "carpet" means a manufactured article that is used in commercial or single or  
121.8 multifamily residential buildings, is affixed or placed on the floor or building walking  
121.9 surface as a decorative or functional building interior or exterior feature, and is primarily  
121.10 constructed of a top visible surface of synthetic face fibers or yarns or tufts attached to a  
121.11 backing system derived from synthetic or natural materials. Carpet includes, but is not  
121.12 limited to, a commercial or residential broadloom carpet or modular carpet tiles. Carpet  
121.13 includes a pad or underlayment used in conjunction with a carpet. Carpet does not include  
121.14 handmade rugs, area rugs, or mats;

121.15 (3) "discarded carpet" means carpet that is no longer used for its manufactured  
121.16 purpose;

121.17 (4) "producer" means a person that:

121.18 (i) has legal ownership of the brand, brand name, or cobrand of carpet sold in the state;

121.19 (ii) imports carpet branded by a producer that meets subclause (i) when the producer  
121.20 has no physical presence in the United States;

121.21 (iii) if subclauses (i) and (ii) do not apply, makes unbranded carpet that is sold  
121.22 in the state; or

121.23 (iv) sells carpet at wholesale or retail, does not have legal ownership of the brand,  
121.24 and elects to fulfill the responsibilities of the producer for the carpet by certifying that  
121.25 election in writing to the commissioner;

121.26 (5) "recycling" means the process of collecting and preparing recyclable materials and  
121.27 reusing the materials in their original form or using them in manufacturing processes that  
121.28 do not cause the destruction of recyclable materials in a manner that precludes further use;

121.29 (6) "retailer" means any person who offers carpet for sale at retail in the state;

121.30 (7) "reuse" means donating or selling a collected carpet back into the market for  
121.31 its original intended use, when the carpet retains its original purpose and performance  
121.32 characteristics;

121.33 (8) "sale" or "sell" means transfer of title of carpet for consideration, including a  
121.34 remote sale conducted through a sales outlet, catalog, Web site, or similar electronic  
121.35 means. Sale or sell includes a lease through which carpet is provided to a consumer by a  
121.36 producer, wholesaler, or retailer;

122.1 (9) "stewardship assessment" means the amount added to the purchase price of  
122.2 carpet sold in the state that is necessary to cover the cost of collecting, transporting, and  
122.3 processing postconsumer carpets by the producer or stewardship organization pursuant to  
122.4 a product stewardship program;

122.5 (10) "stewardship organization" means an organization appointed by one or more  
122.6 producers to act as an agent on behalf of the producer to design, submit, and administer a  
122.7 product stewardship program under this section; and

122.8 (11) "stewardship plan" means a detailed plan describing the manner in which a  
122.9 product stewardship program under subdivision 2 will be implemented.

122.10 Subd. 2. **Product stewardship program.** For all carpet sold in the state, producers  
122.11 must, individually or through a stewardship organization, implement and finance a  
122.12 statewide product stewardship program that manages carpet by reducing carpet's waste  
122.13 generation, promoting its reuse and recycling, and providing for negotiation and execution  
122.14 of agreements to collect, transport, and process carpet for end-of-life recycling and reuse.

122.15 Subd. 3. **Requirement for sale.** (a) On and after July 1, 2015, no producer,  
122.16 wholesaler, or retailer may sell carpet or offer carpet for sale in the state unless the carpet's  
122.17 producer participates in an approved stewardship plan, either individually or through a  
122.18 stewardship organization.

122.19 (b) Each producer must operate a product stewardship program approved by the  
122.20 agency or enter into an agreement with a stewardship organization to operate, on the  
122.21 producer's behalf, a product stewardship program approved by the agency.

122.22 Subd. 4. **Requirement to submit plan.** (a) On or before March 1, 2015, and before  
122.23 offering carpet for sale in the state, a producer must submit a stewardship plan to the  
122.24 agency and receive approval of the plan or must submit documentation to the agency that  
122.25 demonstrates the producer has entered into an agreement with a stewardship organization  
122.26 to be an active participant in an approved product stewardship program as described in  
122.27 subdivision 2. A stewardship plan must include all elements required under subdivision 5.

122.28 (b) At least every three years, a producer or stewardship organization operating a  
122.29 product stewardship program must update the stewardship plan and submit the updated  
122.30 plan to the agency for review and approval.

122.31 (c) It is the responsibility of the entities responsible for each stewardship plan to  
122.32 notify the agency within 30 days of any significant changes or modifications to the plan or  
122.33 its implementation. Within 30 days of the notification, a written plan revision must be  
122.34 submitted to the agency for review and approval.

122.35 Subd. 5. **Stewardship plan content.** A stewardship plan must contain:

- 123.1 (1) certification that the product stewardship program will accept all discarded carpet  
123.2 regardless of which producer produced the carpet and its individual components;
- 123.3 (2) contact information for the individual and the entity submitting the plan and for  
123.4 all producers participating in the product stewardship program;
- 123.5 (3) a description of the methods by which discarded carpet will be collected in all  
123.6 areas in the state without relying on end-of-life fees, including an explanation of how the  
123.7 collection system will be convenient and adequate to serve the needs of small businesses  
123.8 and residents in the seven-county metropolitan area initially and expanding to areas  
123.9 outside of the seven-county metropolitan area starting July 1, 2016;
- 123.10 (4) a description of how the adequacy of the collection program will be monitored  
123.11 and maintained;
- 123.12 (5) the names and locations of collectors, transporters, and recycling facilities that  
123.13 will manage discarded carpet;
- 123.14 (6) a description of how the discarded carpet and the carpet's components will  
123.15 be safely and securely transported, tracked, and handled from collection through final  
123.16 recycling and processing;
- 123.17 (7) a description of the method that will be used to reuse, deconstruct, or recycle  
123.18 the discarded carpet to ensure that the product's components, to the extent feasible, are  
123.19 transformed or remanufactured into finished products for use;
- 123.20 (8) a description of the promotion and outreach activities that will be used to  
123.21 encourage participation in the collection and recycling programs and how the activities'  
123.22 effectiveness will be evaluated and the program modified, if necessary;
- 123.23 (9) the proposed stewardship assessment. The producer or stewardship organization  
123.24 shall propose a stewardship assessment for any carpet sold in the state. The proposed  
123.25 stewardship assessment shall be reviewed by an independent auditor to ensure that  
123.26 the assessment does not exceed the costs of the product stewardship program and the  
123.27 independent auditor shall recommend an amount for the stewardship assessment;
- 123.28 (10) evidence of adequate insurance and financial assurance that may be required for  
123.29 collection, handling, and disposal operations;
- 123.30 (11) five-year performance goals, including an estimate of the percentage of  
123.31 discarded carpet that will be collected, reused, and recycled during each of the first five  
123.32 years of the stewardship plan. The performance goals must include a specific escalating  
123.33 goal for the amount of discarded carpet that will be collected and recycled and reused  
123.34 during each year of the plan. The performance goals must be based on:
- 123.35 (i) the most recent collection data available for the state;  
123.36 (ii) the amount of carpet disposed of annually;

124.1 (iii) the weight of the carpet that is expected to be available for collection annually;  
124.2 and  
124.3 (iv) actual collection data from other existing stewardship programs.

124.4 The stewardship plan must state the methodology used to determine these goals;

124.5 (12) carpet design changes that will be considered to reduce toxicity, water use, or  
124.6 energy use or to increase recycled content, recyclability, or carpet longevity; and

124.7 (13) a discussion of market development opportunities to expand use of recovered  
124.8 carpet, with consideration of expanding processing activity near areas of collection.

124.9 Subd. 6. **Consultation required.** (a) Each stewardship organization or individual  
124.10 producer submitting a stewardship plan must consult with stakeholders including retailers,  
124.11 installers, collectors, recyclers, local government, customers, and citizens during the  
124.12 development of the plan, solicit stakeholder comments, and attempt to address any  
124.13 stakeholder concerns regarding the plan before submitting the plan to the agency for review.

124.14 (b) The producer or stewardship organization must invite comments from local  
124.15 governments, communities, and citizens to report their satisfaction with services, including  
124.16 education and outreach, provided by the product stewardship program. The information  
124.17 must be submitted to the agency and used by the agency in reviewing proposed updates or  
124.18 changes to the stewardship plan.

124.19 Subd. 7. **Agency review and approval.** (a) Within 90 days after receipt of a proposed  
124.20 stewardship plan, the agency shall determine whether the plan complies with subdivision  
124.21 5. If the agency approves a plan, the agency shall notify the applicant of the plan approval  
124.22 in writing. If the agency rejects a plan, the agency shall notify the applicant in writing of  
124.23 the reasons for rejecting the plan. An applicant whose plan is rejected by the agency must  
124.24 submit a revised plan to the agency within 60 days after receiving notice of rejection.

124.25 (b) Any proposed changes to a stewardship plan must be approved by the agency  
124.26 in writing.

124.27 Subd. 8. **Plan availability.** All draft and approved stewardship plans shall be  
124.28 placed on the agency's Web site for at least 30 days and made available at the agency's  
124.29 headquarters for public review and comment.

124.30 Subd. 9. **Conduct authorized.** A producer or stewardship organization that  
124.31 organizes collection, transport, and processing of carpet under this section is immune  
124.32 from liability for the conduct under state laws relating to antitrust, restraint of trade,  
124.33 unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or commerce only to the extent that  
124.34 the conduct is necessary to plan and implement the producer's or organization's chosen  
124.35 organized collection or recycling system.

125.1 Subd. 10. **Responsibility of producers.** (a) On and after the date of implementation  
125.2 of a product stewardship program under this section, a producer of carpet must add the  
125.3 stewardship assessment, as established according to subdivision 5, clause (9), to the cost  
125.4 of the carpet sold to retailers and distributors in the state by the producer.

125.5 (b) Producers of carpet or the stewardship organization shall provide consumers  
125.6 with educational materials regarding the stewardship assessment and product stewardship  
125.7 program. The materials must include, but are not limited to, information regarding available  
125.8 end-of-life management options for carpet offered through the product stewardship  
125.9 program and information that notifies consumers that a charge for the operation of the  
125.10 product stewardship program is included in the purchase price of carpet sold in the state.

125.11 Subd. 11. **Responsibility of retailers.** (a) On and after July 1, 2015, no carpet may  
125.12 be sold in the state unless the carpet's producer is participating in an approved stewardship  
125.13 plan.

125.14 (b) On and after the implementation date of a product stewardship program under  
125.15 this section, each retailer or distributor, as applicable, must ensure that the full amount of  
125.16 the stewardship assessment added to the cost of carpet by producers under subdivision 10  
125.17 is included in the purchase price of all carpet sold in the state.

125.18 (c) Any retailer may participate, on a voluntary basis, as a designated collection  
125.19 point pursuant to a product stewardship program under this section and in accordance  
125.20 with applicable law.

125.21 (d) No retailer or distributor shall be found to be in violation of this subdivision if,  
125.22 on the date the carpet was ordered from the producer or its agent, the producer was listed  
125.23 as compliant on the agency's Web site according to subdivision 14.

125.24 Subd. 12. **Stewardship reports.** Beginning October 1, 2016, producers of carpet  
125.25 sold in the state must individually or through a stewardship organization submit an  
125.26 annual report to the agency describing the product stewardship program. At a minimum,  
125.27 the report must contain:

125.28 (1) a description of the methods used to collect, transport, and process carpet in all  
125.29 regions of the state;

125.30 (2) the weight of all carpet collected in all regions of the state and a comparison to  
125.31 the performance goals and recycling rates established in the stewardship plan;

125.32 (3) the amount of unwanted carpet collected in the state by method of disposition,  
125.33 including reuse, recycling, and other methods of processing;

125.34 (4) identification of the facilities processing carpet and the number and weight  
125.35 processed at each facility;

125.36 (5) an evaluation of the program's funding mechanism;

126.1 (6) samples of educational materials provided to consumers and an evaluation of the  
126.2 effectiveness of the materials and the methods used to disseminate the materials; and

126.3 (7) a description of progress made toward achieving carpet design changes according  
126.4 to subdivision 5, clause (12).

126.5 Subd. 13. **Sales information.** Sales information provided to the commissioner  
126.6 under this section is classified as private or nonpublic data, as specified in section  
126.7 115A.06, subdivision 13.

126.8 Subd. 14. **Agency responsibilities.** The agency shall provide, on its Web site, a  
126.9 list of all compliant producers and brands participating in stewardship plans that the  
126.10 agency has approved and a list of all producers and brands the agency has identified as  
126.11 noncompliant with this section.

126.12 Subd. 15. **Local government responsibilities.** (a) A city, county, or other public  
126.13 agency may choose to participate voluntarily in a carpet product stewardship program.

126.14 (b) Cities, counties, and other public agencies are encouraged to work with producers  
126.15 and stewardship organizations to assist in meeting product stewardship program recycling  
126.16 obligations, by providing education and outreach or using other strategies.

126.17 (c) A city, county, or other public agency that participates in a product stewardship  
126.18 program must report for the first year of the program to the agency using the reporting  
126.19 form provided by the agency on the cost savings as a result of participation and describe  
126.20 how the savings were used.

126.21 Subd. 16. **Administrative fee.** (a) The stewardship organization or individual  
126.22 producer submitting a stewardship plan shall pay an annual administrative fee to the  
126.23 commissioner. The agency may establish a variable fee based on relevant factors,  
126.24 including, but not limited to, the portion of carpet sold in the state by members of the  
126.25 organization compared to the total amount of carpet sold in the state by all organizations  
126.26 submitting a stewardship plan.

126.27 (b) Prior to July 1, 2015, and before July 1 annually thereafter, the agency shall  
126.28 identify the costs it incurs under this section. The agency shall set the fee at an amount  
126.29 that, when paid by every stewardship organization or individual producer that submits a  
126.30 stewardship plan, is adequate to reimburse the agency's full costs of administering this  
126.31 section. The total amount of annual fees collected under this subdivision must not exceed  
126.32 the amount necessary to reimburse costs incurred by the agency to administer this section.

126.33 (c) A stewardship organization or individual producer subject to this subdivision  
126.34 must pay the agency's administrative fee under paragraph (a) on or before July 1, 2015 and  
126.35 annually thereafter. Each year after the initial payment, the annual administrative fee may

127.1 not exceed five percent of the aggregate stewardship assessment added to the cost of all  
127.2 carpet sold by producers in the state for the preceding calendar year.

127.3 (d) All fees received under this section shall be deposited to the state treasury and  
127.4 credited to a product stewardship account in the Special Revenue Fund. Money in the  
127.5 account is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of reimbursing the agency's  
127.6 costs incurred to administer this section.

127.7 Sec. 97. **[115A.1415] ARCHITECTURAL PAINT; PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP**  
127.8 **PROGRAM; STEWARDSHIP PLAN.**

127.9 Subdivision 1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
127.10 the meanings given:

127.11 (1) "architectural paint" means interior and exterior architectural coatings sold in  
127.12 containers of five gallons or less. Architectural paint does not include industrial coatings,  
127.13 original equipment coatings, or specialty coatings;

127.14 (2) "brand" means a name, symbol, word, or mark that identifies architectural paint,  
127.15 rather than its components, and attributes the paint to the owner or licensee of the brand as  
127.16 the producer;

127.17 (3) "discarded paint" means architectural paint that is no longer used for its  
127.18 manufactured purpose;

127.19 (4) "producer" means a person that:

127.20 (i) has legal ownership of the brand, brand name, or cobrand of architectural paint  
127.21 sold in the state;

127.22 (ii) imports architectural paint branded by a producer that meets subclause (i) when  
127.23 the producer has no physical presence in the United States;

127.24 (iii) if subclauses (i) and (ii) do not apply, makes unbranded architectural paint  
127.25 that is sold in the state; or

127.26 (iv) sells architectural paint at wholesale or retail, does not have legal ownership of  
127.27 the brand, and elects to fulfill the responsibilities of the producer for the architectural paint  
127.28 by certifying that election in writing to the commissioner;

127.29 (5) "recycling" means the process of collecting and preparing recyclable materials and  
127.30 reusing the materials in their original form or using them in manufacturing processes that  
127.31 do not cause the destruction of recyclable materials in a manner that precludes further use;

127.32 (6) "retailer" means any person who offers architectural paint for sale at retail in  
127.33 the state;

128.1 (7) "reuse" means donating or selling collected architectural paint back into the  
128.2 market for its original intended use, when the architectural paint retains its original  
128.3 purpose and performance characteristics;

128.4 (8) "sale" or "sell" means transfer of title of architectural paint for consideration,  
128.5 including a remote sale conducted through a sales outlet, catalog, Web site, or similar  
128.6 electronic means. Sale or sell includes a lease through which architectural paint is  
128.7 provided to a consumer by a producer, wholesaler, or retailer;

128.8 (9) "stewardship assessment" means the amount added to the purchase price of  
128.9 architectural paint sold in the state that is necessary to cover the cost of collecting,  
128.10 transporting, and processing postconsumer architectural paint by the producer or  
128.11 stewardship organization pursuant to a product stewardship program;

128.12 (10) "stewardship organization" means an organization appointed by one or more  
128.13 producers to act as an agent on behalf of the producer to design, submit, and administer a  
128.14 product stewardship program under this section; and

128.15 (11) "stewardship plan" means a detailed plan describing the manner in which a  
128.16 product stewardship program under subdivision 2 will be implemented.

128.17 Subd. 2. **Product stewardship program.** For architectural paint sold in the state,  
128.18 producers must, individually or through a stewardship organization, implement and  
128.19 finance a statewide product stewardship program that manages the architectural paint by  
128.20 reducing the paint's waste generation, promoting its reuse and recycling, and providing for  
128.21 negotiation and execution of agreements to collect, transport, and process the architectural  
128.22 paint for end-of-life recycling and reuse.

128.23 Subd. 3. **Requirement for sale.** (a) On and after July 1, 2014, or three months after  
128.24 program plan approval, whichever is sooner, no producer, wholesaler, or retailer may sell  
128.25 or offer for sale in the state architectural paint unless the paint's producer participates in an  
128.26 approved stewardship plan, either individually or through a stewardship organization.

128.27 (b) Each producer must operate a product stewardship program approved by the  
128.28 agency or enter into an agreement with a stewardship organization to operate, on the  
128.29 producer's behalf, a product stewardship program approved by the agency.

128.30 Subd. 4. **Requirement to submit plan.** (a) On or before March 1, 2014, and before  
128.31 offering architectural paint for sale in the state, a producer must submit a stewardship  
128.32 plan to the agency and receive approval of the plan or must submit documentation to the  
128.33 agency that demonstrates the producer has entered into an agreement with a stewardship  
128.34 organization to be an active participant in an approved product stewardship program as  
128.35 described in subdivision 2. A stewardship plan must include all elements required under  
128.36 subdivision 5.

129.1 (b) An amendment to the plan, if determined necessary by the commissioner, must  
129.2 be submitted every five years.

129.3 (c) It is the responsibility of the entities responsible for each stewardship plan to  
129.4 notify the agency within 30 days of any significant changes or modifications to the plan or  
129.5 its implementation. Within 30 days of the notification, a written plan revision must be  
129.6 submitted to the agency for review and approval.

129.7 Subd. 5. **Stewardship plan content.** A stewardship plan must contain:

129.8 (1) certification that the product stewardship program will accept all discarded  
129.9 paint regardless of which producer produced the architectural paint and its individual  
129.10 components;

129.11 (2) contact information for the individual and the entity submitting the plan, a list of  
129.12 all producers participating in the product stewardship program, and the brands covered by  
129.13 the product stewardship program;

129.14 (3) a description of the methods by which the discarded paint will be collected in all  
129.15 areas in the state without relying on end-of-life fees, including an explanation of how the  
129.16 collection system will be convenient and adequate to serve the needs of small businesses  
129.17 and residents in both urban and rural areas on an ongoing basis and a discussion of how  
129.18 the existing household hazardous waste infrastructure will be considered when selecting  
129.19 collection sites;

129.20 (4) a description of how the adequacy of the collection program will be monitored  
129.21 and maintained;

129.22 (5) the names and locations of collectors, transporters, and recyclers that will  
129.23 manage discarded paint;

129.24 (6) a description of how the discarded paint and the paint's components will be  
129.25 safely and securely transported, tracked, and handled from collection through final  
129.26 recycling and processing;

129.27 (7) a description of the method that will be used to reuse, deconstruct, or recycle  
129.28 the discarded paint to ensure that the paint's components, to the extent feasible, are  
129.29 transformed or remanufactured into finished products for use;

129.30 (8) a description of the promotion and outreach activities that will be used to  
129.31 encourage participation in the collection and recycling programs and how the activities'  
129.32 effectiveness will be evaluated and the program modified, if necessary;

129.33 (9) the proposed stewardship assessment. The producer or stewardship organization  
129.34 shall propose a uniform stewardship assessment for any architectural paint sold in the  
129.35 state. The proposed stewardship assessment shall be reviewed by an independent auditor  
129.36 to ensure that the assessment does not exceed the costs of the product stewardship program

130.1 and the independent auditor shall recommend an amount for the stewardship assessment.

130.2 The agency must approve the stewardship assessment;

130.3 (10) evidence of adequate insurance and financial assurance that may be required for  
130.4 collection, handling, and disposal operations;

130.5 (11) five-year performance goals, including an estimate of the percentage of  
130.6 discarded paint that will be collected, reused, and recycled during each of the first five  
130.7 years of the stewardship plan. The performance goals must include a specific goal for the  
130.8 amount of discarded paint that will be collected and recycled and reused during each year  
130.9 of the plan. The performance goals must be based on:

130.10 (i) the most recent collection data available for the state;

130.11 (ii) the estimated amount of architectural paint disposed of annually;

130.12 (iii) the weight of the architectural paint that is expected to be available for collection  
130.13 annually; and

130.14 (iv) actual collection data from other existing stewardship programs.

130.15 The stewardship plan must state the methodology used to determine these goals; and

130.16 (12) a discussion of the status of end markets for collected architectural paint and  
130.17 what, if any, additional end markets are needed to improve the functioning of the program.

130.18 Subd. 6. **Consultation required.** Each stewardship organization or individual  
130.19 producer submitting a stewardship plan must consult with stakeholders including  
130.20 retailers, contractors, collectors, recyclers, local government, and customers during the  
130.21 development of the plan.

130.22 Subd. 7. **Agency review and approval.** (a) Within 90 days after receipt of a proposed  
130.23 stewardship plan, the agency shall determine whether the plan complies with subdivision  
130.24 4. If the agency approves a plan, the agency shall notify the applicant of the plan approval  
130.25 in writing. If the agency rejects a plan, the agency shall notify the applicant in writing of  
130.26 the reasons for rejecting the plan. An applicant whose plan is rejected by the agency must  
130.27 submit a revised plan to the agency within 60 days after receiving notice of rejection.

130.28 (b) Any proposed changes to a stewardship plan must be approved by the agency  
130.29 in writing.

130.30 Subd. 8. **Plan availability.** All draft and approved stewardship plans shall be  
130.31 placed on the agency's Web site for at least 30 days and made available at the agency's  
130.32 headquarters for public review and comment.

130.33 Subd. 9. **Conduct authorized.** A producer or stewardship organization that  
130.34 organizes collection, transport, and processing of architectural paint under this section  
130.35 is immune from liability for the conduct under state laws relating to antitrust, restraint  
130.36 of trade, unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or commerce only to the

131.1 extent that the conduct is necessary to plan and implement the producer's or organization's  
131.2 chosen organized collection or recycling system.

131.3 Subd. 10. **Responsibility of producers.** (a) On and after the date of implementation  
131.4 of a product stewardship program according to this section, a producer of architectural  
131.5 paint must add the stewardship assessment, as established under subdivision 5, clause (9),  
131.6 to the cost of architectural paint sold to retailers and distributors in the state by the producer.

131.7 (b) Producers of architectural paint or the stewardship organization shall provide  
131.8 consumers with educational materials regarding the stewardship assessment and product  
131.9 stewardship program. The materials must include, but are not limited to, information  
131.10 regarding available end-of-life management options for architectural paint offered through  
131.11 the product stewardship program and information that notifies consumers that a charge  
131.12 for the operation of the product stewardship program is included in the purchase price of  
131.13 architectural paint sold in the state.

131.14 Subd. 11. **Responsibility of retailers.** (a) On and after July 1, 2014, or three months  
131.15 after program plan approval, whichever is sooner, no architectural paint may be sold in the  
131.16 state unless the paint's producer is participating in an approved stewardship plan.

131.17 (b) On and after the implementation date of a product stewardship program  
131.18 according to this section, each retailer or distributor, as applicable, must ensure that the  
131.19 full amount of the stewardship assessment added to the cost of paint by producers under  
131.20 subdivision 10 is included in the purchase price of all architectural paint sold in the state.

131.21 (c) Any retailer may participate, on a voluntary basis, as a designated collection  
131.22 point pursuant to a product stewardship program under this section and in accordance  
131.23 with applicable law.

131.24 (d) No retailer or distributor shall be found to be in violation of this subdivision if,  
131.25 on the date the architectural paint was ordered from the producer or its agent, the producer  
131.26 was listed as compliant on the agency's Web site according to subdivision 14.

131.27 Subd. 12. **Stewardship reports.** Beginning October 1, 2015, producers of  
131.28 architectural paint sold in the state must individually or through a stewardship organization  
131.29 submit an annual report to the agency describing the product stewardship program. At a  
131.30 minimum, the report must contain:

131.31 (1) a description of the methods used to collect, transport, and process architectural  
131.32 paint in all regions of the state;

131.33 (2) the weight of all architectural paint collected in all regions of the state and a  
131.34 comparison to the performance goals and recycling rates established in the stewardship  
131.35 plan;

132.1 (3) the amount of unwanted architectural paint collected in the state by method of  
132.2 disposition, including reuse, recycling, and other methods of processing;

132.3 (4) samples of educational materials provided to consumers and an evaluation of the  
132.4 effectiveness of the materials and the methods used to disseminate the materials; and

132.5 (5) an independent financial audit.

132.6 Subd. 13. **Sales information.** Sales information provided to the commissioner  
132.7 under this section is classified as private or nonpublic data, as specified in section  
132.8 115A.06, subdivision 13.

132.9 Subd. 14. **Agency responsibilities.** The agency shall provide, on its Web site, a  
132.10 list of all compliant producers and brands participating in stewardship plans that the  
132.11 agency has approved and a list of all producers and brands the agency has identified as  
132.12 noncompliant with this section.

132.13 Subd. 15. **Local government responsibilities.** (a) A city, county, or other public  
132.14 agency may choose to participate voluntarily in a product stewardship program.

132.15 (b) Cities, counties, and other public agencies are encouraged to work with producers  
132.16 and stewardship organizations to assist in meeting product stewardship program reuse and  
132.17 recycling obligations, by providing education and outreach or using other strategies.

132.18 (c) A city, county, or other public agency that participates in a product stewardship  
132.19 program must report for the first year of the program to the agency using the reporting  
132.20 form provided by the agency on the cost savings as a result of participation and describe  
132.21 how the savings were used.

132.22 Subd. 16. **Administrative fee.** (a) The stewardship organization or individual  
132.23 producer submitting a stewardship plan shall pay an annual administrative fee to the  
132.24 commissioner. The agency may establish a variable fee based on relevant factors,  
132.25 including, but not limited to, the portion of architectural paint sold in the state by members  
132.26 of the organization compared to the total amount of architectural paint sold in the state by  
132.27 all organizations submitting a stewardship plan.

132.28 (b) Prior to July 1, 2014, and before July 1 annually thereafter, the agency shall  
132.29 identify the costs it incurs under this section. The agency shall set the fee at an amount  
132.30 that, when paid by every stewardship organization or individual producer that submits a  
132.31 stewardship plan, is adequate to reimburse the agency's full costs of administering this  
132.32 section. The total amount of annual fees collected under this subdivision must not exceed  
132.33 the amount necessary to reimburse costs incurred by the agency to administer this section.

132.34 (c) A stewardship organization or individual producer subject to this subdivision  
132.35 must pay the agency's administrative fee under paragraph (a) on or before July 1, 2014 and  
132.36 annually thereafter. Each year after the initial payment, the annual administrative fee may

133.1 not exceed five percent of the aggregate stewardship assessment added to the cost of all  
133.2 architectural paint sold by producers in the state for the preceding calendar year.

133.3 (d) All fees received under this section shall be deposited to the state treasury and  
133.4 credited to a product stewardship account in the Special Revenue Fund. Money in the  
133.5 account is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of reimbursing the agency's  
133.6 costs incurred to administer this section.

133.7 Sec. 98. **[115A.142] PRIMARY BATTERIES; PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP**  
133.8 **PROGRAM; STEWARDSHIP PLAN.**

133.9 Subdivision 1. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have  
133.10 the meaning given:

133.11 (1) "brand" means a name, symbol, word, or mark that identifies a primary battery,  
133.12 rather than its components, and attributes the battery to the owner or licensee of the brand  
133.13 as the producer;

133.14 (2) "discarded battery" means a primary battery that is no longer used for its  
133.15 manufactured purpose;

133.16 (3) "primary battery" means a battery weighing two kilograms or less that is not  
133.17 designed to be electrically recharged, including, but not limited to, alkaline manganese,  
133.18 carbon zinc, lithium, silver oxide, and zinc air batteries. Nonremovable batteries and  
133.19 medical devices as defined in the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, United States  
133.20 Code, title 21, section 321, paragraph (h), as amended, are exempted from this definition.

133.21 (4) "producer" means a person that:

133.22 (i) has legal ownership of the brand, brand name, or cobrand of a primary battery  
133.23 sold in the state;

133.24 (ii) imports a primary battery branded by a producer that meets subclause (i) when  
133.25 the producer has no physical presence in the United States;

133.26 (iii) if subclauses (i) and (ii) do not apply, makes an unbranded primary battery  
133.27 that is sold in the state; or

133.28 (iv) sells a primary battery at wholesale or retail, does not have legal ownership  
133.29 of the brand, and elects to fulfill the responsibilities of the producer for the battery by  
133.30 certifying that election in writing to the commissioner;

133.31 (5) "recycling" means the process of collecting and preparing recyclable materials and  
133.32 reusing the materials in their original form or using them in manufacturing processes that  
133.33 do not cause the destruction of recyclable materials in a manner that precludes further use;

133.34 (6) "retailer" means any person who offers primary batteries for sale at retail in  
133.35 the state;

134.1 (7) "sale" or "sell" means transfer of title of a primary battery for consideration,  
134.2 including a remote sale conducted through a sales outlet, catalog, Web site, or similar  
134.3 electronic means. Sale or sell includes a lease through which a primary battery is provided  
134.4 to a consumer by a producer, wholesaler, or retailer;

134.5 (8) "stewardship organization" means an organization appointed by one or more  
134.6 producers to act as an agent on behalf of the producer to design, submit, and administer a  
134.7 product stewardship program under this section; and

134.8 (9) "stewardship plan" means a detailed plan describing the manner in which a  
134.9 product stewardship program under subdivision 2 will be implemented.

134.10 Subd. 2. **Product stewardship program.** For each primary battery sold in the  
134.11 state, producers must, individually or through a stewardship organization, implement  
134.12 and finance a statewide product stewardship program that manages primary batteries by  
134.13 reducing primary battery waste generation, promoting primary battery recycling, and  
134.14 providing for negotiation and execution of agreements to collect, transport, and process  
134.15 primary batteries for end-of-life recycling.

134.16 Subd. 3. **Requirement for sale.** (a) On and after December 1, 2014, or three months  
134.17 after program plan approval, whichever is sooner, no producer, wholesaler, or retailer may  
134.18 sell or offer for sale in the state a primary battery unless the battery's producer participates  
134.19 in an approved stewardship plan, either individually or through a stewardship organization.

134.20 (b) Each producer must operate a product stewardship program approved by the  
134.21 agency or enter into an agreement with a stewardship organization to operate, on the  
134.22 producer's behalf, a product stewardship program approved by the agency.

134.23 Subd. 4. **Requirement to submit plan.** (a) On or before August 1, 2014, and before  
134.24 offering a primary battery for sale in the state, a producer must submit a stewardship  
134.25 plan to the agency and receive approval of the plan or must submit documentation to the  
134.26 agency that demonstrates the producer has entered into an agreement with a stewardship  
134.27 organization to be an active participant in an approved product stewardship program as  
134.28 described in subdivision 2. A stewardship plan must include all elements required under  
134.29 subdivision 5.

134.30 (b) An amendment to the plan, if determined necessary by the commissioner, must  
134.31 be submitted every five years.

134.32 (c) It is the responsibility of the entities responsible for each stewardship plan to  
134.33 notify the agency within 30 days of any significant changes or modifications to the plan or  
134.34 its implementation. Within 30 days of the notification, a written plan revision must be  
134.35 submitted to the agency for review and approval.

134.36 Subd. 5. **Stewardship plan content.** A stewardship plan must contain:

- 135.1 (1) certification that the product stewardship program will accept discarded primary  
135.2 batteries regardless of which producer produced the batteries and their individual  
135.3 components;
- 135.4 (2) contact information for the individual and the entity submitting the plan, a list of  
135.5 all producers participating in the product stewardship program, and the brands covered by  
135.6 the product stewardship program;
- 135.7 (3) a description of the methods by which the discarded primary batteries will  
135.8 be collected in all areas in the state without relying on end-of-life fees, including an  
135.9 explanation of how the collection system will be convenient and adequate to serve the  
135.10 needs of small businesses and residents in both urban and rural areas on an ongoing basis;
- 135.11 (4) a description of how the adequacy of the collection program will be monitored  
135.12 and maintained;
- 135.13 (5) the names and locations of collectors, transporters, and recyclers that will  
135.14 manage discarded batteries;
- 135.15 (6) a description of how the discarded primary batteries and the batteries'  
135.16 components will be safely and securely transported, tracked, and handled from collection  
135.17 through final recycling and processing;
- 135.18 (7) a description of the method that will be used to recycle the discarded primary  
135.19 batteries to ensure that the batteries' components, to the extent feasible, are transformed or  
135.20 remanufactured into finished batteries for use;
- 135.21 (8) a description of the promotion and outreach activities that will be used to  
135.22 encourage participation in the collection and recycling programs and how the activities'  
135.23 effectiveness will be evaluated and the program modified, if necessary;
- 135.24 (9) evidence of adequate insurance and financial assurance that may be required for  
135.25 collection, handling, and disposal operations;
- 135.26 (10) five-year performance goals, including an estimate of the percentage of  
135.27 discarded primary batteries that will be collected, reused, and recycled during each of the  
135.28 first five years of the stewardship plan. The performance goals must include a specific  
135.29 escalating goal for the amount of discarded primary batteries that will be collected and  
135.30 recycled during each year of the plan. The performance goals must be based on:
- 135.31 (i) the most recent collection data available for the state;  
135.32 (ii) the estimated amount of primary batteries disposed of annually;  
135.33 (iii) the weight of primary batteries that is expected to be available for collection  
135.34 annually;
- 135.35 (iv) actual collection data from other existing stewardship programs; and  
135.36 (v) the market share of the producers participating in the plan.

136.1 The stewardship plan must state the methodology used to determine these goals; and  
136.2 (11) a discussion of the status of end markets for discarded batteries and what, if any,  
136.3 additional end markets are needed to improve the functioning of the program.

136.4 Subd. 6. **Consultation required.** Each stewardship organization or individual  
136.5 producer submitting a stewardship plan must consult with stakeholders including retailers,  
136.6 collectors, recyclers, local government, and customers during the development of the plan.

136.7 Subd. 7. **Agency review and approval.** (a) Within 90 days after receipt of a proposed  
136.8 stewardship plan, the agency shall determine whether the plan complies with subdivision  
136.9 5. If the agency approves a plan, the agency shall notify the applicant of the plan approval  
136.10 in writing. If the agency rejects a plan, the agency shall notify the applicant in writing of  
136.11 the reasons for rejecting the plan. An applicant whose plan is rejected by the agency must  
136.12 submit a revised plan to the agency within 60 days after receiving notice of rejection.

136.13 (b) Any proposed changes to a stewardship plan must be approved by the agency  
136.14 in writing.

136.15 Subd. 8. **Plan availability.** All draft and approved stewardship plans shall be  
136.16 placed on the agency's Web site for at least 30 days and made available at the agency's  
136.17 headquarters for public review and comment.

136.18 Subd. 9. **Conduct authorized.** A producer or stewardship organization that  
136.19 organizes collection, transport, and processing of primary batteries under this section  
136.20 is immune from liability for the conduct under state laws relating to antitrust, restraint  
136.21 of trade, unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or commerce only to the  
136.22 extent that the conduct is necessary to plan and implement the producer's or organization's  
136.23 chosen organized collection or recycling system.

136.24 Subd. 10. **Responsibility of retailers.** (a) On and after December 1, 2014, or three  
136.25 months after program plan approval, whichever is sooner, no primary battery may be sold  
136.26 in the state unless the battery's producer is participating in an approved stewardship plan.

136.27 (b) Any retailer may participate, on a voluntary basis, as a designated collection  
136.28 point pursuant to a product stewardship program under this section and in accordance  
136.29 with applicable law.

136.30 (c) No retailer or distributor shall be found to be in violation of this subdivision if,  
136.31 on the date the primary battery was ordered from the producer or its agent, the producer  
136.32 was listed as compliant on the agency's Web site according to subdivision 12.

136.33 Subd. 11. **Stewardship reports.** Beginning March 1, 2016, producers of primary  
136.34 batteries sold in the state must individually or through a stewardship organization  
136.35 submit an annual report to the agency describing the product stewardship program. At a  
136.36 minimum, the report must contain:

137.1 (1) a description of the methods used to collect, transport, and process primary  
137.2 batteries in all regions of the state;

137.3 (2) the weight of all primary batteries collected in all regions of the state and a  
137.4 comparison to the performance goals and recycling rates established in the stewardship  
137.5 plan;

137.6 (3) the amount of discarded primary batteries collected in the state by method of  
137.7 disposition, including recycling, and other methods of processing;

137.8 (4) samples of educational materials provided to consumers and an evaluation of the  
137.9 effectiveness of the materials and the methods used to disseminate the materials; and

137.10 (5) an independent financial audit of the stewardship organization.

137.11 Subd. 12. **Agency responsibilities.** The agency shall provide, on its Web site, a  
137.12 list of all compliant producers and brands participating in stewardship plans that the  
137.13 agency has approved and a list of all producers and brands the agency has identified as  
137.14 noncompliant with this section.

137.15 Subd. 13. **Sales information.** Sales information provided to the commissioner  
137.16 under this section is classified as private or nonpublic data, as specified in section  
137.17 115A.06, subdivision 13.

137.18 Subd. 14. **Local government responsibilities.** (a) A city, county, or other public  
137.19 agency may choose to participate voluntarily in a product stewardship program.

137.20 (b) Cities, counties, and other public agencies are encouraged to work with producers  
137.21 and stewardship organizations to assist in meeting product stewardship program recycling  
137.22 obligations, by providing education and outreach or using other strategies.

137.23 (c) A city, county, or other public agency that participates in a product stewardship  
137.24 program must report for the first year of the program to the agency using the reporting  
137.25 form provided by the agency on the cost savings as a result of participation and describe  
137.26 how the savings were used.

137.27 Subd. 15. **Administrative fee.** (a) The stewardship organization or individual  
137.28 producer submitting a stewardship plan shall pay an annual administrative fee to the  
137.29 commissioner. The agency may establish a variable fee based on relevant factors,  
137.30 including, but not limited to, the portion of primary batteries sold in the state by members  
137.31 of the organization compared to the total amount of primary batteries sold in the state by  
137.32 all organizations submitting a stewardship plan.

137.33 (b) Prior to July 1, 2015, and before July 1 annually thereafter, the agency shall  
137.34 identify the costs it incurs under this section. The agency shall set the fee at an amount  
137.35 that, when paid by every stewardship organization or individual producer that submits a  
137.36 stewardship plan, is adequate to reimburse the agency's full costs of administering this

138.1 section. The total amount of annual fees collected under this subdivision must not exceed  
138.2 the amount necessary to reimburse costs incurred by the agency to administer this section.

138.3 (c) A stewardship organization or individual producer subject to this subdivision  
138.4 must pay the agency's administrative fee under paragraph (a) on or before July 1, 2015  
138.5 and annually thereafter.

138.6 (d) All fees received under this section shall be deposited to the state treasury and  
138.7 credited to a product stewardship account in the Special Revenue Fund. Money in the  
138.8 account is appropriated to the commissioner for the purpose of reimbursing the agency's  
138.9 costs incurred to administer this section.

138.10 Subd. 16. **Exemption; medical device.** The requirements of this section do not  
138.11 apply to a medical device as defined in the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, United States  
138.12 Code, title 21, section 321, paragraph (h).

138.13 Subd. 17. **Private enforcement.** (a) The operator of a statewide product stewardship  
138.14 program established under subdivision 2 that incurs costs exceeding \$5,000 to collect,  
138.15 handle, recycle, or properly dispose of discarded primary batteries sold or offered for sale  
138.16 in Minnesota by a producer who does not implement its own program or participate in a  
138.17 program implemented by a stewardship organization, may bring a civil action or actions  
138.18 to recover costs and fees as specified in paragraph (b) from each nonimplementing or  
138.19 nonparticipating producer who can reasonably be identified from a brand or marking on a  
138.20 used consumer battery or from other information.

138.21 (b) An action under paragraph (a) may be brought against one or more primary  
138.22 battery producers, provided that no such action may be commenced:

138.23 (1) prior to 60 days after written notice of the operator's intention to file suit has been  
138.24 provided to the agency and the defendant or defendants; or

138.25 (2) if the agency has commenced enforcement actions under subdivision 10 and is  
138.26 diligently pursuing such actions.

138.27 (c) In any action under paragraph (b), the plaintiff operator may recover from  
138.28 a defendant nonimplementing or nonparticipating primary battery producer costs the  
138.29 plaintiff incurred to collect, handle, recycle, or properly dispose of primary batteries  
138.30 reasonably identified as having originated from the defendant, plus the plaintiff's attorney  
138.31 fees and litigation costs.

138.32 **Sec. 99. [115A.1425] REPORT TO LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR.**

138.33 As part of the report required under section 115A.121, the commissioner of the  
138.34 Pollution Control Agency shall provide a report to the governor and the legislature on the  
138.35 implementation of sections 115A.141, 115A.1415, and 115A.142.

139.1 Sec. 100. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 115B.20, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

139.2 Subd. 6. **Report to legislature.** ~~Each year~~ By January 31 of each odd-numbered  
139.3 year, the commissioner of agriculture and the agency shall submit to the senate Finance  
139.4 Committee, the house of representatives Ways and Means Committee, the Environment  
139.5 and Natural Resources Committees of the senate and house of representatives, the Finance  
139.6 Division of the senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, and the house  
139.7 of representatives Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Finance, and the  
139.8 Environmental Quality Board a report detailing the activities for which money has been  
139.9 spent pursuant to this section during the previous fiscal year.

139.10 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2013.

139.11 Sec. 101. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 115B.28, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

139.12 Subdivision 1. **Duties.** In addition to performing duties specified in sections  
139.13 115B.25 to 115B.37 or in other law, and subject to the limitations on disclosure contained  
139.14 in section 115B.35, the agency shall:

139.15 (1) adopt rules, including rules governing practice and procedure before the agency,  
139.16 the form and procedure for applications for compensation, and procedures for claims  
139.17 investigations;

139.18 (2) publicize the availability of compensation and application procedures on a  
139.19 statewide basis with special emphasis on geographical areas surrounding sites identified  
139.20 by the agency as having releases from a facility where a harmful substance was placed or  
139.21 came to be located prior to July 1, 1983;

139.22 (3) collect, analyze, and make available to the public, in consultation with the  
139.23 Department of Health, the Pollution Control Agency, the University of Minnesota Medical  
139.24 and Public Health Schools, and the medical community, data regarding injuries relating to  
139.25 exposure to harmful substances; and

139.26 (4) prepare and transmit ~~by December 31 of each year to the governor and the~~  
139.27 ~~legislature an annual~~ legislative report required under section 115B.20, subdivision  
139.28 6, to include (i) a summary of agency activity under clause (3); (ii) data determined  
139.29 by the agency from actual cases, including but not limited to number of cases, actual  
139.30 compensation received by each claimant, types of cases, and types of injuries compensated,  
139.31 as they relate to types of harmful substances as well as length of exposure, but excluding  
139.32 identification of the claimants; (iii) all administrative costs associated with the business of  
139.33 the agency; and (iv) agency recommendations for legislative changes, further study, or any  
139.34 other recommendation aimed at improving the system of compensation.

140.1 Sec. 102. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 115C.02, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

140.2 Subd. 4. **Corrective action.** "Corrective action" means an action taken to minimize,  
140.3 eliminate, or clean up a release to protect the public health and welfare or the environment.  
140.4 Corrective action may include environmental covenants pursuant to chapter 114E, an  
140.5 affidavit required under section 116.48, subdivision 6, or similar notice of a release  
140.6 recorded with real property records.

140.7 Sec. 103. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 115C.08, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

140.8 Subd. 4. **Expenditures.** (a) Money in the fund may only be spent:

140.9 (1) to administer the petroleum tank release cleanup program established in this  
140.10 chapter;

140.11 (2) for agency administrative costs under sections 116.46 to 116.50, sections  
140.12 115C.03 to 115C.06, and costs of corrective action taken by the agency under section  
140.13 115C.03, including investigations;

140.14 (3) for costs of recovering expenses of corrective actions under section 115C.04;

140.15 (4) for training, certification, and rulemaking under sections 116.46 to 116.50;

140.16 (5) for agency administrative costs of enforcing rules governing the construction,  
140.17 installation, operation, and closure of aboveground and underground petroleum storage  
140.18 tanks;

140.19 (6) for reimbursement of the environmental response, compensation, and compliance  
140.20 account under subdivision 5 and section 115B.26, subdivision 4;

140.21 (7) for administrative and staff costs as set by the board to administer the petroleum  
140.22 tank release program established in this chapter;

140.23 (8) for corrective action performance audits under section 115C.093;

140.24 (9) for contamination cleanup grants, as provided in paragraph (c);

140.25 (10) to assess and remove abandoned underground storage tanks under section  
140.26 115C.094 and, if a release is discovered, to pay for the specific consultant and contractor  
140.27 services costs necessary to complete the tank removal project, including, but not limited  
140.28 to, excavation soil sampling, groundwater sampling, soil disposal, and completion of  
140.29 an excavation report; and

140.30 ~~(11) for property acquisition by the agency when the agency has determined that~~  
140.31 ~~purchasing a property where a release has occurred is the most appropriate corrective~~  
140.32 ~~action. The to acquire interests in real or personal property, including easements,~~  
140.33 environmental covenants under chapter 114E, and leases, that the agency determines are  
140.34 necessary for corrective actions or to ensure the protectiveness of corrective actions. A  
140.35 donation of an interest in real property to the agency is not effective until the agency

141.1 executes a certificate of acceptance. The state is not liable under this chapter solely as a  
141.2 result of acquiring an interest in real property under this clause. Agency approval of an  
141.3 environmental covenant under chapter 114E is sufficient evidence of acceptance of an  
141.4 interest in real property when the agency is expressly identified as a holder in the covenant.  
141.5 Acquisition of all ~~properties~~ real property under this clause, except environmental  
141.6 covenants under chapter 114E, is subject to approval by the board.

141.7 (b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), money in the fund is appropriated to the  
141.8 board to make reimbursements or payments under this section.

141.9 (c) In fiscal years 2010 and 2011, \$3,700,000 is annually appropriated from the fund  
141.10 to the commissioner of employment and economic development for contamination cleanup  
141.11 grants under section 116J.554. Beginning in fiscal year 2012 and each year thereafter,  
141.12 \$6,200,000 is annually appropriated from the fund to the commissioner of employment  
141.13 and economic development for contamination cleanup grants under section 116J.554. Of  
141.14 this amount, the commissioner may spend up to \$225,000 annually for administration  
141.15 of the contamination cleanup grant program. The appropriation does not cancel and is  
141.16 available until expended. The appropriation shall not be withdrawn from the fund nor the  
141.17 fund balance reduced until the funds are requested by the commissioner of employment  
141.18 and economic development. The commissioner shall schedule requests for withdrawals  
141.19 from the fund to minimize the necessity to impose the fee authorized by subdivision 2.  
141.20 Unless otherwise provided, the appropriation in this paragraph may be used for:

141.21 (1) project costs at a qualifying site if a portion of the cleanup costs are attributable  
141.22 to petroleum contamination or new and used tar and tar-like substances, including but not  
141.23 limited to bitumen and asphalt, but excluding bituminous or asphalt pavement, that consist  
141.24 primarily of hydrocarbons and are found in natural deposits in the earth or are distillates,  
141.25 fractions, or residues from the processing of petroleum crude or petroleum products as  
141.26 defined in section 296A.01; and

141.27 (2) the costs of performing contamination investigation if there is a reasonable basis  
141.28 to suspect the contamination is attributable to petroleum or new and used tar and tar-like  
141.29 substances, including but not limited to bitumen and asphalt, but excluding bituminous or  
141.30 asphalt pavement, that consist primarily of hydrocarbons and are found in natural deposits  
141.31 in the earth or are distillates, fractions, or residues from the processing of petroleum crude  
141.32 or petroleum products as defined in section 296A.01.

141.33 Sec. 104. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 115C.08, is amended by adding a  
141.34 subdivision to read:

142.1 Subd. 6. Disposition of property acquired for corrective action. (a) If the  
 142.2 commissioner determines that real or personal property acquired by the agency for a  
 142.3 corrective action is no longer needed for corrective action purposes, the commissioner may:

142.4 (1) request the commissioner of administration to dispose of the property according  
 142.5 to sections 16B.281 to 16B.287, subject to conditions the commissioner of the Pollution  
 142.6 Control Agency determines necessary to protect the public health and welfare and the  
 142.7 environment or to comply with federal law;

142.8 (2) transfer the property to another state agency, a political subdivision, or a special  
 142.9 purpose district as provided in paragraph (b); or

142.10 (3) if required by federal law, take actions and dispose of the property according  
 142.11 to federal law.

142.12 (b) If the commissioner determines that real or personal property acquired by  
 142.13 the agency for a corrective action must be operated, maintained, or monitored after  
 142.14 completion of other phases of the corrective action, the commissioner may transfer  
 142.15 ownership of the property to another state agency, a political subdivision, or a special  
 142.16 purpose district that agrees to accept the property. A state agency, political subdivision,  
 142.17 or special purpose district may accept and implement terms and conditions of a transfer  
 142.18 under this paragraph. The commissioner may set terms and conditions for the transfer  
 142.19 that the commissioner considers reasonable and necessary to ensure proper operation,  
 142.20 maintenance, and monitoring of corrective actions; protect the public health and welfare  
 142.21 and the environment; and comply with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.  
 142.22 The state agency, political subdivision, or special purpose district to which the property is  
 142.23 transferred is not liable under this chapter solely as a result of acquiring the property or  
 142.24 acting in accordance with the terms and conditions of transfer.

142.25 (c) The proceeds of a sale or other transfer of property under this subdivision  
 142.26 by the commissioner or by the commissioner of administration shall be deposited in  
 142.27 the petroleum tank fund or other appropriate fund. Any share of the proceeds that the  
 142.28 agency is required by federal law or regulation to reimburse to the federal government is  
 142.29 appropriated from the fund to the agency for the purpose. Section 16B.287, subdivision 1,  
 142.30 does not apply to real property that is sold by the commissioner of administration and that  
 142.31 was acquired under subdivision 4, clause (11).

142.32 Sec. 105. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 115D.10, is amended to read:

142.33 **115D.10 TOXIC POLLUTION PREVENTION EVALUATION REPORT.**

142.34 The commissioner, in cooperation with the commission, shall report to  
 142.35 the Environment and Natural Resources Committees of the senate and house of

143.1 representatives, the Finance Division of the senate Committee on Environment and  
143.2 Natural Resources, and the house of representatives Committee on Environment and  
143.3 Natural Resources Finance on progress being made in achieving the objectives of sections  
143.4 115D.01 to 115D.12. The report must be ~~submitted by February 1 of each even-numbered~~  
143.5 year done in conjunction with the report required under section 115A.121.

143.6 Sec. 106. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 116.48, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

143.7 Subd. 6. **Affidavit.** (a) Before transferring ownership of property that the owner  
143.8 knows contains an underground or aboveground storage tank or contained an underground  
143.9 or aboveground storage tank that had a release for which no corrective action was taken or  
143.10 if required by the agency as a condition of a corrective action under chapter 115C, the  
143.11 owner shall record with the county recorder or registrar of titles of the county in which the  
143.12 property is located an affidavit containing:

143.13 (1) a legal description of the property where the tank is located;

143.14 (2) a description of the tank, of the location of the tank, and of any known release  
143.15 from the tank of a regulated substance to the full extent known or reasonably ascertainable;

143.16 (3) a description of any restrictions currently in force on the use of the property  
143.17 resulting from any release; and

143.18 (4) the name of the owner.

143.19 (b) The county recorder shall record the affidavits in a manner that will insure  
143.20 their disclosure in the ordinary course of a title search of the subject property. Before  
143.21 transferring ownership of property that the owner knows contains an underground or  
143.22 aboveground storage tank, the owner shall deliver to the purchaser a copy of the affidavit  
143.23 and any additional information necessary to make the facts in the affidavit accurate as of  
143.24 the date of transfer of ownership.

143.25 (c) Failure to record an affidavit as provided in this subdivision does not affect or  
143.26 prevent any transfer of ownership of the property.

143.27 Sec. 107. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 116C.03, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

143.28 Subd. 2. **Membership.** The members of the board are the ~~director of the Office of~~  
143.29 ~~Strategic and Long-Range Planning~~ commissioner of administration, the commissioner  
143.30 of commerce, the commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency, the commissioner  
143.31 of natural resources, the commissioner of agriculture, the commissioner of health,  
143.32 the commissioner of employment and economic development, the commissioner of  
143.33 transportation, the chair of the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and a representative of  
143.34 the governor's office designated by the governor. The governor shall appoint five members

144.1 from the general public to the board, subject to the advice and consent of the senate.

144.2 At least two of the five public members must have knowledge of and be conversant in  
144.3 water management issues in the state. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 15.06,  
144.4 subdivision 6, members of the board may not delegate their powers and responsibilities as  
144.5 board members to any other person.

144.6 Sec. 108. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 116C.03, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

144.7 Subd. 4. **Support.** Staff and consultant support for board activities shall be provided  
144.8 by the ~~Office of Strategic and Long-Range Planning~~ Pollution Control Agency. This  
144.9 support shall be provided based upon an annual budget and work program developed by  
144.10 the board and certified to the commissioner by the chair of the board. The board shall  
144.11 have the authority to request and require staff support from all other agencies of state  
144.12 government as needed for the execution of the responsibilities of the board.

144.13 Sec. 109. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 116C.03, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

144.14 Subd. 5. **Administration.** The board shall contract with the ~~Office of Strategic and~~  
144.15 ~~Long-Range Planning~~ Pollution Control Agency for administrative services necessary to  
144.16 the board's activities. The services shall include personnel, budget, payroll and contract  
144.17 administration.

144.18 Sec. 110. **[116C.99] SILICA SAND MINING MODEL STANDARDS AND**  
144.19 **CRITERIA.**

144.20 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** The definitions in this subdivision apply to this section.

144.21 (a) "Local unit of government" means a county, statutory or home rule charter city,  
144.22 or town.

144.23 (b) "Mining" means excavating and mining silica sand by any process, including  
144.24 digging, excavating, mining, drilling, blasting, tunneling, dredging, stripping, or by shaft.

144.25 (c) "Processing" means washing, cleaning, screening, crushing, filtering, sorting,  
144.26 processing, stockpiling, and storing silica sand, either at the mining site or at any other site.

144.27 (d) "Silica sand" means well-rounded, sand-sized grains of quartz (silicon dioxide),  
144.28 with very little impurities in terms of other minerals. Specifically, the silica sand for the  
144.29 purposes of this section is commercially valuable for use in the hydraulic fracturing of  
144.30 shale to obtain oil and natural gas. Silica sand does not include common rock, stone,  
144.31 aggregate, gravel, sand with a low quartz level, or silica compounds recovered as a  
144.32 by-product of metallic mining.

145.1 (e) "Silica sand project" means the excavation and mining and processing of silica  
145.2 sand; the washing, cleaning, screening, crushing, filtering, drying, sorting, stockpiling,  
145.3 and storing of silica sand, either at the mining site or at any other site; the hauling and  
145.4 transporting of silica sand; or a facility for transporting silica sand to destinations by rail,  
145.5 barge, truck, or other means of transportation.

145.6 (f) "Temporary storage" means the storage of stock piles of silica sand that have  
145.7 been transported and await further transport.

145.8 (g) "Transporting" means hauling and transporting silica sand, by any carrier:

145.9 (1) from the mining site to a processing or transfer site; or

145.10 (2) from a processing or storage site to a rail, barge, or transfer site for transporting  
145.11 to destinations.

145.12 Subd. 2. **Standards and criteria.** (a) By October 1, 2013, the Environmental  
145.13 Quality Board, in consultation with local units of government, shall develop model  
145.14 standards and criteria for mining, processing, and transporting silica sand. These standards  
145.15 and criteria may be used by local units of government in developing local ordinances.

145.16 The standards and criteria must include:

145.17 (1) recommendations for setbacks or buffers for mining operation and processing,  
145.18 including:

145.19 (i) any residence or residential zoning district boundary;

145.20 (ii) any property line or right-of-way line of any existing or proposed street or  
145.21 highway;

145.22 (iii) ordinary high water levels of public waters;

145.23 (iv) bluffs;

145.24 (v) designated trout streams, Class 2A water as designated in the rules of the  
145.25 Pollution Control Agency, or any perennially flowing tributary of a designated trout  
145.26 stream or Class 2A water;

145.27 (vi) calcareous fens;

145.28 (vii) wellhead protection areas as defined in section 103I.005;

145.29 (viii) critical natural habitat acquired by the commissioner of natural resources  
145.30 under section 84.944; and

145.31 (ix) a natural resource easement paid wholly or in part by public funds;

145.32 (2) standards for hours of operation;

145.33 (3) groundwater and surface water quality and quantity monitoring and mitigation  
145.34 plan requirements, including:

145.35 (i) applicable groundwater and surface water appropriation permit requirements;

145.36 (ii) well sealing requirements;

- 146.1 (iii) annual submission of monitoring well data; and  
146.2 (iv) storm water runoff rate limits not to exceed two-, ten-, and 100-year storm events;  
146.3 (4) air monitoring and data submission requirements;  
146.4 (5) dust control requirements;  
146.5 (6) noise testing and mitigation plan requirements;  
146.6 (7) blast monitoring plan requirements;  
146.7 (8) lighting requirements;  
146.8 (9) inspection requirements;  
146.9 (10) containment requirements for silica sand in temporary storage to protect air  
146.10 and water quality;  
146.11 (11) containment requirements for chemicals used in processing;  
146.12 (12) financial assurance requirements;  
146.13 (13) road and bridge impacts and requirements; and  
146.14 (14) reclamation plan requirements as required under the rules adopted by the  
146.15 commissioner of natural resources.

146.16 Subd. 3. **Silica sand technical assistance team.** By October 1, 2013, the  
146.17 Environmental Quality Board shall assemble a silica sand technical assistance team  
146.18 to provide local units of government, at their request, with assistance with ordinance  
146.19 development, zoning, environmental review and permitting, monitoring, or other issues  
146.20 arising from silica sand mining and processing operations. The technical assistance team  
146.21 shall be comprised of up to seven members, and shall be chosen from the following  
146.22 entities: the Department of Natural Resources, the Pollution Control Agency, the Board of  
146.23 Water and Soil Resources, the Department of Health, the Department of Transportation,  
146.24 the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. A  
146.25 majority of the members must be from a state agency and have expertise in one or more of  
146.26 the following areas: silica sand mining, hydrology, air quality, water quality, land use, or  
146.27 other areas related to silica sand mining.

146.28 Subd. 4. **Consideration of technical assistance team recommendations.** (a) When  
146.29 the technical assistance team, at the request of the local unit of government, assembles  
146.30 findings or makes a recommendation related to a proposed silica sand project for the  
146.31 protection of human health and the environment, a local government unit must consider  
146.32 the findings or recommendations of the technical assistance team in its approval or denial  
146.33 of a silica sand project. If the local government unit does not agree with the technical  
146.34 assistance team's findings and recommendations, the detailed reasons for the disagreement  
146.35 must be part of the local government unit's record of decision.

147.1 (b) Silica sand project proposers must cooperate in providing local government unit  
147.2 staff, and members of the technical assistance team with information regarding the project.

147.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

147.4 Sec. 111. **[116C.991] TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ORDINANCE, AND PERMIT**  
147.5 **LIBRARY.**

147.6 By October 1, 2013, the Environmental Quality Board, in consultation with local  
147.7 units of government, shall create and maintain a library on local government ordinances  
147.8 and local government permits that have been approved for regulation of silica sand  
147.9 projects for reference by local governments.

147.10 Sec. 112. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 116D.04, is amended by adding a  
147.11 subdivision to read:

147.12 Subd. 16. **Groundwater; environmental assessment worksheets.** When an  
147.13 environmental assessment worksheet is required for a proposed action that has the  
147.14 potential to require a groundwater appropriation permit from the commissioner of natural  
147.15 resources, the board shall require that the environmental assessment worksheet include an  
147.16 assessment of the water resources available for appropriation.

147.17 Sec. 113. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 168.1296, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

147.18 Subdivision 1. **General requirements and procedures.** (a) The commissioner shall  
147.19 issue critical habitat plates to an applicant who:

147.20 (1) is a registered owner of a passenger automobile as defined in section 168.002,  
147.21 subdivision 24, or recreational vehicle as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 27;

147.22 (2) pays a fee of \$10 to cover the costs of handling and manufacturing the plates;

147.23 (3) pays the registration tax required under section 168.013;

147.24 (4) pays the fees required under this chapter;

147.25 (5) contributes a minimum of ~~\$30~~ \$40 annually to the Minnesota critical habitat  
147.26 private sector matching account established in section 84.943; and

147.27 (6) complies with this chapter and rules governing registration of motor vehicles  
147.28 and licensing of drivers.

147.29 (b) The critical habitat plate application must indicate that the annual contribution  
147.30 specified under paragraph (a), clause (5), is a minimum contribution to receive the plate  
147.31 and that the applicant may make an additional contribution to the account.

148.1 (c) Owners of recreational vehicles under paragraph (a), clause (1), are eligible  
148.2 only for special critical habitat license plates for which the designs are selected under  
148.3 subdivision 2, on or after January 1, 2006.

148.4 (d) Special critical habitat license plates, the designs for which are selected under  
148.5 subdivision 2, on or after January 1, 2006, may be personalized according to section  
148.6 168.12, subdivision 2a.

148.7 Sec. 114. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 473.846, is amended to read:

148.8 **473.846 REPORTS REPORT TO LEGISLATURE.**

148.9 The agency shall submit to the senate and house of representatives committees  
148.10 having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources ~~separate reports~~ a report  
148.11 describing the activities for which money for landfill abatement has been spent under  
148.12 ~~sections~~ section 473.844 ~~and 473.845~~. The report for ~~section 473.844~~ expenditures shall be  
148.13 included in the report required by section 115A.411, and shall include recommendations  
148.14 on the future management and use of the metropolitan landfill abatement account. ~~By~~  
148.15 ~~December 31 of each year, the commissioner shall submit the report for section 473.845~~  
148.16 ~~on contingency action trust fund activities.~~

148.17 Sec. 115. Laws 2012, chapter 249, section 11, is amended to read:

148.18 Sec. 11. **COSTS OF SCHOOL TRUST LANDS DIRECTOR AND**  
148.19 **LEGISLATIVE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND COMMISSION.**

148.20 (a) The costs of the school trust lands director, including the costs of hiring staff,  
148.21 and the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission for fiscal years 2014 and 2015  
148.22 shall be from the ~~state forest development account under Minnesota Statutes, section~~  
148.23 ~~16A.125, and from the~~ minerals management account under Minnesota Statutes, section  
148.24 93.2236, as appropriated by the legislature.

148.25 (b) The school trust lands director and the Legislative Permanent School Fund  
148.26 Commission shall submit to the 2014 legislature a proposal to fund the operational costs  
148.27 of the Legislative Permanent School Fund Commission and school trust lands director  
148.28 and staff with a cost certification method using revenues generated by the permanent  
148.29 school fund lands.

148.30 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2013.

148.31 Sec. 116. **NORTH MISSISSIPPI REGIONAL PARK.**

149.1 (a) The boundaries of the North Mississippi Regional Park are extended to include  
149.2 the approximately 20.82 acres of land adjacent to the existing park known as Webber Park  
149.3 and that part of Shingle Creek that flows through Webber Park and continues through  
149.4 North Mississippi Regional Park into the Mississippi River.

149.5 (b) Funds appropriated for North Mississippi Regional Park may be expended to  
149.6 provide for visitor amenities, including construction of a natural filtration swimming  
149.7 pool and a building for park users.

149.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after the governing body of  
149.9 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and its chief clerical officer timely complete  
149.10 their compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.

149.11 Sec. 117. **WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; BENEFICIAL USE.**

149.12 The Pollution Control Agency shall apply the following criteria to wastewater  
149.13 treatment system projects:

149.14 (1) 30 points shall be assigned if a project will result in an agency approved  
149.15 beneficial use of treated wastewater to reduce or replace an existing or proposed use of  
149.16 surface water or ground water, not including land discharge; and

149.17 (2) 30 points shall be assigned if a project will result in the beneficial use of treated  
149.18 wastewater to reduce or replace an existing or proposed use of surface water or ground  
149.19 water, not including land discharge.

149.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective July 1, 2014.

149.21 Sec. 118. **PERMIT CANCELLATION.**

149.22 Upon written request submitted by a permit holder to the commissioner of natural  
149.23 resources on or before June 1, 2015, the commissioner shall cancel any provision in a  
149.24 timber sale permit sold prior to September 1, 2012, that requires the security payment for  
149.25 or removal of all or part of the balsam fir when the permit contains at least 50 cords of  
149.26 balsam fir. The remaining provisions of the permit remain in effect. The permit holder  
149.27 may be required to fell or pile the balsam fir to meet management objectives.

149.28 Sec. 119. **RULEMAKING; POSSESSION AND TRANSPORTATION OF**  
149.29 **WILDLIFE.**

149.30 The commissioner of natural resources may use the good cause exemption under  
149.31 Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to adopt rules to conform  
149.32 with the changes to Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 97A.401, subdivision 3 contained in

150.1 this article, and Minnesota Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply except as provided  
150.2 under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388.

150.3       Sec. 120. **RULEMAKING; DISPLAY OF PADDLE BOARD LICENSE**  
150.4 **NUMBERS.**

150.5           (a) The commissioner of natural resources shall amend Minnesota Rules, parts  
150.6 6110.0200, 6110.0300, and 6110.0400, to exempt paddle boards from the requirement to  
150.7 display license certificates and license numbers, in the same manner as other nonmotorized  
150.8 watercraft such as canoes and kayaks.

150.9           (b) The commissioner may use the good cause exemption under Minnesota Statutes,  
150.10 section 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to adopt rules under this section, and Minnesota  
150.11 Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply except as provided under Minnesota Statutes,  
150.12 section 14.388.

150.13       Sec. 121. **RULEMAKING; INDUSTRIAL MINERALS AND NONFERROUS**  
150.14 **MINERAL LEASES.**

150.15           The commissioner of natural resources may use the good cause exemption under  
150.16 Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to amend Minnesota Rules,  
150.17 parts 6125.0100 to 6125.0700 and 6125.8000 to 6125.8700, to conform with the changes  
150.18 to Minnesota Statutes, section 93.25, subdivision 2 contained in this article. Minnesota  
150.19 Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply except as provided under Minnesota Statutes,  
150.20 section 14.388.

150.21       Sec. 122. **RULEMAKING; PERMIT TO MINE.**

150.22           The commissioner of natural resources may use the good cause exemption under  
150.23 Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to amend Minnesota Rules,  
150.24 chapter 6130, to conform with the changes to Minnesota Statutes, section 93.46 contained  
150.25 in this article. Minnesota Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply except as provided  
150.26 under Minnesota Statutes, section 14.388.

150.27       Sec. 123. **RULEMAKING; SILICA SAND.**

150.28           (a) The commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency shall adopt rules pertaining  
150.29 to the control of particulate emissions from silica sand mines. The commissioner shall  
150.30 consider and incorporate, as appropriate to the conditions of this state, Wisconsin  
150.31 Administrative Code NR 415, in effect as of January 1, 2012, pertaining to industrial  
150.32 sand mines.

151.1 (b) The commissioner of natural resources shall adopt rules pertaining to the  
151.2 reclamation of silica sand mines. The commissioner shall consider and incorporate, as  
151.3 appropriate to the conditions of this state, Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 135, in  
151.4 effect as of January 1, 2012, pertaining to reclamation of industrial sand mines.

151.5 (c) By January 1, 2014, the Department of Health shall adopt an air quality health  
151.6 advisory for silica sand.

151.7 Sec. 124. **RULEMAKING; FUGITIVE EMISSIONS.**

151.8 (a) The commissioner of the Pollution Control Agency shall amend Minnesota  
151.9 Rules, part 7005.0100, subpart 35a, to read:

151.10 ""Potential emissions" or "potential to emit" means the maximum capacity while  
151.11 operating at the maximum hours of operation of an emissions unit, emission facility, or  
151.12 stationary source to emit a pollutant under its physical and operational design. Any physical  
151.13 or operational limitation on the capacity of the stationary source to emit a pollutant,  
151.14 including air pollution control equipment and restriction on hours of operation or on the  
151.15 type or amount of material combusted, stored, or processed, must be treated as part of its  
151.16 design if the limitation or the effect it would have on emissions is federally enforceable.

151.17 Secondary emissions must not be counted in determining the potential to emit of  
151.18 an emissions unit, emission facility, or stationary source. Fugitive emissions shall not be  
151.19 counted when determining potential to emit, unless required under Minnesota Rules, part  
151.20 7007.0200, subpart 2, item B, or applicable federal regulation."

151.21 (b) The commissioner may use the good cause exemption under Minnesota Statutes,  
151.22 section 14.388, subdivision 1, clause (3), to adopt rules under this section, and Minnesota  
151.23 Statutes, section 14.386, does not apply, except as provided under Minnesota Statutes,  
151.24 section 14.388.

151.25 Sec. 125. **REPEALER.**

151.26 Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 90.163; 90.173; 90.41, subdivision 2; and  
151.27 103G.265, subdivision 2a, and Minnesota Rules, parts 7021.0010, subparts 1, 2, 4, and  
151.28 5; 7021.0020; 7021.0030; 7021.0040; 7021.0050, subpart 5; 9210.0300; 9210.0310;  
151.29 9210.0320; 9210.0330; 9210.0340; 9210.0350; 9210.0360; 9210.0370; 9210.0380; and  
151.30 9220.0530, subpart 6, are repealed.

152.1 **ARTICLE 5**

152.2 **SANITARY DISTRICTS**

152.3 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2012, section 275.066, is amended to read:

152.4 **275.066 SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS; DEFINITION.**

152.5 For the purposes of property taxation and property tax state aids, the term "special  
152.6 taxing districts" includes the following entities:

- 152.7 (1) watershed districts under chapter 103D;
- 152.8 (2) sanitary districts under sections ~~115.18 to 115.37~~ 442A.01 to 442A.29;
- 152.9 (3) regional sanitary sewer districts under sections 115.61 to 115.67;
- 152.10 (4) regional public library districts under section 134.201;
- 152.11 (5) park districts under chapter 398;
- 152.12 (6) regional railroad authorities under chapter 398A;
- 152.13 (7) hospital districts under sections 447.31 to 447.38;
- 152.14 (8) St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission under sections 458A.01 to 458A.15;
- 152.15 (9) Duluth Transit Authority under sections 458A.21 to 458A.37;
- 152.16 (10) regional development commissions under sections 462.381 to 462.398;
- 152.17 (11) housing and redevelopment authorities under sections 469.001 to 469.047;
- 152.18 (12) port authorities under sections 469.048 to 469.068;
- 152.19 (13) economic development authorities under sections 469.090 to 469.1081;
- 152.20 (14) Metropolitan Council under sections 473.123 to 473.549;
- 152.21 (15) Metropolitan Airports Commission under sections 473.601 to 473.680;
- 152.22 (16) Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission under sections 473.701 to 473.716;
- 152.23 (17) Morrison County Rural Development Financing Authority under Laws 1982,  
152.24 chapter 437, section 1;
- 152.25 (18) Croft Historical Park District under Laws 1984, chapter 502, article 13, section 6;
- 152.26 (19) East Lake County Medical Clinic District under Laws 1989, chapter 211,  
152.27 sections 1 to 6;
- 152.28 (20) Floodwood Area Ambulance District under Laws 1993, chapter 375, article  
152.29 5, section 39;
- 152.30 (21) Middle Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization under sections  
152.31 103B.211 and 103B.241;
- 152.32 (22) emergency medical services special taxing districts under section 144F.01;
- 152.33 (23) a county levying under the authority of section 103B.241, 103B.245, or  
152.34 103B.251;

153.1 (24) Southern St. Louis County Special Taxing District; Chris Jensen Nursing Home  
153.2 under Laws 2003, First Special Session chapter 21, article 4, section 12;

153.3 (25) an airport authority created under section 360.0426; and

153.4 (26) any other political subdivision of the state of Minnesota, excluding counties,  
153.5 school districts, cities, and towns, that has the power to adopt and certify a property tax  
153.6 levy to the county auditor, as determined by the commissioner of revenue.

153.7 Sec. 2. **[442A.01] DEFINITIONS.**

153.8 Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** For the purposes of this chapter, the terms defined  
153.9 in this section have the meanings given.

153.10 Subd. 2. **Chief administrative law judge.** "Chief administrative law judge" means  
153.11 the chief administrative law judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings or the delegate  
153.12 of the chief administrative law judge under section 14.48.

153.13 Subd. 3. **District.** "District" means a sanitary district created under this chapter or  
153.14 under Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 115.18 to 115.37.

153.15 Subd. 4. **Municipality.** "Municipality" means a city, however organized.

153.16 Subd. 5. **Property owner.** "Property owner" means the fee owner of land, or the  
153.17 beneficial owner of land whose interest is primarily one of possession and enjoyment.  
153.18 Property owner includes, but is not limited to, vendees under a contract for deed and  
153.19 mortgagors. Any reference to a percentage of property owners means in number.

153.20 Subd. 6. **Related governing body.** "Related governing body" means the governing  
153.21 body of a related governmental subdivision and, in the case of an organized town, means  
153.22 the town board.

153.23 Subd. 7. **Related governmental subdivision.** "Related governmental subdivision"  
153.24 means a municipality or organized town wherein there is a territorial unit of a district or, in  
153.25 the case of an unorganized area, the county.

153.26 Subd. 8. **Territorial unit.** "Territorial unit" means all that part of a district situated  
153.27 within a single municipality, within a single organized town outside of a municipality, or,  
153.28 in the case of an unorganized area, within a single county.

153.29 Sec. 3. **[442A.015] APPLICABILITY.**

153.30 All new sanitary district formations proposed and all sanitary districts previously  
153.31 formed under Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 115.18 to 115.37, must comply with this  
153.32 chapter, including annexations to, detachments from, and resolutions of sanitary districts  
153.33 previously formed under Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 115.18 to 115.37.

154.1 Sec. 4. **[442A.02] SANITARY DISTRICTS; PROCEDURES AND AUTHORITY.**

154.2 **Subdivision 1. Duty of chief administrative law judge.** The chief administrative  
154.3 law judge shall conduct proceedings, make determinations, and issue orders for the  
154.4 creation of a sanitary district formed under this chapter or the annexation, detachment,  
154.5 or dissolution of a sanitary district previously formed under Minnesota Statutes 2012,  
154.6 sections 115.18 to 115.37.

154.7 **Subd. 2. Consolidation of proceedings.** The chief administrative law judge may  
154.8 order the consolidation of separate proceedings in the interest of economy and expedience.

154.9 **Subd. 3. Contracts, consultants.** The chief administrative law judge may contract  
154.10 with regional, state, county, or local planning commissions and hire expert consultants to  
154.11 provide specialized information and assistance.

154.12 **Subd. 4. Powers of conductor of proceedings.** Any person conducting a  
154.13 proceeding under this chapter may administer oaths and affirmations; receive testimony  
154.14 of witnesses, and the production of papers, books, and documents; examine witnesses;  
154.15 and receive and report evidence. Upon the written request of a presiding administrative  
154.16 law judge or a party, the chief administrative law judge may issue a subpoena for the  
154.17 attendance of a witness or the production of books, papers, records, or other documents  
154.18 material to any proceeding under this chapter. The subpoena is enforceable through the  
154.19 district court in the district in which the subpoena is issued.

154.20 **Subd. 5. Rulemaking authority.** The chief administrative law judge may adopt  
154.21 rules that are reasonably necessary to carry out the duties and powers imposed upon the  
154.22 chief administrative law judge under this chapter. The chief administrative law judge may  
154.23 initially adopt rules according to section 14.386. Notwithstanding section 16A.1283, the  
154.24 chief administrative law judge may adopt rules establishing fees.

154.25 **Subd. 6. Schedule of filing fees.** The chief administrative law judge may prescribe  
154.26 by rule a schedule of filing fees for any petitions filed under this chapter.

154.27 **Subd. 7. Request for hearing transcripts; costs.** Any party may request the chief  
154.28 administrative law judge to cause a transcript of the hearing to be made. Any party  
154.29 requesting a copy of the transcript is responsible for its costs.

154.30 **Subd. 8. Compelled meetings; report.** (a) In any proceeding under this chapter,  
154.31 the chief administrative law judge or conductor of the proceeding may at any time in the  
154.32 process require representatives from any petitioner, property owner, or involved city, town,  
154.33 county, political subdivision, or other governmental entity to meet together to discuss  
154.34 resolution of issues raised by the petition or order that confers jurisdiction on the chief  
154.35 administrative law judge and other issues of mutual concern. The chief administrative  
154.36 law judge or conductor of the proceeding may determine which entities are required

155.1 to participate in these discussions. The chief administrative law judge or conductor of  
155.2 the proceeding may require that the parties meet at least three times during a 60-day  
155.3 period. The parties shall designate a person to report to the chief administrative law  
155.4 judge or conductor of the proceeding on the results of the meetings immediately after the  
155.5 last meeting. The parties may be granted additional time at the discretion of the chief  
155.6 administrative law judge or conductor of the proceedings.

155.7 (b) Any proposed resolution or settlement of contested issues that results in a  
155.8 sanitary district formation, annexation, detachment, or dissolution; places conditions on  
155.9 any future sanitary district formation, annexation, detachment, or dissolution; or results in  
155.10 the withdrawal of an objection to a pending proceeding or the withdrawal of a pending  
155.11 proceeding must be filed with the chief administrative law judge and is subject to the  
155.12 applicable procedures and statutory criteria of this chapter.

155.13 Subd. 9. **Permanent official record.** The chief administrative law judge shall  
155.14 provide information about sanitary district creations, annexations, detachments, and  
155.15 dissolutions to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The Minnesota Pollution Control  
155.16 Agency is responsible for maintaining the official record, including all documentation  
155.17 related to the processes.

155.18 Subd. 10. **Shared program costs and fee revenue.** The chief administrative  
155.19 law judge and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency shall agree on an amount to be  
155.20 transferred from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to the chief administrative law  
155.21 judge to pay for administration of this chapter, including publication and notification costs.  
155.22 Sanitary district fees collected by the chief administrative law judge shall be deposited in  
155.23 the environmental fund.

155.24 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Subdivision 5 is effective the day following final enactment.

155.25 Sec. 5. **[442A.03] FILING OF MAPS IN SANITARY DISTRICT PROCEEDINGS.**

155.26 Any party initiating a sanitary district proceeding that includes platted land shall file  
155.27 with the chief administrative law judge maps which are necessary to support and identify  
155.28 the land description. The maps shall include copies of plats.

155.29 Sec. 6. **[442A.04] SANITARY DISTRICT CREATION.**

155.30 Subdivision 1. **Sanitary district creation.** (a) A sanitary district may be created  
155.31 under this chapter for any territory embracing an area or a group of two or more adjacent  
155.32 areas, whether contiguous or separate, but not situated entirely within the limits of a  
155.33 single municipality. The proposed sanitary district must promote the public health and  
155.34 welfare by providing an adequate and efficient system and means of collecting, conveying,

156.1 pumping, treating, and disposing of domestic sewage and garbage and industrial wastes  
156.2 within the district. When the chief administrative law judge or the Minnesota Pollution  
156.3 Control Agency finds that there is need throughout the territory for the accomplishment  
156.4 of these purposes; that these purposes can be effectively accomplished on an equitable  
156.5 basis by a district if created; and that the creation and maintenance of a district will be  
156.6 administratively feasible and in furtherance of the public health, safety, and welfare, the  
156.7 chief administrative law judge shall make an order creating the sanitary district. A sanitary  
156.8 district is administratively feasible under this section if the district has the financial and  
156.9 managerial resources needed to deliver adequate and efficient sanitary sewer services  
156.10 within the proposed district.

156.11 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), no district shall be created within 25 miles of the  
156.12 boundary of any city of the first class without the approval of the governing body thereof  
156.13 and the approval of the governing body of each and every municipality in the proposed  
156.14 district by resolution filed with the chief administrative law judge.

156.15 (c) If the chief administrative law judge and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
156.16 disagree on the need to create a sanitary district, they must determine whether not allowing  
156.17 the sanitary district formation will have a detrimental effect on the environment. If it is  
156.18 determined that the sanitary district formation will prevent environmental harm, the sanitary  
156.19 district creation or connection to an existing wastewater treatment system must occur.

156.20 Subd. 2. **Proceeding to create sanitary district.** (a) A proceeding for the creation  
156.21 of a district may be initiated by a petition to the chief administrative law judge containing  
156.22 the following:

156.23 (1) a request for creation of the proposed district;

156.24 (2) the name proposed for the district, to include the words "sanitary district";

156.25 (3) a legal description of the territory of the proposed district, including justification  
156.26 for inclusion or exclusion for all parcels;

156.27 (4) addresses of every property owner within the proposed district boundaries as  
156.28 provided by the county auditor, with certification from the county auditor; two sets of  
156.29 address labels for said owners; and a list of e-mail addresses for said owners, if available;

156.30 (5) a statement showing the existence in the territory of the conditions requisite for  
156.31 creation of a district as prescribed in subdivision 1;

156.32 (6) a statement of the territorial units represented by and the qualifications of the  
156.33 respective signers; and

156.34 (7) the post office address of each signer, given under the signer's signature.

157.1 A petition may consist of separate writings of like effect, each signed by one or more  
157.2 qualified persons, and all such writings, when filed, shall be considered together as a  
157.3 single petition.

157.4 (b) Petitioners must conduct and pay for a public meeting to inform citizens of the  
157.5 proposed creation of the district. At the meeting, information must be provided, including  
157.6 a description of the district's proposed structure, bylaws, territory, ordinances, budget, and  
157.7 charges and a description of the territory of the proposed district, including justification  
157.8 for inclusion or exclusion for all parcels. Notice of the meeting must be published for two  
157.9 successive weeks in a qualified newspaper, as defined under chapter 331A, published  
157.10 within the territory of the proposed district or, if there is no qualified newspaper published  
157.11 within the territory, in a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the territory, and  
157.12 must be posted for two weeks in each territorial unit of the proposed district and on the  
157.13 Web site of the proposed district, if one exists. Notice of the meeting must be mailed or  
157.14 e-mailed at least three weeks prior to the meeting to all property tax billing addresses for  
157.15 all parcels included in the proposed district. The following must be submitted to the chief  
157.16 administrative law judge with the petition:

157.17 (1) a record of the meeting, including copies of all information provided at the  
157.18 meeting;

157.19 (2) a copy of the mailing list provided by the county auditor and used to notify  
157.20 property owners of the meeting;

157.21 (3) a copy of the e-mail list used to notify property owners of the meeting;

157.22 (4) the printer's affidavit of publication of public meeting notice;

157.23 (5) an affidavit of posting the public meeting notice with information on dates and  
157.24 locations of posting; and

157.25 (6) the minutes or other record of the public meeting documenting that the following  
157.26 topics were discussed: printer's affidavit of publication of each resolution, with a copy  
157.27 of the resolution from the newspaper attached; and the affidavit of resolution posting  
157.28 on the town or proposed district Web site.

157.29 (c) Every petition must be signed as follows:

157.30 (1) for each municipality wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed district,  
157.31 by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the municipal governing body;

157.32 (2) for each organized town wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed district,  
157.33 by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the town board;

157.34 (3) for each county wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed district consisting  
157.35 of an unorganized area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the county  
157.36 board or by at least 20 percent of the voters residing and owning land within the unit.

158.1 (d) Each resolution must be published in the official newspaper of the governing  
158.2 body adopting it and becomes effective 40 days after publication, unless within said  
158.3 period there shall be filed with the governing body a petition signed by qualified electors  
158.4 of a territorial unit of the proposed district, equal in number to five percent of the number  
158.5 of electors voting at the last preceding election of the governing body, requesting a  
158.6 referendum on the resolution, in which case the resolution may not become effective until  
158.7 approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting at a regular election or special  
158.8 election that the governing body may call. The notice of an election and the ballot to be  
158.9 used must contain the text of the resolution followed by the question: "Shall the above  
158.10 resolution be approved?"

158.11 (e) If any signer is alleged to be a landowner in a territorial unit, a statement as to  
158.12 the signer's landowner status as shown by the county auditor's tax assessment records,  
158.13 certified by the auditor, shall be attached to or endorsed upon the petition.

158.14 (f) At any time before publication of the public notice required in subdivision 3,  
158.15 additional signatures may be added to the petition or amendments of the petition may  
158.16 be made to correct or remedy any error or defect in signature or otherwise except a  
158.17 material error or defect in the description of the territory of the proposed district. If the  
158.18 qualifications of any signer of a petition are challenged, the chief administrative law judge  
158.19 shall determine the challenge forthwith on the allegations of the petition, the county  
158.20 auditor's certificate of land ownership, and such other evidence as may be received.

158.21 Subd. 3. **Notice of intent to create sanitary district.** (a) Upon receipt of a petition  
158.22 and the record of the public meeting required under subdivision 2, the chief administrative  
158.23 law judge shall publish a notice of intent to create the proposed sanitary district in the State  
158.24 Register and mail or e-mail information of that publication to each property owner in the  
158.25 affected territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The information  
158.26 must state the date that the notice will appear in the State Register and give the Web site  
158.27 location for the State Register. The notice must:

158.28 (1) describe the petition for creation of the district;

158.29 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition;

158.30 (3) allow 30 days for submission of written comments on the petition;

158.31 (4) state that a person who objects to the petition may submit a written request for  
158.32 hearing to the chief administrative law judge within 30 days of the publication of the  
158.33 notice in the State Register; and

158.34 (5) state that if a timely request for hearing is not received, the chief administrative  
158.35 law judge may make a decision on the petition.

159.1 (b) If 50 or more individual timely requests for hearing are received, the chief  
159.2 administrative law judge must hold a hearing on the petition according to the contested  
159.3 case provisions of chapter 14. The sanitary district proposers are responsible for paying all  
159.4 costs involved in publicizing and holding a hearing on the petition.

159.5 Subd. 4. **Hearing time, place.** If a hearing is required pursuant to subdivision 3, the  
159.6 chief administrative law judge shall designate a time and place for a hearing according  
159.7 to section 442A.13.

159.8 Subd. 5. **Relevant factors.** (a) In arriving at a decision, the chief administrative law  
159.9 judge shall consider the following factors:

159.10 (1) administrative feasibility under subdivision 1, paragraph (a);

159.11 (2) public health, safety, and welfare impacts;

159.12 (3) alternatives for managing the public health impacts;

159.13 (4) equities of the petition proposal;

159.14 (5) contours of the petition proposal; and

159.15 (6) public notification of and interaction on the petition proposal.

159.16 (b) Based on the factors in paragraph (a), the chief administrative law judge may  
159.17 order the sanitary district creation on finding that:

159.18 (1) the proposed district is administratively feasible;

159.19 (2) the proposed district provides a long-term, equitable solution to pollution  
159.20 problems affecting public health, safety, and welfare;

159.21 (3) property owners within the proposed district were provided notice of the  
159.22 proposed district and opportunity to comment on the petition proposal; and

159.23 (4) the petition complied with the requirements of all applicable statutes and rules  
159.24 pertaining to sanitary district creation.

159.25 (c) The chief administrative law judge may alter the boundaries of the proposed  
159.26 sanitary district by increasing or decreasing the area to be included or may exclude  
159.27 property that may be better served by another unit of government. The chief administrative  
159.28 law judge may also alter the boundaries of the proposed district so as to follow visible,  
159.29 clearly recognizable physical features for municipal boundaries.

159.30 (d) The chief administrative law judge may deny sanitary district creation if the area,  
159.31 or a part thereof, would be better served by an alternative method.

159.32 (e) In all cases, the chief administrative law judge shall set forth the factors that are  
159.33 the basis for the decision.

159.34 Subd. 6. **Findings; order.** After the public notice period or the public hearing, if  
159.35 required under subdivision 3, and based on the petition, any public comments received,  
159.36 and, if a hearing was held, the hearing record, the chief administrative law judge shall

160.1 make findings of fact and conclusions determining whether the conditions requisite for the  
160.2 creation of a district exist in the territory described in the petition. If the chief administrative  
160.3 law judge finds that the conditions exist, the judge may make an order creating a district  
160.4 for the territory described in that petition under the name proposed in the petition or such  
160.5 other name, including the words "sanitary district," as the judge deems appropriate.

160.6 Subd. 7. **Denial of petition.** If the chief administrative law judge, after conclusion  
160.7 of the public notice period or holding a hearing, if required, determines that the creation of  
160.8 a district in the territory described in the petition is not warranted, the judge shall make  
160.9 an order denying the petition. The chief administrative law judge shall give notice of the  
160.10 denial by mail or e-mail to each signer of the petition. No petition for the creation of a  
160.11 district consisting of the same territory shall be entertained within a year after the date of  
160.12 an order under this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision precludes action on a petition  
160.13 for the creation of a district embracing part of the territory with or without other territory.

160.14 Subd. 8. **Notice of order creating sanitary district.** The chief administrative law  
160.15 judge shall publish a notice in the State Register of the final order creating a sanitary  
160.16 district, referring to the date of the order and describing the territory of the district, and  
160.17 shall mail or e-mail information of the publication to each property owner in the affected  
160.18 territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The information must state  
160.19 the date that the notice will appear in the State Register and give the Web site location  
160.20 for the State Register. The notice must:

- 160.21 (1) describe the petition for creation of the district;  
160.22 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition; and  
160.23 (3) state that a certified copy of the order shall be delivered to the secretary of state  
160.24 for filing ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register.

160.25 Subd. 9. **Filing.** Ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register, the  
160.26 chief administrative law judge shall deliver a certified copy of the order to the secretary  
160.27 of state for filing. Thereupon, the creation of the district is deemed complete, and it  
160.28 shall be conclusively presumed that all requirements of law relating thereto have been  
160.29 complied with. The chief administrative law judge shall also transmit a certified copy of  
160.30 the order for filing to the county auditor of each county and the clerk or recorder of each  
160.31 municipality and organized town wherein any part of the territory of the district is situated  
160.32 and to the secretary of the district board when elected.

160.33 Sec. 7. **[442A.05] SANITARY DISTRICT ANNEXATION.**

161.1 Subdivision 1. **Annexation.** (a) A sanitary district annexation may occur under  
161.2 this chapter for any area adjacent to an existing district upon a petition to the chief  
161.3 administrative law judge stating the grounds therefor as provided in this section.

161.4 (b) The proposed annexation area must embrace an area or a group of two or more  
161.5 adjacent areas, whether contiguous or separate, but not situated entirely within the limits  
161.6 of a single municipality. The proposed annexation must promote public health and  
161.7 welfare by providing an adequate and efficient system and means of collecting, conveying,  
161.8 pumping, treating, and disposing of domestic sewage and garbage and industrial wastes  
161.9 within the district. When the chief administrative law judge or the Minnesota Pollution  
161.10 Control Agency finds that there is need throughout the territory for the accomplishment of  
161.11 these purposes, that these purposes can be effectively accomplished on an equitable basis  
161.12 by annexation to a district, and that the creation and maintenance of such annexation will  
161.13 be administratively feasible and in furtherance of the public health, safety, and welfare,  
161.14 the chief administrative law judge shall make an order for sanitary district annexation.  
161.15 A sanitary district is administratively feasible under this section if the district has the  
161.16 financial and managerial resources needed to deliver adequate and efficient sanitary sewer  
161.17 services within the proposed district.

161.18 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), no annexation to a district shall be approved  
161.19 within 25 miles of the boundary of any city of the first class without the approval  
161.20 of the governing body thereof and the approval of the governing body of each and  
161.21 every municipality in the proposed annexation area by resolution filed with the chief  
161.22 administrative law judge.

161.23 (d) If the chief administrative law judge and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
161.24 disagree on the need for a sanitary district annexation, they must determine whether not  
161.25 allowing the sanitary district annexation will have a detrimental effect on the environment.  
161.26 If it is determined that the sanitary district annexation will prevent environmental harm,  
161.27 the sanitary district annexation or connection to an existing wastewater treatment system  
161.28 must occur.

161.29 Subd. 2. **Proceeding for annexation.** (a) A proceeding for sanitary district  
161.30 annexation may be initiated by a petition to the chief administrative law judge containing  
161.31 the following:

161.32 (1) a request for proposed annexation to a sanitary district;

161.33 (2) a legal description of the territory of the proposed annexation, including  
161.34 justification for inclusion or exclusion for all parcels;

161.35 (3) addresses of every property owner within the existing sanitary district and  
161.36 proposed annexation area boundaries as provided by the county auditor, with certification

162.1 from the county auditor; two sets of address labels for said owners; and a list of e-mail  
162.2 addresses for said owners, if available;

162.3 (4) a statement showing the existence in such territory of the conditions requisite  
162.4 for annexation to a district as prescribed in subdivision 1;

162.5 (5) a statement of the territorial units represented by and qualifications of the  
162.6 respective signers; and

162.7 (6) the post office address of each signer, given under the signer's signature.

162.8 A petition may consist of separate writings of like effect, each signed by one or more  
162.9 qualified persons, and all such writings, when filed, shall be considered together as a  
162.10 single petition.

162.11 (b) Petitioners must conduct and pay for a public meeting to inform citizens of the  
162.12 proposed annexation to a sanitary district. At the meeting, information must be provided,  
162.13 including a description of the existing sanitary district's structure, bylaws, territory,  
162.14 ordinances, budget, and charges; a description of the existing sanitary district's territory;  
162.15 and a description of the territory of the proposed annexation area, including justification  
162.16 for inclusion or exclusion for all parcels for the annexation area. Notice of the meeting  
162.17 must be published for two successive weeks in a qualified newspaper, as defined under  
162.18 chapter 331A, published within the territories of the existing sanitary district and proposed  
162.19 annexation area or, if there is no qualified newspaper published within those territories, in  
162.20 a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the territories, and must be posted for two  
162.21 weeks in each territorial unit of the existing sanitary district and proposed annexation area  
162.22 and on the Web site of the existing sanitary district, if one exists. Notice of the meeting  
162.23 must be mailed or e-mailed at least three weeks prior to the meeting to all property tax  
162.24 billing addresses for all parcels included in the existing sanitary district and proposed  
162.25 annexation area. The following must be submitted to the chief administrative law judge  
162.26 with the petition:

162.27 (1) a record of the meeting, including copies of all information provided at the  
162.28 meeting;

162.29 (2) a copy of the mailing list provided by the county auditor and used to notify  
162.30 property owners of the meeting;

162.31 (3) a copy of the e-mail list used to notify property owners of the meeting;

162.32 (4) the printer's affidavit of publication of the public meeting notice;

162.33 (5) an affidavit of posting the public meeting notice with information on dates and  
162.34 locations of posting; and

162.35 (6) the minutes or other record of the public meeting documenting that the following  
162.36 topics were discussed: printer's affidavit of publication of each resolution, with copy

163.1 of resolution from newspaper attached; and affidavit of resolution posting on town or  
163.2 existing sanitary district Web site.

163.3 (c) Every petition must be signed as follows:

163.4 (1) by an authorized officer of the existing sanitary district pursuant to a resolution  
163.5 of the board;

163.6 (2) for each municipality wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed annexation  
163.7 area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the municipal governing body;

163.8 (3) for each organized town wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed  
163.9 annexation area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the town board; and

163.10 (4) for each county wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed annexation area  
163.11 consisting of an unorganized area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the  
163.12 county board or by at least 20 percent of the voters residing and owning land within the unit.

163.13 (d) Each resolution must be published in the official newspaper of the governing  
163.14 body adopting it and becomes effective 40 days after publication, unless within said  
163.15 period there shall be filed with the governing body a petition signed by qualified electors  
163.16 of a territorial unit of the proposed annexation area, equal in number to five percent of the  
163.17 number of electors voting at the last preceding election of the governing body, requesting  
163.18 a referendum on the resolution, in which case the resolution may not become effective  
163.19 until approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting at a regular election or special  
163.20 election that the governing body may call. The notice of an election and the ballot to be  
163.21 used must contain the text of the resolution followed by the question: "Shall the above  
163.22 resolution be approved?"

163.23 (e) If any signer is alleged to be a landowner in a territorial unit, a statement as to  
163.24 the signer's landowner status as shown by the county auditor's tax assessment records,  
163.25 certified by the auditor, shall be attached to or endorsed upon the petition.

163.26 (f) At any time before publication of the public notice required in subdivision 4,  
163.27 additional signatures may be added to the petition or amendments of the petition may be  
163.28 made to correct or remedy any error or defect in signature or otherwise except a material  
163.29 error or defect in the description of the territory of the proposed annexation area. If the  
163.30 qualifications of any signer of a petition are challenged, the chief administrative law judge  
163.31 shall determine the challenge forthwith on the allegations of the petition, the county  
163.32 auditor's certificate of land ownership, and such other evidence as may be received.

163.33 Subd. 3. **Joint petition.** Different areas may be annexed to a district in a single  
163.34 proceeding upon a joint petition therefor and upon compliance with the provisions of  
163.35 subdivisions 1 and 2 with respect to the area affected so far as applicable.

164.1 Subd. 4. **Notice of intent for sanitary district annexation.** (a) Upon receipt  
 164.2 of a petition and the record of public meeting required under subdivision 2, the chief  
 164.3 administrative law judge shall publish a notice of intent for sanitary district annexation  
 164.4 in the State Register and mail or e-mail information of the publication to each property  
 164.5 owner in the affected territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The  
 164.6 information must state the date that the notice will appear in the State Register and give  
 164.7 the Web site location for the State Register. The notice must:

164.8 (1) describe the petition for sanitary district annexation;

164.9 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition;

164.10 (3) allow 30 days for submission of written comments on the petition;

164.11 (4) state that a person who objects to the petition may submit a written request for  
 164.12 hearing to the chief administrative law judge within 30 days of the publication of the  
 164.13 notice in the State Register; and

164.14 (5) state that if a timely request for hearing is not received, the chief administrative  
 164.15 law judge may make a decision on the petition.

164.16 (b) If 50 or more individual timely requests for hearing are received, the chief  
 164.17 administrative law judge must hold a hearing on the petition according to the contested case  
 164.18 provisions of chapter 14. The sanitary district or annexation area proposers are responsible  
 164.19 for paying all costs involved in publicizing and holding a hearing on the petition.

164.20 Subd. 5. **Hearing time, place.** If a hearing is required under subdivision 4, the  
 164.21 chief administrative law judge shall designate a time and place for a hearing according  
 164.22 to section 442A.13.

164.23 Subd. 6. **Relevant factors.** (a) In arriving at a decision, the chief administrative law  
 164.24 judge shall consider the following factors:

164.25 (1) administrative feasibility under subdivision 1, paragraph (b);

164.26 (2) public health, safety, and welfare impacts;

164.27 (3) alternatives for managing the public health impacts;

164.28 (4) equities of the petition proposal;

164.29 (5) contours of the petition proposal; and

164.30 (6) public notification of and interaction on the petition proposal.

164.31 (b) Based upon these factors, the chief administrative law judge may order the  
 164.32 annexation to the sanitary district on finding that:

164.33 (1) the sanitary district is knowledgeable and experienced in delivering sanitary sewer  
 164.34 services to ratepayers and has provided quality service in a fair and cost-effective manner;

164.35 (2) the proposed annexation provides a long-term, equitable solution to pollution  
 164.36 problems affecting public health, safety, and welfare;

165.1 (3) property owners within the existing sanitary district and proposed annexation  
165.2 area were provided notice of the proposed district and opportunity to comment on the  
165.3 petition proposal; and

165.4 (4) the petition complied with the requirements of all applicable statutes and rules  
165.5 pertaining to sanitary district annexation.

165.6 (c) The chief administrative law judge may alter the boundaries of the proposed  
165.7 annexation area by increasing or decreasing the area to be included or may exclude  
165.8 property that may be better served by another unit of government. The chief administrative  
165.9 law judge may also alter the boundaries of the proposed annexation area so as to follow  
165.10 visible, clearly recognizable physical features for municipal boundaries.

165.11 (d) The chief administrative law judge may deny sanitary district annexation if the  
165.12 area, or a part thereof, would be better served by an alternative method.

165.13 (e) In all cases, the chief administrative law judge shall set forth the factors that are  
165.14 the basis for the decision.

165.15 Subd. 7. **Findings; order.** (a) After the public notice period or the public hearing, if  
165.16 required under subdivision 4, and based on the petition, any public comments received,  
165.17 and, if a hearing was held, the hearing record, the chief administrative law judge shall  
165.18 make findings of fact and conclusions determining whether the conditions requisite for  
165.19 the sanitary district annexation exist in the territory described in the petition. If the chief  
165.20 administrative law judge finds that conditions exist, the judge may make an order for  
165.21 sanitary district annexation for the territory described in the petition.

165.22 (b) All taxable property within the annexed area shall be subject to taxation for  
165.23 any existing bonded indebtedness or other indebtedness of the district for the cost of  
165.24 acquisition, construction, or improvement of any disposal system or other works or  
165.25 facilities beneficial to the annexed area to such extent as the chief administrative law judge  
165.26 may determine to be just and equitable, to be specified in the order for annexation. The  
165.27 proper officers shall levy further taxes on such property accordingly.

165.28 Subd. 8. **Denial of petition.** If the chief administrative law judge, after conclusion  
165.29 of the public notice period or holding a hearing, if required, determines that the sanitary  
165.30 district annexation in the territory described in the petition is not warranted, the judge shall  
165.31 make an order denying the petition. The chief administrative law judge shall give notice  
165.32 of the denial by mail or e-mail to each signer of the petition. No petition for a sanitary  
165.33 district annexation consisting of the same territory shall be entertained within a year  
165.34 after the date of an order under this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision precludes  
165.35 action on a petition for a sanitary district annexation embracing part of the territory with  
165.36 or without other territory.

166.1 Subd. 9. **Notice of order for sanitary district annexation.** The chief administrative  
166.2 law judge shall publish in the State Register a notice of the final order for sanitary district  
166.3 annexation, referring to the date of the order and describing the territory of the annexation  
166.4 area, and shall mail or e-mail information of the publication to each property owner in the  
166.5 affected territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The information  
166.6 must state the date that the notice will appear in the State Register and give the Web site  
166.7 location for the State Register. The notice must:

166.8 (1) describe the petition for annexation to the district;

166.9 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition; and

166.10 (3) state that a certified copy of the order shall be delivered to the secretary of state  
166.11 for filing ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register.

166.12 Subd. 10. **Filing.** Ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register, the  
166.13 chief administrative law judge shall deliver a certified copy of the order to the secretary  
166.14 of state for filing. Thereupon, the sanitary district annexation is deemed complete, and it  
166.15 shall be conclusively presumed that all requirements of law relating thereto have been  
166.16 complied with. The chief administrative law judge shall also transmit a certified copy of  
166.17 the order for filing to the county auditor of each county and the clerk or recorder of each  
166.18 municipality and organized town wherein any part of the territory of the district, including  
166.19 the newly annexed area, is situated and to the secretary of the district board.

166.20 Sec. 8. **[442A.06] SANITARY DISTRICT DETACHMENT.**

166.21 Subdivision 1. **Detachment.** (a) A sanitary district detachment may occur under this  
166.22 chapter for any area within an existing district upon a petition to the chief administrative  
166.23 law judge stating the grounds therefor as provided in this section.

166.24 (b) The proposed detachment must not have any negative environmental impact  
166.25 on the proposed detachment area.

166.26 (c) If the chief administrative law judge and the Minnesota Pollution Control  
166.27 Agency disagree on the need for a sanitary district detachment, they must determine  
166.28 whether not allowing the sanitary district detachment will have a detrimental effect on  
166.29 the environment. If it is determined that the sanitary district detachment will cause  
166.30 environmental harm, the sanitary district detachment is not allowed unless the detached  
166.31 area is immediately connected to an existing wastewater treatment system.

166.32 Subd. 2. **Proceeding for detachment.** (a) A proceeding for sanitary district  
166.33 detachment may be initiated by a petition to the chief administrative law judge containing  
166.34 the following:

166.35 (1) a request for proposed detachment from a sanitary district;

167.1 (2) a statement that the requisite conditions for inclusion in a district no longer exist  
167.2 in the proposed detachment area;

167.3 (3) a legal description of the territory of the proposed detachment, including  
167.4 justification for inclusion or exclusion for all parcels;

167.5 (4) addresses of every property owner within the sanitary district and proposed  
167.6 detachment area boundaries as provided by the county auditor, with certification from the  
167.7 county auditor; two sets of address labels for said owners; and a list of e-mail addresses  
167.8 for said owners, if available;

167.9 (5) a statement of the territorial units represented by and qualifications of the  
167.10 respective signers; and

167.11 (6) the post office address of each signer, given under the signer's signature.

167.12 A petition may consist of separate writings of like effect, each signed by one or more  
167.13 qualified persons, and all such writings, when filed, shall be considered together as a  
167.14 single petition.

167.15 (b) Petitioners must conduct and pay for a public meeting to inform citizens of  
167.16 the proposed detachment from a sanitary district. At the meeting, information must be  
167.17 provided, including a description of the existing district's territory and a description of the  
167.18 territory of the proposed detachment area, including justification for inclusion or exclusion  
167.19 for all parcels for the detachment area. Notice of the meeting must be published for two  
167.20 successive weeks in a qualified newspaper, as defined under chapter 331A, published  
167.21 within the territories of the existing sanitary district and proposed detachment area or, if  
167.22 there is no qualified newspaper published within those territories, in a qualified newspaper  
167.23 of general circulation in the territories, and must be posted for two weeks in each territorial  
167.24 unit of the existing sanitary district and proposed detachment area and on the Web site  
167.25 of the existing sanitary district, if one exists. Notice of the meeting must be mailed or  
167.26 e-mailed at least three weeks prior to the meeting to all property tax billing addresses for  
167.27 all parcels included in the sanitary district. The following must be submitted to the chief  
167.28 administrative law judge with the petition:

167.29 (1) a record of the meeting, including copies of all information provided at the  
167.30 meeting;

167.31 (2) a copy of the mailing list provided by the county auditor and used to notify  
167.32 property owners of the meeting;

167.33 (3) a copy of the e-mail list used to notify property owners of the meeting;

167.34 (4) the printer's affidavit of publication of public meeting notice;

167.35 (5) an affidavit of posting the public meeting notice with information on dates and  
167.36 locations of posting; and

168.1 (6) minutes or other record of the public meeting documenting that the following  
168.2 topics were discussed: printer's affidavit of publication of each resolution, with copy  
168.3 of resolution from newspaper attached; and affidavit of resolution posting on town or  
168.4 existing sanitary district Web site.

168.5 (c) Every petition must be signed as follows:

168.6 (1) by an authorized officer of the existing sanitary district pursuant to a resolution  
168.7 of the board;

168.8 (2) for each municipality wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed detachment  
168.9 area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the municipal governing body;

168.10 (3) for each organized town wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed  
168.11 detachment area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the town board; and

168.12 (4) for each county wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed detachment area  
168.13 consisting of an unorganized area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the  
168.14 county board or by at least 20 percent of the voters residing and owning land within the unit.

168.15 (d) Each resolution must be published in the official newspaper of the governing  
168.16 body adopting it and becomes effective 40 days after publication, unless within said period  
168.17 there shall be filed with the governing body a petition signed by qualified electors of a  
168.18 territorial unit of the proposed detachment area, equal in number to five percent of the  
168.19 number of electors voting at the last preceding election of the governing body, requesting  
168.20 a referendum on the resolution, in which case the resolution may not become effective  
168.21 until approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting at a regular election or special  
168.22 election that the governing body may call. The notice of an election and the ballot to be  
168.23 used must contain the text of the resolution followed by the question: "Shall the above  
168.24 resolution be approved?"

168.25 (e) If any signer is alleged to be a landowner in a territorial unit, a statement as to  
168.26 the signer's landowner status as shown by the county auditor's tax assessment records,  
168.27 certified by the auditor, shall be attached to or endorsed upon the petition.

168.28 (f) At any time before publication of the public notice required in subdivision 4,  
168.29 additional signatures may be added to the petition or amendments of the petition may be  
168.30 made to correct or remedy any error or defect in signature or otherwise except a material  
168.31 error or defect in the description of the territory of the proposed detachment area. If the  
168.32 qualifications of any signer of a petition are challenged, the chief administrative law judge  
168.33 shall determine the challenge forthwith on the allegations of the petition, the county  
168.34 auditor's certificate of land ownership, and such other evidence as may be received.

169.1 Subd. 3. **Joint petition.** Different areas may be detached from a district in a single  
169.2 proceeding upon a joint petition therefor and upon compliance with the provisions of  
169.3 subdivisions 1 and 2 with respect to the area affected so far as applicable.

169.4 Subd. 4. **Notice of intent for sanitary district detachment.** (a) Upon receipt  
169.5 of a petition and record of public meeting required under subdivision 2, the chief  
169.6 administrative law judge shall publish a notice of intent for sanitary district detachment  
169.7 in the State Register and mail or e-mail information of the publication to each property  
169.8 owner in the affected territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The  
169.9 information must state the date that the notice will appear in the State Register and give  
169.10 the Web site location for the State Register. The notice must:

169.11 (1) describe the petition for sanitary district detachment;

169.12 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition;

169.13 (3) allow 30 days for submission of written comments on the petition;

169.14 (4) state that a person who objects to the petition may submit a written request for  
169.15 hearing to the chief administrative law judge within 30 days of the publication of the  
169.16 notice in the State Register; and

169.17 (5) state that if a timely request for hearing is not received, the chief administrative  
169.18 law judge may make a decision on the petition.

169.19 (b) If 50 or more individual timely requests for hearing are received, the chief  
169.20 administrative law judge must hold a hearing on the petition according to the contested case  
169.21 provisions of chapter 14. The sanitary district or detachment area proposers are responsible  
169.22 for paying all costs involved in publicizing and holding a hearing on the petition.

169.23 Subd. 5. **Hearing time, place.** If a hearing is required under subdivision 4, the  
169.24 chief administrative law judge shall designate a time and place for a hearing according  
169.25 to section 442A.13.

169.26 Subd. 6. **Relevant factors.** (a) In arriving at a decision, the chief administrative law  
169.27 judge shall consider the following factors:

169.28 (1) public health, safety, and welfare impacts for the proposed detachment area;

169.29 (2) alternatives for managing the public health impacts for the proposed detachment  
169.30 area;

169.31 (3) equities of the petition proposal;

169.32 (4) contours of the petition proposal; and

169.33 (5) public notification of and interaction on the petition proposal.

169.34 (b) Based upon these factors, the chief administrative law judge may order the  
169.35 detachment from the sanitary district on finding that:

170.1 (1) the proposed detachment area has adequate alternatives for managing public  
170.2 health impacts due to the detachment;

170.3 (2) the proposed detachment area is not necessary for the district to provide a  
170.4 long-term, equitable solution to pollution problems affecting public health, safety, and  
170.5 welfare;

170.6 (3) property owners within the existing sanitary district and proposed detachment  
170.7 area were provided notice of the proposed detachment and opportunity to comment on  
170.8 the petition proposal; and

170.9 (4) the petition complied with the requirements of all applicable statutes and rules  
170.10 pertaining to sanitary district detachment.

170.11 (c) The chief administrative law judge may alter the boundaries of the proposed  
170.12 detachment area by increasing or decreasing the area to be included or may exclude  
170.13 property that may be better served by another unit of government. The chief administrative  
170.14 law judge may also alter the boundaries of the proposed detachment area so as to follow  
170.15 visible, clearly recognizable physical features for municipal boundaries.

170.16 (d) The chief administrative law judge may deny sanitary district detachment if the  
170.17 area, or a part thereof, would be better served by an alternative method.

170.18 (e) In all cases, the chief administrative law judge shall set forth the factors that are  
170.19 the basis for the decision.

170.20 Subd. 7. **Findings; order.** (a) After the public notice period or the public hearing, if  
170.21 required under subdivision 4, and based on the petition, any public comments received,  
170.22 and, if a hearing was held, the hearing record, the chief administrative law judge shall  
170.23 make findings of fact and conclusions determining whether the conditions requisite for  
170.24 the sanitary district detachment exist in the territory described in the petition. If the chief  
170.25 administrative law judge finds that conditions exist, the judge may make an order for  
170.26 sanitary district detachment for the territory described in the petition.

170.27 (b) All taxable property within the detached area shall remain subject to taxation  
170.28 for any existing bonded indebtedness of the district to such extent as it would have been  
170.29 subject thereto if not detached and shall also remain subject to taxation for any other  
170.30 existing indebtedness of the district incurred for any purpose beneficial to such area to  
170.31 such extent as the chief administrative law judge may determine to be just and equitable,  
170.32 to be specified in the order for detachment. The proper officers shall levy further taxes on  
170.33 such property accordingly.

170.34 Subd. 8. **Denial of petition.** If the chief administrative law judge, after conclusion  
170.35 of the public notice period or holding a hearing, if required, determines that the sanitary  
170.36 district detachment in the territory described in the petition is not warranted, the judge

171.1 shall make an order denying the petition. The chief administrative law judge shall give  
 171.2 notice of the denial by mail or e-mail to each signer of the petition. No petition for a  
 171.3 detachment from a district consisting of the same territory shall be entertained within a  
 171.4 year after the date of an order under this subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision precludes  
 171.5 action on a petition for a detachment from a district embracing part of the territory with  
 171.6 or without other territory.

171.7 Subd. 9. **Notice of order for sanitary district detachment.** The chief  
 171.8 administrative law judge shall publish in the State Register a notice of the final order  
 171.9 for sanitary district detachment, referring to the date of the order and describing the  
 171.10 territory of the detached area and shall mail or e-mail information of the publication  
 171.11 to each property owner in the affected territory at the owner's address as given by the  
 171.12 county auditor. The information must state the date that the notice will appear in the State  
 171.13 Register and give the Web site location for the State Register. The notice must:

- 171.14 (1) describe the petition for detachment from the district;  
 171.15 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition; and  
 171.16 (3) state that a certified copy of the order shall be delivered to the secretary of state  
 171.17 for filing ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register.

171.18 Subd. 10. **Filing.** Ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register, the  
 171.19 chief administrative law judge shall deliver a certified copy of the order to the secretary of  
 171.20 state for filing. Thereupon, the sanitary district detachment is deemed complete, and it  
 171.21 shall be conclusively presumed that all requirements of law relating thereto have been  
 171.22 complied with. The chief administrative law judge shall also transmit a certified copy of  
 171.23 the order for filing to the county auditor of each county and the clerk or recorder of each  
 171.24 municipality and organized town wherein any part of the territory of the district, including  
 171.25 the newly detached area, is situated and to the secretary of the district board.

171.26 Sec. 9. **[442A.07] SANITARY DISTRICT DISSOLUTION.**

171.27 Subdivision 1. **Dissolution.** (a) An existing sanitary district may be dissolved under  
 171.28 this chapter upon a petition to the chief administrative law judge stating the grounds  
 171.29 therefor as provided in this section.

171.30 (b) The proposed dissolution must not have any negative environmental impact on  
 171.31 the existing sanitary district area.

171.32 (c) If the chief administrative law judge and the Minnesota Pollution Control  
 171.33 Agency disagree on the need to dissolve a sanitary district, they must determine whether  
 171.34 not dissolving the sanitary district will have a detrimental effect on the environment. If  
 171.35 it is determined that the sanitary district dissolution will cause environmental harm, the

172.1 sanitary district dissolution is not allowed unless the existing sanitary district area is  
172.2 immediately connected to an existing wastewater treatment system.

172.3 Subd. 2. Proceeding for dissolution. (a) A proceeding for sanitary district  
172.4 dissolution may be initiated by a petition to the chief administrative law judge containing  
172.5 the following:

172.6 (1) a request for proposed sanitary district dissolution;

172.7 (2) a statement that the requisite conditions for a sanitary district no longer exist  
172.8 in the district area;

172.9 (3) a proposal for distribution of the remaining funds of the district, if any, among  
172.10 the related governmental subdivisions;

172.11 (4) a legal description of the territory of the proposed dissolution;

172.12 (5) addresses of every property owner within the sanitary district boundaries as  
172.13 provided by the county auditor, with certification from the county auditor; two sets of  
172.14 address labels for said owners; and a list of e-mail addresses for said owners, if available;

172.15 (6) a statement of the territorial units represented by and the qualifications of the  
172.16 respective signers; and

172.17 (7) the post office address of each signer, given under the signer's signature.

172.18 A petition may consist of separate writings of like effect, each signed by one or more  
172.19 qualified persons, and all such writings, when filed, shall be considered together as a  
172.20 single petition.

172.21 (b) Petitioners must conduct and pay for a public meeting to inform citizens of the  
172.22 proposed dissolution of a sanitary district. At the meeting, information must be provided,  
172.23 including a description of the existing district's territory. Notice of the meeting must be  
172.24 published for two successive weeks in a qualified newspaper, as defined under chapter  
172.25 331A, published within the territory of the sanitary district or, if there is no qualified  
172.26 newspaper published within that territory, in a qualified newspaper of general circulation  
172.27 in the territory and must be posted for two weeks in each territorial unit of the sanitary  
172.28 district and on the Web site of the existing sanitary district, if one exists. Notice of the  
172.29 meeting must be mailed or e-mailed at least three weeks prior to the meeting to all property  
172.30 tax billing addresses for all parcels included in the sanitary district. The following must be  
172.31 submitted to the chief administrative law judge with the petition:

172.32 (1) a record of the meeting, including copies of all information provided at the  
172.33 meeting;

172.34 (2) a copy of the mailing list provided by the county auditor and used to notify  
172.35 property owners of the meeting;

172.36 (3) a copy of the e-mail list used to notify property owners of the meeting;

- 173.1 (4) the printer's affidavit of publication of public meeting notice;  
173.2 (5) an affidavit of posting the public meeting notice with information on dates and  
173.3 locations of posting; and  
173.4 (6) minutes or other record of the public meeting documenting that the following  
173.5 topics were discussed: printer's affidavit of publication of each resolution, with copy  
173.6 of resolution from newspaper attached; and affidavit of resolution posting on town or  
173.7 existing sanitary district Web site.
- 173.8 (c) Every petition must be signed as follows:  
173.9 (1) by an authorized officer of the existing sanitary district pursuant to a resolution  
173.10 of the board;  
173.11 (2) for each municipality wherein there is a territorial unit of the existing sanitary  
173.12 district, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the municipal governing body;  
173.13 (3) for each organized town wherein there is a territorial unit of the existing sanitary  
173.14 district, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the town board; and  
173.15 (4) for each county wherein there is a territorial unit of the existing sanitary district  
173.16 consisting of an unorganized area, by an authorized officer pursuant to a resolution of the  
173.17 county board or by at least 20 percent of the voters residing and owning land within the unit.
- 173.18 (d) Each resolution must be published in the official newspaper of the governing body  
173.19 adopting it and becomes effective 40 days after publication, unless within said period there  
173.20 shall be filed with the governing body a petition signed by qualified electors of a territorial  
173.21 unit of the district, equal in number to five percent of the number of electors voting at the  
173.22 last preceding election of the governing body, requesting a referendum on the resolution,  
173.23 in which case the resolution may not become effective until approved by a majority of the  
173.24 qualified electors voting at a regular election or special election that the governing body  
173.25 may call. The notice of an election and the ballot to be used must contain the text of the  
173.26 resolution followed by the question: "Shall the above resolution be approved?"
- 173.27 (e) If any signer is alleged to be a landowner in a territorial unit, a statement as to  
173.28 the signer's landowner status as shown by the county auditor's tax assessment records,  
173.29 certified by the auditor, shall be attached to or endorsed upon the petition.
- 173.30 (f) At any time before publication of the public notice required in subdivision 3,  
173.31 additional signatures may be added to the petition or amendments of the petition may be  
173.32 made to correct or remedy any error or defect in signature or otherwise except a material  
173.33 error or defect in the description of the territory of the proposed dissolution area. If the  
173.34 qualifications of any signer of a petition are challenged, the chief administrative law judge  
173.35 shall determine the challenge forthwith on the allegations of the petition, the county  
173.36 auditor's certificate of land ownership, and such other evidence as may be received.

174.1 Subd. 3. **Notice of intent for sanitary district dissolution.** (a) Upon receipt  
174.2 of a petition and record of the public meeting required under subdivision 2, the chief  
174.3 administrative law judge shall publish a notice of intent of sanitary district dissolution  
174.4 in the State Register and mail or e-mail information of the publication to each property  
174.5 owner in the affected territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The  
174.6 information must state the date that the notice will appear in the State Register and give  
174.7 the Web site location for the State Register. The notice must:

174.8 (1) describe the petition for sanitary district dissolution;

174.9 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition;

174.10 (3) allow 30 days for submission of written comments on the petition;

174.11 (4) state that a person who objects to the petition may submit a written request for  
174.12 hearing to the chief administrative law judge within 30 days of the publication of the  
174.13 notice in the State Register; and

174.14 (5) state that if a timely request for hearing is not received, the chief administrative  
174.15 law judge may make a decision on the petition.

174.16 (b) If 50 or more individual timely requests for hearing are received, the chief  
174.17 administrative law judge must hold a hearing on the petition according to the contested  
174.18 case provisions of chapter 14. The sanitary district dissolution proposers are responsible  
174.19 for paying all costs involved in publicizing and holding a hearing on the petition.

174.20 Subd. 4. **Hearing time, place.** If a hearing is required under subdivision 3, the  
174.21 chief administrative law judge shall designate a time and place for a hearing according  
174.22 to section 442A.13.

174.23 Subd. 5. **Relevant factors.** (a) In arriving at a decision, the chief administrative law  
174.24 judge shall consider the following factors:

174.25 (1) public health, safety, and welfare impacts for the proposed dissolution;

174.26 (2) alternatives for managing the public health impacts for the proposed dissolution;

174.27 (3) equities of the petition proposal;

174.28 (4) contours of the petition proposal; and

174.29 (5) public notification of and interaction on the petition proposal.

174.30 (b) Based upon these factors, the chief administrative law judge may order the  
174.31 dissolution of the sanitary district on finding that:

174.32 (1) the proposed dissolution area has adequate alternatives for managing public  
174.33 health impacts due to the dissolution;

174.34 (2) the sanitary district is not necessary to provide a long-term, equitable solution to  
174.35 pollution problems affecting public health, safety, and welfare;

175.1 (3) property owners within the sanitary district were provided notice of the proposed  
175.2 dissolution and opportunity to comment on the petition proposal; and

175.3 (4) the petition complied with the requirements of all applicable statutes and rules  
175.4 pertaining to sanitary district dissolution.

175.5 (c) The chief administrative law judge may alter the boundaries of the proposed  
175.6 dissolution area by increasing or decreasing the area to be included or may exclude  
175.7 property that may be better served by another unit of government. The chief administrative  
175.8 law judge may also alter the boundaries of the proposed dissolution area so as to follow  
175.9 visible, clearly recognizable physical features for municipal boundaries.

175.10 (d) The chief administrative law judge may deny sanitary district dissolution if the  
175.11 area, or a part thereof, would be better served by an alternative method.

175.12 (e) In all cases, the chief administrative law judge shall set forth the factors that are  
175.13 the basis for the decision.

175.14 Subd. 6. **Findings; order.** (a) After the public notice period or the public hearing, if  
175.15 required under subdivision 3, and based on the petition, any public comments received,  
175.16 and, if a hearing was held, the hearing record, the chief administrative law judge shall  
175.17 make findings of fact and conclusions determining whether the conditions requisite for  
175.18 the sanitary district dissolution exist in the territory described in the petition. If the chief  
175.19 administrative law judge finds that conditions exist, the judge may make an order for  
175.20 sanitary district dissolution for the territory described in the petition.

175.21 (b) If the chief administrative law judge determines that the conditions requisite for  
175.22 the creation of the district no longer exist therein, that all indebtedness of the district has  
175.23 been paid, and that all property of the district except funds has been disposed of, the judge  
175.24 may make an order dissolving the district and directing the distribution of its remaining  
175.25 funds, if any, among the related governmental subdivisions on such basis as the chief  
175.26 administrative law judge determines to be just and equitable, to be specified in the order.

175.27 Subd. 7. **Denial of petition.** If the chief administrative law judge, after conclusion  
175.28 of the public notice period or holding a hearing, if required, determines that the sanitary  
175.29 district dissolution in the territory described in the petition is not warranted, the judge  
175.30 shall make an order denying the petition. The chief administrative law judge shall give  
175.31 notice of the denial by mail or e-mail to each signer of the petition. No petition for the  
175.32 dissolution of a district consisting of the same territory shall be entertained within a year  
175.33 after the date of an order under this subdivision.

175.34 Subd. 8. **Notice of order for sanitary district dissolution.** The chief administrative  
175.35 law judge shall publish in the State Register a notice of the final order for sanitary  
175.36 district dissolution, referring to the date of the order and describing the territory of the

176.1 dissolved district and shall mail or e-mail information of the publication to each property  
176.2 owner in the affected territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The  
176.3 information must state the date that the notice will appear in the State Register and give  
176.4 the Web site location of the State Register. The notice must:

176.5 (1) describe the petition for dissolution of the district;

176.6 (2) describe the territory affected by the petition; and

176.7 (3) state that a certified copy of the order shall be delivered to the secretary of state  
176.8 for filing ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register.

176.9 Subd. 9. **Filing.** (a) Ten days after public notice of the order in the State Register,  
176.10 the chief administrative law judge shall deliver a certified copy of the order to the secretary  
176.11 of state for filing. Thereupon, the sanitary district dissolution is deemed complete, and it  
176.12 shall be conclusively presumed that all requirements of law relating thereto have been  
176.13 complied with. The chief administrative law judge shall also transmit a certified copy of  
176.14 the order for filing to the county auditor of each county and the clerk or recorder of each  
176.15 municipality and organized town wherein any part of the territory of the dissolved district  
176.16 is situated and to the secretary of the district board.

176.17 (b) The chief administrative law judge shall also transmit a certified copy of the order  
176.18 to the treasurer of the district, who must thereupon distribute the remaining funds of the  
176.19 district as directed by the order and who is responsible for the funds until so distributed.

176.20 Sec. 10. **[442A.08] JOINT PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING.**

176.21 There must be a joint public informational meeting of the local governments of any  
176.22 proposed sanitary district creation, annexation, detachment, or dissolution. The joint public  
176.23 informational meeting must be held after the final mediation meeting or the final meeting  
176.24 held according to section 442A.02, subdivision 8, if any, and before the hearing on the  
176.25 matter is held. If no mediation meetings are held, the joint public informational meeting  
176.26 must be held after the initiating documents have been filed and before the hearing on the  
176.27 matter. The time, date, and place of the public informational meeting must be determined  
176.28 jointly by the local governments in the proposed creation, annexation, detachment, or  
176.29 dissolution areas and by the sanitary district, if one exists. The chair of the sanitary district,  
176.30 if one exists, and the responsible official for one of the local governments represented at  
176.31 the meeting must serve as the co-chairs for the informational meeting. Notice of the time,  
176.32 date, place, and purpose of the informational meeting must be posted by the sanitary  
176.33 district, if one exists, and local governments in designated places for posting notices. The  
176.34 sanitary district, if one exists, and represented local governments must also publish, at their  
176.35 own expense, notice in their respective official newspapers. If the same official newspaper

177.1 is used by multiple local government representatives or the sanitary district, a joint notice  
177.2 may be published and the costs evenly divided. All notice required by this section must  
177.3 be provided at least ten days before the date for the public informational meeting. At the  
177.4 public informational meeting, all persons appearing must have an opportunity to be heard,  
177.5 but the co-chairs may, by mutual agreement, establish the amount of time allowed for each  
177.6 speaker. The sanitary district board, the local government representatives, and any resident  
177.7 or affected property owner may be represented by counsel and may place into the record of  
177.8 the informational meeting documents, expert opinions, or other materials supporting their  
177.9 positions on issues raised by the proposed proceeding. The secretary of the sanitary district,  
177.10 if one exists, or a person appointed by the chair must record minutes of the proceedings of  
177.11 the informational meeting and must make an audio recording of the informational meeting.  
177.12 The sanitary district, if one exists, or a person appointed by the chair must provide the  
177.13 chief administrative law judge and the represented local governments with a copy of the  
177.14 printed minutes and must provide the chief administrative law judge and the represented  
177.15 local governments with a copy of the audio recording. The record of the informational  
177.16 meeting for a proceeding under section 442A.04, 442A.05, 442A.06, or 442A.07 is  
177.17 admissible in any proceeding under this chapter and shall be taken into consideration by  
177.18 the chief administrative law judge or the chief administrative law judge's designee.

177.19 Sec. 11. **[442A.09] ANNEXATION BY ORDER OF POLLUTION CONTROL**  
177.20 **AGENCY.**

177.21 Subdivision 1. **Annexation by ordinance alternative.** If a determination or order  
177.22 by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency under section 115.49 or other similar statute is  
177.23 made that cooperation by contract is necessary and feasible between a sanitary district and  
177.24 an unincorporated area located outside the existing corporate limits of the sanitary district,  
177.25 the sanitary district required to provide or extend through a contract a governmental  
177.26 service to an unincorporated area, during the statutory 90-day period provided in section  
177.27 115.49 to formulate a contract, may in the alternative to formulating a service contract to  
177.28 provide or extend the service, declare the unincorporated area described in the Minnesota  
177.29 Pollution Control Agency's determination letter or order annexed to the sanitary district by  
177.30 adopting an ordinance and submitting it to the chief administrative law judge.

177.31 Subd. 2. **Chief administrative law judge's role.** The chief administrative law  
177.32 judge may review and comment on the ordinance but shall approve the ordinance within  
177.33 30 days of receipt. The ordinance is final and the annexation is effective on the date the  
177.34 chief administrative law judge approves the ordinance.

178.1 Sec. 12. **[442A.10] PETITIONERS TO PAY EXPENSES.**

178.2 Expenses of the preparation and submission of petitions in the proceedings under  
178.3 sections 442A.04 to 442A.09 shall be paid by the petitioners. Notwithstanding section  
178.4 16A.1283, the Office of Administrative Hearings may adopt rules according to section  
178.5 14.386 to establish fees necessary to support the preparation and submission of petitions  
178.6 in proceedings under sections 442A.04 to 442A.09. The fees collected by the Office of  
178.7 Administrative Hearings shall be deposited in the environmental fund.

178.8 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

178.9 Sec. 13. **[442A.11] TIME LIMITS FOR ORDERS; APPEALS.**

178.10 Subdivision 1. **Orders; time limit.** All orders in proceedings under this chapter  
178.11 shall be issued within one year from the date of the first hearing thereon, provided that  
178.12 the time may be extended for a fixed additional period upon consent of all parties of  
178.13 record. Failure to so order shall be deemed to be an order denying the matter. An appeal  
178.14 may be taken from such failure to so order in the same manner as an appeal from an  
178.15 order as provided in subdivision 2.

178.16 Subd. 2. **Grounds for appeal.** (a) Any person aggrieved by an order issued under  
178.17 this chapter may appeal to the district court upon the following grounds:

178.18 (1) the order was issued without jurisdiction to act;

178.19 (2) the order exceeded the jurisdiction of the presiding administrative law judge;

178.20 (3) the order was arbitrary, fraudulent, capricious, or oppressive or in unreasonable  
178.21 disregard of the best interests of the territory affected; or

178.22 (4) the order was based upon an erroneous theory of law.

178.23 (b) The appeal must be taken in the district court in the county in which the majority  
178.24 of the area affected is located. The appeal does not stay the effect of the order. All notices  
178.25 and other documents must be served on both the chief administrative law judge and the  
178.26 attorney general's assistant assigned to the chief administrative law judge for purposes  
178.27 of this chapter.

178.28 (c) If the court determines that the action involved is unlawful or unreasonable or is  
178.29 not warranted by the evidence in case an issue of fact is involved, the court may vacate or  
178.30 suspend the action involved, in whole or in part, as the case requires. The matter shall then  
178.31 be remanded for further action in conformity with the decision of the court.

178.32 (d) To render a review of an order effectual, the aggrieved person shall file with the  
178.33 court administrator of the district court of the county in which the majority of the area is  
178.34 located, within 30 days of the order, an application for review together with the grounds  
178.35 upon which the review is sought.

179.1 (e) An appeal lies from the district court as in other civil cases.

179.2 Sec. 14. **[442A.12] CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE MAY APPEAL**  
179.3 **FROM DISTRICT COURT.**

179.4 An appeal may be taken under the Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure by the chief  
179.5 administrative law judge from a final order or judgment made or rendered by the district  
179.6 court when the chief administrative law judge determines that the final order or judgment  
179.7 adversely affects the public interest.

179.8 Sec. 15. **[442A.13] UNIFORM PROCEDURES.**

179.9 Subdivision 1. **Hearings.** (a) Proceedings initiated by the submission of an initiating  
179.10 document or by the chief administrative law judge shall come on for hearing within 30 to  
179.11 60 days from receipt of the document by the chief administrative law judge or from the  
179.12 date of the chief administrative law judge's action and the person conducting the hearing  
179.13 must submit an order no later than one year from the date of the first hearing.

179.14 (b) The place of the hearing shall be in the county where a majority of the affected  
179.15 territory is situated, and shall be established for the convenience of the parties.

179.16 (c) The chief administrative law judge shall mail notice of the hearing to the  
179.17 following parties: the sanitary district; any township or municipality presently governing  
179.18 the affected territory; any township or municipality abutting the affected territory;  
179.19 the county where the affected territory is situated; and each planning agency that has  
179.20 jurisdiction over the affected area.

179.21 (d) The chief administrative law judge shall see that notice of the hearing is published  
179.22 for two successive weeks in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the affected area.

179.23 (e) When the chief administrative law judge exercises authority to change the  
179.24 boundaries of the affected area so as to increase the quantity of land, the hearing shall  
179.25 be recessed and reconvened upon two weeks' published notice in a legal newspaper of  
179.26 general circulation in the affected area.

179.27 Subd. 2. **Transmittal of order.** The chief administrative law judge shall see that  
179.28 copies of the order are mailed to all parties entitled to mailed notice of hearing under  
179.29 subdivision 1, individual property owners if initiated in that manner, and any other party  
179.30 of record.

179.31 Sec. 16. **[442A.14] DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS.**

179.32 Subdivision 1. **Composition.** The governing body of each district shall be a board  
179.33 of managers of five members, who shall be voters residing in the district and who may

180.1 but need not be officers, members of governing bodies, or employees of the related  
180.2 governmental subdivisions, except that when there are more than five territorial units in  
180.3 a district, there must be one board member for each unit.

180.4 Subd. 2. **Terms.** The terms of the first board members elected after creation of a  
180.5 district shall be so arranged and determined by the electing body as to expire on the first  
180.6 business day in January as follows:

180.7 (1) the terms of two members in the second calendar year after the year in which  
180.8 they were elected;

180.9 (2) the terms of two other members in the third calendar year after the year in which  
180.10 they were elected; and

180.11 (3) the term of the remaining member in the fourth calendar year after the year in  
180.12 which the member was elected. In case a board has more than five members, the additional  
180.13 members shall be assigned to the groups under clauses (1) to (3) to equalize the groups as  
180.14 far as practicable. Thereafter, board members shall be elected successively for regular  
180.15 terms beginning upon expiration of the preceding terms and expiring on the first business  
180.16 day in January of the third calendar year thereafter. Each board member serves until  
180.17 a successor is elected and has qualified.

180.18 Subd. 3. **Election of board.** In a district having only one territorial unit, all the  
180.19 members of the board shall be elected by the related governing body. In a district having  
180.20 more than one territorial unit, the members of the board shall be elected by the members  
180.21 of the related governing bodies in joint session except as otherwise provided. The electing  
180.22 bodies concerned shall meet and elect the first board members of a new district as soon  
180.23 as practicable after creation of the district and shall meet and elect board members for  
180.24 succeeding regular terms as soon as practicable after November 1 next preceding the  
180.25 beginning of the terms to be filled, respectively.

180.26 Subd. 4. **Central related governing body.** Upon the creation of a district  
180.27 having more than one territorial unit, the chief administrative law judge, on the basis of  
180.28 convenience for joint meeting purposes, shall designate one of the related governing  
180.29 bodies as the central related governing body in the order creating the district or in a  
180.30 subsequent special order, of which the chief administrative law judge shall notify the  
180.31 clerks or recorders of all the related governing bodies. Upon receipt of the notification,  
180.32 the clerk or recorder of the central related governing body shall immediately transmit the  
180.33 notification to the presiding officer of the body. The officer shall thereupon call a joint  
180.34 meeting of the members of all the related governing bodies to elect board members, to  
180.35 be held at such time as the officer shall fix at the regular meeting place of the officer's  
180.36 governing body or at such other place in the district as the officer shall determine. The

181.1 clerk or recorder of the body must give at least ten days' notice of the meeting by mail to  
181.2 the clerks or recorders of all the other related governing bodies, who shall immediately  
181.3 transmit the notice to all the members of the related governing bodies, respectively.  
181.4 Subsequent joint meetings to elect board members for regular terms must be called and  
181.5 held in like manner. The presiding officer and the clerk or recorder of the central related  
181.6 governing body shall act respectively as chair and secretary of the joint electing body at  
181.7 any meeting thereof, but in case of the absence or disability of either of them, the body  
181.8 may elect a temporary substitute. A majority of the members of each related governing  
181.9 body is required for a quorum at any meeting of the joint electing body.

181.10 Subd. 5. **Nominations.** Nominations for board members may be made by petitions,  
181.11 each signed by ten or more voters residing and owning land in the district, filed with the  
181.12 clerk, recorder, or secretary of the electing body before the election meeting. No person  
181.13 shall sign more than one petition. The electing body shall give due consideration to all  
181.14 nominations but is not limited thereto.

181.15 Subd. 6. **Election; single governing body.** In the case of an electing body  
181.16 consisting of a single related governing body, a majority vote of all members is required  
181.17 for an election. In the case of a joint electing body, a majority vote of members present is  
181.18 required for an election. In case of lack of a quorum or failure to elect, a meeting of an  
181.19 electing body may be adjourned to a stated time and place without further notice.

181.20 Subd. 7. **Election; multiple governing bodies.** In any district having more than  
181.21 one territorial unit, the related governing bodies, instead of meeting in joint session, may  
181.22 elect a board member by resolutions adopted by all of them separately, concurring in the  
181.23 election of the same person. A majority vote of all members of each related governing  
181.24 body is required for the adoption of any such resolution. The clerks or recorders of the  
181.25 other related governing bodies shall transmit certified copies of the resolutions to the clerk  
181.26 or recorder of the central related governing body. Upon receipt of concurring resolutions  
181.27 from all the related governing bodies, the presiding officer and clerk or recorder of the  
181.28 central related governing body shall certify the results and furnish certificates of election  
181.29 as provided for a joint meeting.

181.30 Subd. 8. **Vacancies.** Any vacancy in the membership of a board must be filled for  
181.31 the unexpired term in like manner as provided for the regular election of board members.

181.32 Subd. 9. **Certification of election; temporary chair.** The presiding and recording  
181.33 officers of the electing body shall certify the results of each election to the county auditor  
181.34 of each county wherein any part of the district is situated and to the clerk or recorder of  
181.35 each related governing body and shall make and transmit to each board member elected  
181.36 a certificate of the board member's election. Upon electing the first board members of a

182.1 district, the presiding officer of the electing body shall designate a member to serve as  
182.2 temporary chair for purposes of initial organization of the board, and the recording  
182.3 officer of the body shall include written notice thereof to all the board members with  
182.4 their certificates of election.

182.5 Sec. 17. **[442A.15] BOARD ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES.**

182.6 Subdivision 1. **Initial, annual meetings.** As soon as practicable after the election  
182.7 of the first board members of a district, the board shall meet at the call of the temporary  
182.8 chair to elect officers and take other appropriate action for organization and administration  
182.9 of the district. Each board shall hold a regular annual meeting at the call of the chair or  
182.10 otherwise as the board prescribes on or as soon as practicable after the first business day in  
182.11 January of each year and such other regular and special meetings as the board prescribes.

182.12 Subd. 2. **Officers.** The officers of each district shall be a chair and a vice-chair,  
182.13 who shall be members of the board, and a secretary and a treasurer, who may but need  
182.14 not be members of the board. The board of a new district at its initial meeting or as soon  
182.15 thereafter as practicable shall elect the officers to serve until the first business day in  
182.16 January next following. Thereafter, the board shall elect the officers at each regular annual  
182.17 meeting for terms expiring on the first business day in January next following. Each  
182.18 officer serves until a successor is elected and has qualified.

182.19 Subd. 3. **Meeting place; offices.** The board at its initial meeting or as soon  
182.20 thereafter as practicable shall provide for suitable places for board meetings and for offices  
182.21 of the district officers and may change the same thereafter as the board deems advisable.  
182.22 The meeting place and offices may be the same as those of any related governing body,  
182.23 with the approval of the body. The secretary of the board shall notify the secretary of state,  
182.24 the county auditor of each county wherein any part of the district is situated, and the clerk  
182.25 or recorder of each related governing body of the locations and post office addresses of the  
182.26 meeting place and offices and any changes therein.

182.27 Subd. 4. **Budget.** At any time before the proceeds of the first tax levy in a district  
182.28 become available, the district board may prepare a budget comprising an estimate of the  
182.29 expenses of organizing and administering the district until the proceeds are available, with  
182.30 a proposal for apportionment of the estimated amount among the related governmental  
182.31 subdivisions, and may request the governing bodies thereof to advance funds according to  
182.32 the proposal. The governing bodies may authorize advancement of the requested amounts,  
182.33 or such part thereof as they respectively deem proper, from any funds available in their  
182.34 respective treasuries. The board shall include in its first tax levy after receipt of any such

183.1 advancements a sufficient sum to cover the same and shall cause the same to be repaid,  
183.2 without interest, from the proceeds of taxes as soon as received.

183.3 **Sec. 18. [442A.16] DISTRICT STATUS AND POWERS.**

183.4 Subdivision 1. **Status.** Every district shall be a public corporation and a governmental  
183.5 subdivision of the state and shall be deemed to be a municipality or municipal corporation  
183.6 for the purpose of obtaining federal or state grants or loans or otherwise complying with  
183.7 any provision of federal or state law or for any other purpose relating to the powers and  
183.8 purposes of the district for which such status is now or hereafter required by law.

183.9 Subd. 2. **Powers and purpose.** Every district shall have the powers and purposes  
183.10 prescribed by this chapter and such others as may now or hereafter be prescribed by law.  
183.11 No express grant of power or enumeration of powers herein shall be deemed to limit the  
183.12 generality or scope of any grant of power.

183.13 Subd. 3. **Scope of powers and duties.** Except as otherwise provided, a power or  
183.14 duty vested in or imposed upon a district or any of its officers, agents, or employees shall  
183.15 not be deemed exclusive and shall not supersede or abridge any power or duty vested in or  
183.16 imposed upon any other agency of the state or any governmental subdivision thereof, but  
183.17 shall be supplementary thereto.

183.18 Subd. 4. **Exercise of power.** All the powers of a district shall be exercised by its  
183.19 board of managers except so far as approval of any action by popular vote or by any other  
183.20 authority may be expressly required by law.

183.21 Subd. 5. **Lawsuits; contracts.** A district may sue and be sued and may enter into  
183.22 any contract necessary or proper for the exercise of its powers or the accomplishment  
183.23 of its purposes.

183.24 Subd. 6. **Property acquisition.** A district may acquire by purchase, gift, or  
183.25 condemnation or may lease or rent any real or personal property within or without the  
183.26 district that may be necessary for the exercise of district powers or the accomplishment of  
183.27 district purposes, may hold the property for such purposes, and may lease, rent out, sell, or  
183.28 otherwise dispose of any property not needed for such purposes.

183.29 Subd. 7. **Acceptance of money or property.** A district may accept gifts, grants,  
183.30 or loans of money or other property from the United States, the state, or any person,  
183.31 corporation, or other entity for district purposes; may enter into any agreement required in  
183.32 connection therewith; and may hold, use, and dispose of the money or property according  
183.33 to the terms of the gift, grant, loan, or agreement relating thereto.

183.34 **Sec. 19. [442A.17] SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND POWERS.**

184.1 Subdivision 1. **Pollution prevention.** A district may construct, install, improve,  
184.2 maintain, and operate any system, works, or facilities within or without the district  
184.3 required to control and prevent pollution of any waters of the state within its territory.

184.4 Subd. 2. **Sewage disposal.** A district may construct, install, improve, maintain,  
184.5 and operate any system, works, or facilities within or without the district required to  
184.6 provide for, regulate, and control the disposal of sewage, industrial waste, and other waste  
184.7 originating within its territory. The district may require any person upon whose premises  
184.8 there is any source of sewage, industrial waste, or other waste within the district to  
184.9 connect the premises with the disposal system, works, or facilities of the district whenever  
184.10 reasonable opportunity therefor is provided.

184.11 Subd. 3. **Garbage, refuse disposal.** A district may construct, install, improve,  
184.12 maintain, and operate any system, works, or facilities within or without the district required  
184.13 to provide for, regulate, and control the disposal of garbage or refuse originating within the  
184.14 district. The district may require any person upon whose premises any garbage or refuse is  
184.15 produced or accumulated to dispose of the garbage or refuse through the system, works, or  
184.16 facilities of the district whenever reasonable opportunity therefor is provided.

184.17 Subd. 4. **Water supply.** A district may procure supplies of water necessary for any  
184.18 purpose under subdivisions 1 to 3 and may construct, install, improve, maintain, and  
184.19 operate any system, works, or facilities required therefor within or without the district.

184.20 Subd. 5. **Roads.** (a) To maintain the integrity of and facilitate access to district  
184.21 systems, works, or facilities, the district may maintain and repair a road by agreement with  
184.22 the entity that was responsible for the performance of maintenance and repair immediately  
184.23 prior to the agreement. Maintenance and repair includes but is not limited to providing  
184.24 lighting, snow removal, and grass mowing.

184.25 (b) A district shall establish a taxing subdistrict of benefited property and shall levy  
184.26 special taxes, pursuant to section 442A.24, subdivision 2, for the purposes of paying the  
184.27 cost of improvement or maintenance of a road under paragraph (a).

184.28 (c) For purposes of this subdivision, a district shall not be construed as a road  
184.29 authority under chapter 160.

184.30 (d) The district and its officers and employees are exempt from liability for any tort  
184.31 claim for injury to person or property arising from travel on a road maintained by the  
184.32 district and related to the road's maintenance or condition.

184.33 **Sec. 20. [442A.18] DISTRICT PROJECTS AND FACILITIES.**

184.34 Subdivision 1. **Public property.** For the purpose of constructing, improving,  
184.35 maintaining, or operating any system, works, or facilities designed or used for any purpose

185.1 under section 442A.17, a district, its officers, agents, employees, and contractors may enter,  
185.2 occupy, excavate, and otherwise operate in, upon, under, through, or along any public  
185.3 highway, including a state trunk highway, or any street, park, or other public grounds so  
185.4 far as necessary for such work, with the approval of the governing body or other authority  
185.5 in charge of the public property affected and on such terms as may be agreed upon with the  
185.6 governing body or authority respecting interference with public use, restoration of previous  
185.7 conditions, compensation for damages, and other pertinent matters. If an agreement cannot  
185.8 be reached after reasonable opportunity therefor, the district may acquire the necessary  
185.9 rights, easements, or other interests in the public property by condemnation, subject to all  
185.10 applicable provisions of law as in case of taking private property, upon condition that the  
185.11 court shall determine that there is paramount public necessity for the acquisition.

185.12 Subd. 2. **Use of other systems.** A district may, upon such terms as may be  
185.13 agreed upon with the respective governing bodies or authorities concerned, provide for  
185.14 connecting with or using; lease; or acquire and take over any system, works, or facilities  
185.15 for any purpose under section 442A.17 belonging to any other governmental subdivision  
185.16 or other public agency.

185.17 Subd. 3. **Use by other governmental bodies.** A district may, upon such terms  
185.18 as may be agreed upon with the respective governing bodies or authorities concerned,  
185.19 authorize the use by any other governmental subdivision or other public agency of any  
185.20 system, works, or facilities of the district constructed for any purpose under section  
185.21 442A.17 so far as the capacity thereof is sufficient beyond the needs of the district. A  
185.22 district may extend any such system, works, or facilities and permit the use thereof by  
185.23 persons outside the district, so far as the capacity thereof is sufficient beyond the needs of  
185.24 the district, upon such terms as the board may prescribe.

185.25 Subd. 4. **Joint projects.** A district may be a party to a joint cooperative project,  
185.26 undertaking, or enterprise with one or more other governmental subdivisions or other  
185.27 public agencies for any purpose under section 442A.17 upon such terms as may be  
185.28 agreed upon between the governing bodies or authorities concerned. Without limiting the  
185.29 effect of the foregoing provision or any other provision of this chapter, a district, with  
185.30 respect to any of said purposes, may act under and be subject to section 471.59, or any  
185.31 other appropriate law providing for joint or cooperative action between governmental  
185.32 subdivisions or other public agencies.

185.33 **Sec. 21. [442A.19] CONTROL OF SANITARY FACILITIES.**

185.34 A district may regulate and control the construction, maintenance, and use of privies,  
185.35 cesspools, septic tanks, toilets, and other facilities and devices for the reception or disposal

186.1 of human or animal excreta or other domestic wastes within its territory so far as necessary  
186.2 to prevent nuisances or pollution or to protect the public health, safety, and welfare  
186.3 and may prohibit the use of any such facilities or devices not connected with a district  
186.4 disposal system, works, or facilities whenever reasonable opportunity for such connection  
186.5 is provided; provided, that the authority of a district under this section does not extend  
186.6 or apply to the construction, maintenance, operation, or use by any person other than the  
186.7 district of any disposal system or part thereof within the district under and in accordance  
186.8 with a valid and existing permit issued by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

186.9 Sec. 22. **[442A.20] DISTRICT PROGRAMS, SURVEYS, AND STUDIES.**

186.10 A district may develop general programs and particular projects within the scope of  
186.11 its powers and purposes and may make all surveys, studies, and investigations necessary  
186.12 for the programs and projects.

186.13 Sec. 23. **[442A.21] GENERAL AND MUNICIPALITY POWERS.**

186.14 A district may do and perform all other acts and things necessary or proper for the  
186.15 effectuation of its powers and the accomplishment of its purposes. Without limiting the  
186.16 effect of the foregoing provision or any other provision of this chapter, a district, with  
186.17 respect to each and all of said powers and purposes, shall have like powers as are vested  
186.18 in municipalities with respect to any similar purposes. The exercise of such powers by a  
186.19 district and all matters pertaining thereto are governed by the law relating to the exercise  
186.20 of similar powers by municipalities and matters pertaining thereto, so far as applicable,  
186.21 with like force and effect, except as otherwise provided.

186.22 Sec. 24. **[442A.22] ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

186.23 A district board of managers may appoint an advisory committee with membership  
186.24 and duties as the board prescribes.

186.25 Sec. 25. **[442A.23] BOARD POWERS.**

186.26 Subdivision 1. **Generally.** The board of managers of every district shall have charge  
186.27 and control of all the funds, property, and affairs of the district. With respect thereto, the  
186.28 board has the same powers and duties as are provided by law for a municipality with respect  
186.29 to similar municipal matters, except as otherwise provided. Except as otherwise provided,  
186.30 the chair, vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer of the district have the same powers and duties,  
186.31 respectively, as the mayor, acting mayor, clerk, and treasurer of a municipality. Except as  
186.32 otherwise provided, the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties of the

187.1 board and officers of the district and all other activities, transactions, and procedures of the  
187.2 district or any of its officers, agents, or employees, respectively, are governed by the law  
187.3 relating to similar matters in a municipality, so far as applicable, with like force and effect.

187.4 Subd. 2. **Regulation of district.** The board may enact ordinances, prescribe  
187.5 regulations, adopt resolutions, and take other appropriate action relating to any matter  
187.6 within the powers and purposes of the district and may do and perform all other acts and  
187.7 things necessary or proper for the effectuation of said powers and the accomplishment  
187.8 of said purposes. The board may provide that violation of a district ordinance is a penal  
187.9 offense and may prescribe penalties for violations, not exceeding those prescribed by  
187.10 law for violation of municipal ordinances.

187.11 Subd. 3. **Arrest; prosecution.** (a) Violations of district ordinances may be  
187.12 prosecuted before any court having jurisdiction of misdemeanors. Any peace officer may  
187.13 make arrests for violations committed anywhere within the district in the same manner as  
187.14 for violations of city ordinances or for statutory misdemeanors.

187.15 (b) All fines collected shall be deposited in the treasury of the district.

187.16 Sec. 26. **[442A.24] TAX LEVIES, ASSESSMENTS, AND SERVICE CHARGES.**

187.17 Subdivision 1. **Tax levies.** The board may levy taxes for any district purpose on all  
187.18 property taxable within the district.

187.19 Subd. 2. **Particular area.** In the case where a particular area within the district,  
187.20 but not the entire district, is benefited by a system, works, or facilities of the district,  
187.21 the board, after holding a public hearing as provided by law for levying assessments on  
187.22 benefited property, shall by ordinance establish such area as a taxing subdistrict, to be  
187.23 designated by number, and shall levy special taxes on all the taxable property therein, to be  
187.24 accounted for separately and used only for the purpose of paying the cost of construction,  
187.25 improvement, acquisition, maintenance, or operation of such system, works, or facilities,  
187.26 or paying the principal and interest on bonds issued to provide funds therefor and expenses  
187.27 incident thereto. The hearing may be held jointly with a hearing for the purpose of levying  
187.28 assessments on benefited property within the proposed taxing subdistrict.

187.29 Subd. 3. **Benefited property.** The board shall levy assessments on benefited property  
187.30 to provide funds for payment of the cost of construction, improvement, or acquisition of  
187.31 any system, works, or facilities designed or used for any district purpose or for payment of  
187.32 the principal of and interest on any bonds issued therefor and expenses incident thereto.

187.33 Subd. 4. **Service charges.** The board shall prescribe service, use, or rental charges  
187.34 for persons or premises connecting with or making use of any system, works, or facilities  
187.35 of the district; prescribe the method of payment and collection of the charges; and provide

188.1 for the collection thereof for the district by any related governmental subdivision or  
188.2 other public agency on such terms as may be agreed upon with the governing body or  
188.3 other authority thereof.

188.4 Sec. 27. **[442A.25] BORROWING POWERS; BONDS.**

188.5 Subdivision 1. **Borrowing power.** The board may authorize the borrowing of  
188.6 money for any district purpose and provide for the repayment thereof, subject to chapter  
188.7 475. The taxes initially levied by any district according to section 475.61 for the payment  
188.8 of district bonds, upon property within each municipality included in the district, shall be  
188.9 included in computing the levy of the municipality.

188.10 Subd. 2. **Bond issuance.** The board may authorize the issuance of bonds or  
188.11 obligations of the district to provide funds for the construction, improvement, or  
188.12 acquisition of any system, works, or facilities for any district purpose or for refunding  
188.13 any prior bonds or obligations issued for any such purpose and may pledge the full faith  
188.14 and credit of the district; the proceeds of tax levies or assessments; service, use, or  
188.15 rental charges; or any combination thereof to the payment of such bonds or obligations  
188.16 and interest thereon or expenses incident thereto. An election or vote of the people of  
188.17 the district is required to authorize the issuance of any bonds or obligations. Except as  
188.18 otherwise provided in this chapter, the forms and procedures for issuing and selling bonds  
188.19 and provisions for payment thereof must comply with chapter 475.

188.20 Sec. 28. **[442A.26] FUNDS; DISTRICT TREASURY.**

188.21 The proceeds of all tax levies, assessments, service, use, or rental charges, and  
188.22 other income of the district must be deposited in the district treasury and must be held  
188.23 and disposed of as the board may direct for district purposes, subject to any pledges or  
188.24 dedications made by the board for the use of particular funds for the payment of bonds,  
188.25 interest thereon, or expenses incident thereto or for other specific purposes.

188.26 Sec. 29. **[442A.27] EFFECT OF DISTRICT ORDINANCES AND FACILITIES.**

188.27 In any case where an ordinance is enacted or a regulation adopted by a district  
188.28 board relating to the same subject matter and applicable in the same area as an existing  
188.29 ordinance or regulation of a related governmental subdivision for the district, the district  
188.30 ordinance or regulation, to the extent of its application, supersedes the ordinance or  
188.31 regulation of the related governmental subdivision. In any case where an area within a  
188.32 district is served for any district purpose by a system, works, or facilities of the district,  
188.33 no system, works, or facilities shall be constructed, maintained, or operated for the same

189.1 purpose in the same area by any related governmental subdivision or other public agency  
189.2 except as approved by the district board.

189.3 **Sec. 30. [442A.28] APPLICATION.**

189.4 This chapter does not abridge or supersede any authority of the Minnesota Pollution  
189.5 Control Agency or the commissioner of health, but is subject and supplementary thereto.  
189.6 Districts and members of district boards are subject to the authority of the Minnesota  
189.7 Pollution Control Agency and have no power or authority to abate or control pollution that  
189.8 is permitted by and in accord with any classification of waters, standards of water quality,  
189.9 or permit established, fixed, or issued by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

189.10 **Sec. 31. [442A.29] CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S POWERS.**

189.11 Subdivision 1. **Alternative dispute resolution.** (a) Notwithstanding sections  
189.12 442A.01 to 442A.28, before assigning a matter to an administrative law judge for hearing,  
189.13 the chief administrative law judge, upon consultation with affected parties and considering  
189.14 the procedures and principles established in sections 442A.01 to 442A.28, may require  
189.15 that disputes over proposed sanitary district creations, attachments, detachments, or  
189.16 dissolutions be addressed in whole or in part by means of alternative dispute resolution  
189.17 processes in place of, or in connection with, hearings that would otherwise be required  
189.18 under sections 442A.01 to 442A.28, including those provided in chapter 14.

189.19 (b) In all proceedings, the chief administrative law judge has the authority and  
189.20 responsibility to conduct hearings and issue final orders related to the hearings under  
189.21 sections 442A.01 to 442A.28.

189.22 Subd. 2. **Cost of proceedings.** (a) The parties to any matter directed to alternative  
189.23 dispute resolution under subdivision 1 must pay the costs of the alternative dispute  
189.24 resolution process or hearing in the proportions that the parties agree to.

189.25 (b) Notwithstanding section 14.53 or other law, the Office of Administrative  
189.26 Hearings is not liable for the costs.

189.27 (c) If the parties do not agree to a division of the costs before the commencement of  
189.28 mediation, arbitration, or hearing, the costs must be allocated on an equitable basis by  
189.29 the mediator, arbitrator, or chief administrative law judge.

189.30 (d) The chief administrative law judge may contract with the parties to a matter for  
189.31 the purpose of providing administrative law judges and reporters for an administrative  
189.32 proceeding or alternative dispute resolution.

189.33 (e) The chief administrative law judge shall assess the cost of services rendered by  
189.34 the Office of Administrative Hearings as provided by section 14.53.

190.1 Subd. 3. **Parties.** In this section, "party" means:

190.2 (1) a property owner, group of property owners, sanitary district, municipality, or  
190.3 township that files an initiating document or timely objection under this chapter;

190.4 (2) the sanitary district, municipality, or township within which the subject area  
190.5 is located;

190.6 (3) a municipality abutting the subject area; and

190.7 (4) any other person, group of persons, or governmental agency residing in, owning  
190.8 property in, or exercising jurisdiction over the subject area that submits a timely request  
190.9 and is determined by the presiding administrative law judge to have a direct legal interest  
190.10 that will be affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

190.11 Subd. 4. **Effectuation of agreements.** Matters resolved or agreed to by the parties  
190.12 as a result of an alternative dispute resolution process, or otherwise, may be incorporated  
190.13 into one or more stipulations for purposes of further proceedings according to the  
190.14 applicable procedures and statutory criteria of this chapter.

190.15 Subd. 5. **Limitations on authority.** Nothing in this section shall be construed to  
190.16 permit a sanitary district, municipality, town, or other political subdivision to take, or  
190.17 agree to take, an action that is not otherwise authorized by this chapter.

190.18 Sec. 32. **REPEALER.**

190.19 Minnesota Statutes 2012, sections 115.18, subdivisions 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10;  
190.20 115.19; 115.20; 115.21; 115.22; 115.23; 115.24; 115.25; 115.26; 115.27; 115.28; 115.29;  
190.21 115.30; 115.31; 115.32; 115.33; 115.34; 115.35; 115.36; and 115.37, are repealed.

190.22 Sec. 33. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

190.23 Unless otherwise provided in this article, sections 1 to 32 are effective August 1, 2013.

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Article locations in H0976-1

ARTICLE 1	AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS .....	Page.Ln 2.25
ARTICLE 2	AGRICULTURE POLICY .....	Page.Ln 13.19
	ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES	
ARTICLE 3	AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS .....	Page.Ln 45.28
ARTICLE 4	ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY .....	Page.Ln 73.10
ARTICLE 5	SANITARY DISTRICTS .....	Page.Ln 152.1

**18.91 ADVISORY COMMITTEE; MEMBERSHIP.**

Subd. 3. **Additional duties.** The committee shall conduct evaluations of terrestrial plant species to recommend if they need to be designated as noxious weeds and into which noxious weed classification they should be designated, advise the commissioner on the implementation of the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law, and assist the commissioner in the development of management criteria for each noxious weed category.

Subd. 5. **Expiration.** Notwithstanding section 15.059, subdivision 5, the committee expires June 30, 2013.

**18B.07 PESTICIDE USE, APPLICATION, AND EQUIPMENT CLEANING.**

Subd. 6. **Use of public waters for filling equipment.** (a) A person may not fill pesticide application equipment directly from public or other waters of the state, as defined in section 103G.005, subdivision 15, unless the equipment contains proper and functioning anti-backsiphoning mechanisms. The person may not introduce pesticides into the application equipment until after filling the equipment from the public waters.

(b) This subdivision does not apply to permitted applications of aquatic pesticides to public waters.

**90.163 PERFORMANCE DEPOSIT OPTION.**

In lieu of the bond or cash deposit equal to the value of all timber covered by the permit as required by section 90.161 or 90.173, a purchaser of any state timber may pay to the commissioner a performance deposit of ten percent of the appraised value of the permit for the express purpose of entering on the land to clear building sites or logging roads in advance of cutting state timber. No cutting of state timber, except that incidental to the clearing of building sites or logging roads, is allowed until the purchaser has met all of the requirements of section 90.161 or 90.173.

**90.173 PURCHASER'S OR ASSIGNEE'S CASH DEPOSIT IN LIEU OF BOND.**

(a) In lieu of filing the bond required by section 90.161 or 90.171, as security for the issuance or assignment of a timber permit, the person required to file the bond may deposit with the commissioner cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; a personal check; a postal, bank, or express money order; or an irrevocable bank letter of credit in the same amount as would be required for a bond. All of the conditions of the timber sale bond shall equally apply to the alternatives in lieu of bond. In the event of a default the state may take from the deposit the sum of money to which it is entitled; the remainder, if any, shall be returned to the person making the deposit. When cash is deposited for a bond, it shall be applied to the amount due when a statement is prepared and transmitted to the permit holder pursuant to section 90.181. Any balance due to the state shall be shown on the statement and shall be paid as provided in section 90.181. Any amount of the deposit in excess of the amount determined to be due pursuant to section 90.181 shall be returned to the permit holder when a final statement is transmitted pursuant to that section. All or part of a cash bond may be withheld from application to an amount due on a nonfinal statement if it appears that the total amount due on the permit will exceed the bid price.

(b) If an irrevocable bank letter of credit is provided as security under paragraph (a), at the written request of the permittee the state shall annually allow the amount of the bank letter of credit to be reduced by an amount proportionate to the value of timber that has been harvested and for which the state has received payment under the timber permit. The remaining amount of the bank letter of credit after a reduction under this paragraph must not be less than the value of the timber remaining to be harvested under the timber permit.

(c) If cash; a certified check; a cashier's check; a personal check; or a postal, bank, or express money order is provided as security under paragraph (a) and no cutting of state timber has taken place on the permit, the commissioner may credit the security provided, less any deposit required by sections 90.14 and 90.163, to any other permit to which the permit holder requests in writing that it be credited.

**90.41 STATE APPRAISER AND SCALER; VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES.**

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Subd. 2. **Penalty.** Every person who shall cut timber on state lands and fail to mark the same, as provided by law, and the permit under which the same was cut, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

**103G.265 WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT.**

Subd. 2a. **Legislative approval for diversion.** Legislative approval required in subdivision 2, clause (2), shall be based on the following considerations:

- (1) the requested diversion of waters of the state is reasonable;
- (2) the diversion is not contrary to the conservation and use of waters of the state; and
- (3) the diversion is not otherwise detrimental to the public welfare.

**115.18 SANITARY DISTRICTS; DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** As used in sections 115.18 to 115.37, the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them except as otherwise provided or indicated by the context.

Subd. 3. **Additional terms.** The terms defined in section 115.01, as now in force or hereafter amended, have the meanings given them therein.

Subd. 4. **Agency.** "Agency" means the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Subd. 5. **Board.** "Board" means the board of managers of a sanitary district.

Subd. 6. **District.** "District" means a sanitary district created under the provisions of sections 115.18 to 115.37.

Subd. 7. **Municipality.** "Municipality" means a city, however organized.

Subd. 8. **Related governmental subdivision or body.** "Related governmental subdivision" means a municipality or organized town wherein there is a territorial unit of a district, or, in the case of an unorganized area, the county. "Related governing body" means the governing body of a related governmental subdivision, and, in the case of an organized town, means the town board.

Subd. 9. **Statutory city.** "Statutory city" means a city organized as provided by chapter 412, under the plan other than optional.

Subd. 10. **Territorial unit.** "Territorial unit" means all that part of the territory of a district situated within a single municipality, a single organized town outside of any municipality, or, in the case of an unorganized area, within a single county.

**115.19 CREATION; PURPOSE; EXCEPTIONS.**

A sanitary district may be created under the provisions of sections 115.18 to 115.37 for any territory embracing an area or a group of two or more adjacent areas, whether contiguous or separate, but not situated entirely within the limits of a single municipality, for the purpose of promoting the public health and welfare by providing an adequate and efficient system and means of collecting, conveying, pumping, treating and disposing of domestic sewage and garbage and industrial wastes within the district, in any case where the agency finds that there is need throughout the territory for the accomplishment of these purposes, that these purposes can be effectively accomplished on an equitable basis by a district if created, and that the creation and maintenance of such a district will be administratively feasible and in furtherance of the public health, safety, and welfare; but subject to the following exceptions:

No district shall be created within 25 miles of the boundary of any city of the first class without the approval of the governing body thereof and the approval of the governing body of each and every municipality in the proposed district by resolution filed with the agency.

**115.20 PROCEEDING TO CREATE DISTRICT.**

Subdivision 1. **Petition required.** (a) A proceeding for the creation of a district may be initiated by a petition to the agency, filed with its secretary, containing the following:

- (1) a request for creation of the proposed district;
- (2) the name proposed for the district, to include the words "sanitary district";
- (3) a description of the territory of the proposed district;
- (4) a statement showing the existence in such territory of the conditions requisite for creation of a district as prescribed in section 115.19;
- (5) a statement of the territorial units represented by and the qualifications of the respective signers;
- (6) the post office address of each signer, given under the signer's signature. A petition may consist of separate writings of like effect, each signed by one or more qualified persons, and all such writings, when filed, shall be considered together as a single petition.

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(b) A public meeting must be held to inform citizens of the proposed creation of the district. At the meeting, information must be provided, including a description of the district's proposed structure, bylaws, territory, ordinances, budget, and charges. Notice of the meeting must be published for two successive weeks in a qualified newspaper published within the territory of the proposed district or, if there is no qualified newspaper published within the territory, in a qualified newspaper of general circulation in the territory, and by posting for two weeks in each territorial unit of the proposed district. A record of the meeting must be submitted to the agency with the petition.

Subd. 2. **Signatures; publication.** Every petition shall be signed as follows:

(1) for each municipality wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed district, by an authorized officer or officers pursuant to a resolution of the municipal governing body;

(2) for each organized town wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed district, by an authorized officer or officers pursuant to a resolution of the town board;

(3) for each county wherein there is a territorial unit of the proposed district consisting of an unorganized area, by an authorized officer or officers pursuant to a resolution of the county board, or by at least 20 percent of the voters residing and owning land within the unit.

Each resolution shall be published in the official newspaper of the governing body adopting it and shall become effective 40 days after publication, unless within said period there shall be filed with the governing body a petition signed by qualified electors of a territorial unit of the proposed district, equal in number to five percent of the number of such electors voting at the last preceding election of the governing body, requesting a referendum on the resolution, in which case the resolution may not become effective until approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting at a regular election or special election which the governing body may call. The notice of any election and the ballot to be used shall contain the text of the resolution followed by the question: "Shall the above resolution be approved?"

If any signer is alleged to be a landowner in a territorial unit, a statement as to the signer's landowner status as shown by the county auditor's tax assessment records, certified by the auditor, shall be attached to or endorsed upon the petition.

Subd. 3. **Changes; errors.** At any time before publication of the public notice required in subdivision 4, or before the public hearing, if required under subdivision 4, additional signatures may be added to the petition or amendments of the petition may be made to correct or remedy any error or defect in signature or otherwise except a material error or defect in the description of the territory of the proposed district. No proceeding shall be invalidated on account of any error or defect in the petition unless questioned by an interested party before the reception of evidence begins at the hearing except a material error or defect in the description of the territory of the proposed district. If the qualifications of any signer of a petition are challenged, the agency or its agent shall determine the challenge forthwith on the allegations of the petition, the county auditor's certificate of land ownership, and such other evidence as may be received.

Subd. 4. **State Register; hearing.** (a) Upon receipt of a petition and the record of the public meeting required under subdivision 1, the agency shall publish a notice in the State Register and mail a copy to each property owner in the affected territory at the owner's address as given by the county auditor. The mailed copy must state the date that the notice will appear in the State Register. Copies need not be sent by registered mail. The notice must:

(1) describe the petition for creation of the district;

(2) describe the territory affected by the petition;

(3) allow 30 days for submission of written comments on the petition;

(4) state that a person who objects to the petition may submit a written request for hearing to the agency within 30 days of the publication of the notice in the State Register; and

(5) state that if a timely request for hearing is not received, the agency may make a decision on the petition at a future meeting of the agency.

(b) If 25 or more timely requests for hearing are received, the agency must hold a hearing on the petition in accordance with the contested case provisions of chapter 14.

Subd. 5. **Findings; order.** After the public notice period or the public hearing, if required under subdivision 4, and based on the petition, any public comments received, and, if a hearing was held, the hearing record, the agency shall make findings of fact and conclusions determining whether or not the conditions requisite for the creation of a district exist in the territory described in the petition. If the agency finds that conditions exist, it may make an order creating a district for the territory described in the petition under the name proposed in the petition or such other name, including the words "sanitary district," as the agency deems appropriate.

Subd. 6. **Denial of petition.** If the agency, after the conclusion of the public notice period or the holding of a hearing, if required, determines that the creation of a district in the territory described in the petition is not warranted, it shall make an order denying the petition. The

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secretary of the agency shall give notice of such denial by mail to each signer of the petition. No petition for the creation of a district consisting of the same territory shall be entertained within a year after the date of an order, but this shall not preclude action on a petition for the creation of a district embracing part of the territory with or without other territory.

Subd. 7. **Notice of orders.** Notice of the making of every order of the agency creating a sanitary district, referring to the date of the order and describing the territory of the district, shall be given by the secretary in like manner as for notice of the hearing on the petition for creation of the district.

Subd. 8. **Appeal.** An appeal may be taken from an order of the agency creating or dissolving a district, annexing territory to or detaching territory from a district, or denying a petition for any such action, as now or hereafter provided for appeals from other orders of the agency except that the giving of notice of the order as provided in subdivision 7 shall be deemed notice thereof to all interested parties, and the time for appeal by any party shall be limited to 30 days after completion of the mailing of copies of the order or after expiration of the prescribed period of posting or publication, whichever is latest. The validity of the creation of a district shall not be otherwise questioned.

Subd. 9. **Filing.** Upon expiration of the time for appeal from an order of the agency creating a district, or, in case of an appeal, upon the taking effect of a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction sustaining the order, the secretary of the agency shall deliver a certified copy of the order to the secretary of state for filing. Thereupon the creation of the district shall be deemed complete, and it shall be conclusively presumed that all requirements of law relating thereto have been complied with. The secretary of the agency shall also transmit a certified copy of the order for filing to the county auditor of each county and the clerk or recorder of each municipality and organized town wherein any part of the territory of the district is situated and to the secretary of the district board when elected.

### **115.21 ANNEXATION, DETACHMENT, AND DISSOLUTION.**

Subdivision 1. **Annexation.** An area adjacent to an existing district may be annexed thereto upon a petition to the agency stating the grounds therefor as hereinafter provided, signed by an authorized officer or officers of the district pursuant to a resolution of the board, also signed with respect to the area proposed for annexation in like manner as provided for a petition for creation of a district. Except as otherwise provided, a proceeding for annexation shall be governed by the provisions now or hereafter in force relating to proceedings for the creation of districts, so far as applicable. For the purpose of giving the required notices the territory involved shall comprise the area proposed for annexation together with the entire territory of the district. If the agency determines that the requisite conditions exist in the area proposed for annexation together with the territory of the district, it may make an order for annexation accordingly. All taxable property within the annexed area shall be subject to taxation for any existing bonded indebtedness or other indebtedness of the district for the cost of acquisition, construction, or improvement of any disposal system or other works or facilities beneficial to the annexed area to such extent as the agency may determine to be just and equitable, to be specified in the order for annexation. The proper officers shall levy further taxes on such property accordingly.

Subd. 2. **Detachment.** An area within a district may be detached therefrom upon a petition to the agency stating the grounds therefor as hereinafter provided, signed by an authorized officer or officers of the district pursuant to a resolution of the board, also signed with respect to the area proposed for detachment in like manner as provided for a petition for creation of a district. Except as otherwise provided, a proceeding for detachment shall be governed by the provisions now or hereafter in force relating to proceedings for the creation of districts, so far as applicable. For the purpose of giving the required notices the territory involved shall comprise the entire territory of the district. If the agency determines that the requisite conditions for inclusion in a district no longer exist in the area proposed for detachment, it may make an order for detachment accordingly. All taxable property within the detached area shall remain subject to taxation for any existing bonded indebtedness of the district to such extent as it would have been subject thereto if not detached, and shall also remain subject to taxation for any other existing indebtedness of the district incurred for any purpose beneficial to such area to such extent as the agency may determine to be just and equitable, to be specified in the order for detachment. The proper officers shall levy further taxes on such property accordingly.

Subd. 3. **Joint petition.** Different areas may be annexed to and detached from a district in a single proceeding upon a joint petition therefor and upon compliance with the provisions of subdivisions 1 and 2 with respect to the area affected so far as applicable.

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Subd. 4. **Dissolution.** A district may be dissolved upon a petition to the agency stating the grounds for dissolution as hereinafter provided, signed by an authorized officer or officers of the district pursuant to a resolution of the board, and containing a proposal for distribution of the remaining funds of the district, if any, among the related governmental subdivisions. Except as otherwise provided, a proceeding for dissolution shall be governed by the provisions now or hereafter in force relating to proceedings for the creation of districts, so far as applicable. If the commission determines that the conditions requisite for the creation of the district no longer exist therein, that all indebtedness of the district has been paid, and that all property of the district except funds has been disposed of, it may make an order dissolving the district and directing the distribution of its remaining funds, if any, among the related governmental subdivisions on such basis as the agency determines to be just and equitable, to be specified in the order. Certified copies of the order for dissolution shall be transmitted and filed as provided for an order creating a district. The secretary of the agency shall also transmit a certified copy of the order to the treasurer of the district, who shall thereupon distribute the remaining funds of the district as directed by the order, and shall be responsible for such funds until so distributed.

### **115.22 PETITIONERS TO PAY EXPENSES.**

Expenses of the preparation and submission of petitions in proceedings under sections 115.19 to 115.21 shall be paid by the petitioners. Expenses of hearings therein shall be paid out of any available funds appropriated for the agency.

### **115.23 BOARD OF MANAGERS OF DISTRICT.**

Subdivision 1. **Composition.** The governing body of each district shall be a board of managers of five members, who shall be voters residing in the district, and who may but need not be officers, members of governing bodies, or employees of the related governmental subdivisions, except that where there are more than five territorial units in a district there shall be one board member for each unit.

Subd. 2. **Terms.** The terms of the first board members elected after creation of a district shall be so arranged and determined by the electing body as to expire on the first business day in January as follows:

(1) the terms of two members in the second calendar year after the year in which they were elected;

(2) the terms of two other members in the third calendar year after the year in which they were elected;

(3) the term of the remaining member in the fourth calendar year after the year in which the member was elected. In case a board has more than five members the additional members shall be assigned to the groups hereinbefore provided for so as to equalize such groups as far as practicable. Thereafter board members shall be elected successively for regular terms beginning on expiration of the preceding terms and expiring on the first business day in January of the third calendar year thereafter. Each board member shall serve until a successor is elected and has qualified.

Subd. 3. **Election of board.** In a district having only one territorial unit all the members of the board shall be elected by the related governing body. In a district having more than one territorial unit the members of the board shall be elected by the members of the related governing bodies in joint session except as otherwise provided. The electing bodies concerned shall meet and elect the first board members of a new district as soon as practicable after creation of the district, and shall meet and elect board members for succeeding regular terms as soon as practicable after November 1 next preceding the beginning of the terms to be filled, respectively.

Subd. 4. **Central related governing body.** Upon the creation of a district having more than one territorial unit, the agency, on the basis of convenience for joint meeting purposes, shall designate one of the related governing bodies as the central related governing body in the order creating the district or in a subsequent special order, of which the secretary of the agency shall notify the clerks or recorders of all the related governing bodies. Upon receipt of such notification, the clerk or recorder of the central related governing body shall immediately transmit the same to the presiding officer of such body. Such officer shall thereupon call a joint meeting of the members of all the related governing bodies to elect board members, to be held at such time as the officer shall fix at the regular meeting place of the officer's governing body or at such other place in the district as the officer shall determine. At least ten days' notice of the meeting shall be given by mail by the clerk or recorder of such body to the clerks or recorders of all the other related governing bodies, who shall immediately transmit such notice to all the members of such bodies, respectively. Subsequent joint meetings to elect board members for regular terms shall

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be called and held in like manner. The presiding officer and the clerk or recorder of the central related governing body shall act respectively as chair and secretary of the joint electing body at any meeting thereof, but in case of the absence or disability of either of them such body may elect a temporary substitute. A majority of the members of each related governing body shall be required for a quorum at any meeting of the joint electing body.

Subd. 5. **Nominations.** Nominations for board members may be made by petitions, each signed by ten or more voters residing and owning land in the district, filed with the clerk, recorder, or secretary of the electing body before the election meeting. No person shall sign more than one petition. The electing body shall give due consideration to all such nominations but shall not be limited thereto.

Subd. 6. **Election; single governing body.** In the case of an electing body consisting of a single related governing body, a majority vote of all the members shall be required for an election. In the case of a joint electing body, a majority vote of the members present shall be required for an election. In case of lack of a quorum or failure to elect, a meeting of an electing body may be adjourned to a stated time and place without further notice.

Subd. 7. **Election; multiple governing bodies.** In any district having more than one territorial unit, the related governing bodies, instead of meeting in joint session, may elect a board member by resolutions adopted by all of them separately, concurring in the election of the same person. A majority vote of all the members of each related governing body shall be required for the adoption of any such resolution. The clerks or recorders of the other related governing bodies shall transmit certified copies of such resolutions to the clerk or recorder of the central related governing body. Upon receipt of concurring resolutions from all the related governing bodies, the presiding officer and clerk or recorder of the central related governing body shall certify the results and furnish certificates of election as provided for a joint meeting.

Subd. 8. **Vacancies.** Any vacancy in the membership of a board shall be filled for the unexpired term in like manner as provided for the regular election of board members.

Subd. 9. **Certification of election; temporary chair.** The presiding and recording officers of the electing body shall certify the results of each election to the secretary of the agency, to the county auditor of each county wherein any part of the district is situated, and to the clerk or recorder of each related governing body, and shall make and transmit to each board member elected a certificate of the board member's election. Upon electing the first board members of a district, the presiding officer of the electing body shall designate one of them to serve as temporary chair for the purposes of initial organization of the board, and the recording officer of the body shall include written notice thereof to all the board members with their certificates of election.

#### **115.24 ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE OF BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. **Initial, annual meetings.** As soon as practicable after the election of the first board members of a district they shall meet at the call of the temporary chair to elect officers and take other appropriate action for organization and administration of the district. Each board shall hold a regular annual meeting at the call of the chair or otherwise as it shall prescribe on or as soon as practicable after the first business day in January of each year, and such other regular and special meetings as it shall prescribe.

Subd. 2. **Officers.** The officers of each district shall be a chair and a vice-chair, who shall be members of the board, and a secretary and a treasurer, who may but need not be members of the board. The board of a new district at its initial meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable shall elect the officers to serve until the first business day in January next following. Thereafter the board shall elect the officers at each regular annual meeting for terms expiring on the first business day in January next following. Each officer shall serve until a successor is elected and has qualified.

Subd. 3. **Meeting place; offices.** The board at its initial meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable shall provide for suitable places for board meetings and for offices of the district officers, and may change the same thereafter as it deems advisable. Such meeting place and offices may be the same as those of any related governing body, with the approval of such body. The secretary of the board shall notify the secretary of state, the secretary of the agency, the county auditor of each county wherein any part of the district is situated, and the clerk or recorder of each related governing body of the locations and post office addresses of such meeting place and offices and any changes therein.

Subd. 4. **Budget.** At any time before the proceeds of the first tax levy in a district become available, the district board may prepare a budget comprising an estimate of the expenses of organizing and administering the district until such proceeds are available, with a proposal for apportionment of the estimated amount among the related governmental subdivisions, and may

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request the governing bodies thereof to advance funds in accordance with the proposal. Such governing bodies may authorize advancement of the requested amounts, or such part thereof as they respectively deem proper, from any funds available in their respective treasuries. The board shall include in its first tax levy after receipt of any such advancements a sufficient sum to cover the same and shall cause the same to be repaid, without interest, from the proceeds of taxes as soon as received.

#### **115.25 STATUS AND POWERS OF DISTRICT.**

Subdivision 1. **Status.** Every district shall be a public corporation and a governmental subdivision of the state, and shall be deemed to be a municipality or municipal corporation for the purpose of obtaining federal or state grants or loans or otherwise complying with any provision of federal or state law or for any other purpose relating to the powers and purposes of the district for which such status is now or hereafter required by law.

Subd. 2. **Powers and purpose.** Every district shall have the powers and purposes prescribed by sections 115.18 to 115.37 and such others as may now or hereafter be prescribed by law. No express grant of power or enumeration of powers herein shall be deemed to limit the generality or scope of any grant of power.

Subd. 3. **Scope of powers and duties.** Except as otherwise provided, a power or duty vested in or imposed upon a district or any of its officers, agents, or employees shall not be deemed exclusive and shall not supersede or abridge any power or duty vested in or imposed upon any other agency of the state or any governmental subdivision thereof, but shall be supplementary thereto.

Subd. 4. **Exercise of power.** All the powers of a district shall be exercised by its board of managers except so far as approval of any action by popular vote or by any other authority may be expressly required by law.

Subd. 5. **Lawsuits; contracts.** A district may sue and be sued and may enter into any contract necessary or proper for the exercise of its powers or the accomplishment of its purposes.

Subd. 6. **Property acquisition.** A district may acquire by purchase, gift, or condemnation or may lease or rent any real or personal property within or without the district which may be necessary for the exercise of its powers or the accomplishment of its purposes, may hold such property for such purposes, and may lease or rent out or sell or otherwise dispose of any such property so far as not needed for such purposes.

Subd. 7. **Acceptance of money or property.** A district may accept gifts, grants, or loans of money or other property from the United States, the state, or any person, corporation, or other entity for district purposes, may enter into any agreement required in connection therewith, and may hold, use, and dispose of such money or property in accordance with the terms of the gift, grant, loan, or agreement relating thereto.

#### **115.26 SPECIFIC PURPOSES AND POWERS.**

Subdivision 1. **Pollution prevention.** A district may construct, install, improve, maintain, and operate any system, works, or facilities within or without the district required to control and prevent pollution of any waters of the state within its territory.

Subd. 2. **Sewage disposal.** A district may construct, install, improve, maintain, and operate any system, works, or facilities within or without the district required to provide for, regulate, and control the disposal of sewage, industrial waste and other waste originating within its territory. The district may require any person upon whose premises there is any source of sewage, industrial waste, or other waste within the district to connect the same with the disposal system, works, or facilities of the district whenever reasonable opportunity therefor is provided.

Subd. 3. **Garbage, refuse disposal.** A district may construct, install, improve, maintain, and operate any system, works, or facilities within or without the district required to provide for, regulate, and control the disposal of garbage or refuse originating within the district, and may require any person upon whose premises any garbage or refuse is produced or accumulated to dispose thereof through the system, works, or facilities of the district whenever reasonable opportunity therefor is provided.

Subd. 4. **Water supply.** A district may procure supplies of water so far as necessary for any purpose under subdivisions 1, 2, and 3, and may construct, install, improve, maintain, and operate any system, works, or facilities required therefor within or without the district.

Subd. 5. **Roads.** (a) In order to maintain the integrity of and facilitate access to district systems, works, or facilities, the district may maintain and repair a road by agreement with the entity that was responsible for the performance of maintenance and repair immediately prior to

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the agreement. Maintenance and repair includes, but is not limited to, providing lighting, snow removal, and grass mowing.

(b) A district shall establish a taxing subdistrict of benefited property and shall levy special taxes, pursuant to section 115.33, subdivision 2, for the purposes of paying the cost of improvement or maintenance of a road under paragraph (a).

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, a district shall not be construed as a road authority under chapter 160.

(d) The district and its officers and employees are exempt from liability for any tort claim for injury to person or property arising from travel on a road maintained by the district and related to its maintenance or condition.

#### **115.27 DISTRICT PROJECTS AND FACILITIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Public property.** For the purpose of constructing, improving, maintaining, or operating any system, works, or facilities designed or used for any purpose under section 115.26, a district, its officers, agents, employees, and contractors may enter, occupy, excavate, and otherwise operate it, upon, under, through, or along any public highway, including a state trunk highway, or any street, park, or other public grounds so far as necessary for such work, with the approval of the governing body or other authority in charge of the public property affected and on such terms as may be agreed upon with such governing body or authority respecting interference with public use, restoration of previous conditions, compensation for damages, and other pertinent matters. If such an agreement cannot be reached after reasonable opportunity therefor, the district may acquire the necessary rights, easements, or other interests in such public property by condemnation, subject to all applicable provisions of law as in case of taking private property, upon condition that the court shall determine that there is paramount public necessity for such acquisition.

Subd. 2. **Use of other systems.** A district may, upon such terms as may be agreed upon with the respective governing bodies or authorities concerned, provide for connecting with or using or may lease or acquire and take over any system, works, or facilities for any purpose under section 115.26 belonging to any other governmental subdivision or other public agency.

Subd. 3. **Use by other governmental bodies.** A district may, upon such terms as may be agreed upon with the respective governing bodies or authorities concerned, authorize the use by any other governmental subdivision or other public agency of any system, works, or facilities of the district constructed for any purpose under section 115.26 so far as the capacity thereof is sufficient beyond the needs of the district. A district may extend any such system, works, or facilities and permit the use thereof by persons outside the district, so far as the capacity thereof is sufficient beyond the needs of the district, upon such terms as the board may prescribe.

Subd. 4. **Joint projects.** A district may be a party to a joint cooperative project, undertaking, or enterprise with any one or more other governmental subdivisions or other public agencies for any purpose under section 115.26 upon such terms as may be agreed upon between the governing bodies or authorities concerned. Without limiting the effect of the foregoing provision or any other provisions of sections 115.18 to 115.37, a district, with respect to any of said purposes, may act under and be subject to the provisions of section 471.59, as now in force or hereafter amended, or any other appropriate law now in force or hereafter enacted providing for joint or cooperative action between governmental subdivisions or other public agencies.

#### **115.28 CONTROL OF SANITARY FACILITIES.**

A district may regulate and control the construction, maintenance, and use of privies, cesspools, septic tanks, toilets, and other facilities and devices for the reception or disposal of human or animal excreta or other domestic wastes within its territory so far as necessary to prevent nuisances or pollution or to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and may prohibit the use of any such facilities or devices not connected with a district disposal system, works, or facilities whenever reasonable opportunity for such connection is provided; provided, that the authority of a district under this section shall not extend or apply to the construction, maintenance, operation, or use by any person other than the district of any disposal system or part thereof within the district under and in accordance with a valid and existing permit heretofore or hereafter issued by the agency.

#### **115.29 DISTRICT PROGRAMS, SURVEYS, AND STUDIES.**

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A district may develop general programs and particular projects within the scope of its powers and purposes, and may make all surveys, studies, and investigations necessary therefor.

#### **115.30 GENERAL AND STATUTORY CITY POWERS.**

A district may do and perform all other acts and things necessary or proper for the effectuation of its powers and the accomplishment of its purposes. Without limiting the effect of the foregoing provision or any other provision of sections 115.18 to 115.37, a district, with respect to each and all of said powers and purposes, shall have like powers as are vested in statutory cities with respect to any similar purposes, and the exercise of such powers by a district and all matters pertaining thereto shall be governed by the provisions of law relating to the exercise of similar powers by statutory cities and matters pertaining thereto, so far as applicable, with like force and effect, except as otherwise provided.

#### **115.31 ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

The board may appoint an advisory committee with such membership and duties as it may prescribe.

#### **115.32 POWERS OF BOARD.**

Subdivision 1. **Generally.** The board of managers of every district shall have charge and control of all the funds, property, and affairs of the district. With respect thereto, the board shall have like powers and duties as are provided by law for a statutory city council with respect to similar statutory city matters, except as otherwise provided. Except as otherwise provided, the chair, vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer of the district shall have like powers and duties, respectively, as the mayor, acting mayor, clerk, and treasurer of a statutory city. Except as otherwise provided the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties of the board and officers of the district and all other activities, transactions, and procedures of the district or any of its officers, agents, or employees, respectively, shall be governed by the provisions of law relating to similar matters in a statutory city, so far as applicable, with like force and effect.

Subd. 2. **Regulation of district.** The board may enact ordinances, prescribe regulations, adopt resolutions, and take other appropriate action relating to any matter within the powers and purposes of the district, and may do and perform all other acts and things necessary or proper for the effectuation of said powers and the accomplishment of said purposes. The board may provide that violation of any ordinance shall be a penal offense and may prescribe penalties therefor, not exceeding those prescribed by law for violation of statutory city ordinances.

Subd. 3. **Arrest; prosecution.** Violations of district ordinances may be prosecuted before any court having jurisdiction of misdemeanors. Any peace officer may make arrests for violations committed anywhere within the district in the same manner as for violations of city ordinances or for statutory misdemeanors.

All fines collected shall be deposited in the treasury of the district.

#### **115.33 TAX LEVIES, ASSESSMENTS, AND SERVICE CHARGES.**

Subdivision 1. **Tax levies.** The board may levy taxes for any district purpose on all property taxable within the district, and for a period of five years from June 5, 1971, the same shall not be subject to any limitation and shall be excluded in computing amounts subject to any limitation on tax levies.

Subd. 2. **Particular area.** In the case where a particular area within the district, but not the entire district, is benefited by a system, works, or facilities of the district, the board, after holding a public hearing as provided by law for levying assessments on benefited property, shall by ordinance establish such area as a taxing subdistrict, to be designated by number, and shall levy special taxes on all the taxable property therein, to be accounted for separately and used only for the purpose of paying the cost of construction, improvement, acquisition, maintenance, or operation of such system, works, or facilities, or paying the principal and interest on bonds issued to provide funds therefor and expense incident thereto. Such hearing may be held jointly with a hearing for the purpose of levying assessments on benefited property within the proposed taxing subdistrict.

Subd. 3. **Benefited property.** The board shall levy assessments on benefited property to provide funds for payment of the cost of construction, improvement, or acquisition of any system, works, or facilities designed or used for any district purpose, or for payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds issued therefor and expenses incident thereto.

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Subd. 4. **Service charges.** The board shall prescribe service, use, or rental charges for persons or premises connecting with or making use of any system, works, or facilities of the district, prescribe the method of payment and collection of such charges, and provide for the collection thereof for the district by any related governmental subdivision or other public agency on such terms as may be agreed upon with the governing body or other authority thereof.

#### **115.34 BORROWING POWERS; BONDS.**

Subdivision 1. **Borrowing power.** The board may authorize the borrowing of money for any district purpose and provide for the repayment thereof, subject to chapter 475. The taxes initially levied by any district in accordance with section 475.61 for the payment of its bonds, upon property within each municipality included in the district, shall be included in computing the levy of such municipality.

Subd. 2. **Bond issuance.** The board may authorize the issuance of bonds or obligations of the district to provide funds for the construction, improvement, or acquisition of any system, works, or facilities for any district purpose, or for refunding any prior bonds or obligations issued for any such purpose, and may pledge the full faith and credit of the district or the proceeds of tax levies or assessments or service, use, or rental charges, or any combination thereof, to the payment of such bonds or obligations and interest thereon or expenses incident thereto. An election or vote of the people of the district shall be required to authorize the issuance of any such bonds or obligations. Except as otherwise provided in sections 115.18 to 115.37, the forms and procedures for issuing and selling bonds and provisions for payment thereof shall comply with the provisions of chapter 475, as now in force or hereafter amended.

#### **115.35 FUNDS; DISTRICT TREASURY.**

The proceeds of all tax levies, assessments, service, use, or rental charges, and other income of the district shall be deposited in the district treasury and shall be held and disposed of as the board may direct for district purposes, subject to any pledges or dedications made by the board for the use of particular funds for the payment of bonds or interest thereon or expenses incident thereto or for other specific purposes.

#### **115.36 EFFECT OF DISTRICT ORDINANCES AND FACILITIES.**

In any case where an ordinance is enacted or a regulation adopted by a district board relating to the same subject matter and applicable in the same area as an existing ordinance or regulation of a related governmental subdivision for the district, the district ordinance or regulation, to the extent of its application, shall supersede the ordinance or regulation of the related governmental subdivision. In any case where an area within a district is served for any district purpose by a system, works, or facilities of the district, no system, works, or facilities shall be constructed, maintained, or operated for the same purpose in the same area by any related governmental subdivision or other public agency except as approved by the district board.

#### **115.37 APPLICATION.**

The provisions of sections 115.18 to 115.37 shall not abridge or supersede any provision of sections 115.01 to 115.09, or any authority of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency or the state commissioner of health, but shall be subject and supplementary thereto. Districts and members of district boards shall be subject to the authority of the agency and shall have no power or authority to abate or control pollution which is permitted by and in accord with any classification of waters, standards of water quality, or permit established, fixed, or issued by the agency.

#### **239.791 OXYGENATED GASOLINE.**

Subd. 1a. **Minimum ethanol content required.** (a) Except as provided in subdivisions 10 to 14, on August 30, 2015, and thereafter, a person responsible for the product shall ensure that all gasoline sold or offered for sale in Minnesota must contain at least the quantity of ethanol required by clause (1) or (2), whichever is greater:

(1) 20 percent denatured ethanol by volume; or

(2) the maximum percent of denatured ethanol by volume authorized in a waiver granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) For purposes of enforcing the minimum ethanol requirement of paragraph (a), clause (1), a gasoline/ethanol blend will be construed to be in compliance if the ethanol content,

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exclusive of denaturants and other permitted components, comprises not less than 18.4 percent by volume and not more than 20 percent by volume of the blend as determined by an appropriate United States Environmental Protection Agency or American Society of Testing Materials standard method of analysis of alcohol content in motor fuels.

(c) This subdivision expires on December 31, 2014, if by that date:

(1) the commissioner of agriculture certifies and publishes the certification in the State Register that at least 20 percent of the volume of gasoline sold in the state is denatured ethanol; or

(2) federal approval has not been granted under paragraph (a), clause (1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency's failure to act on an application shall not be deemed approval under paragraph (a), clause (1), or a waiver under section 211(f)(4) of the Clean Air Act, United States Code, title 42, section 7545, subsection (f), paragraph (4).

**7021.0010 DEFINITIONS.**

Subpart 1. **Scope.** The definitions in part 7005.0100 apply to the terms used in parts 7021.0010 to 7021.0050 unless the terms are defined in this part.

**7021.0010 DEFINITIONS.**

Subp. 2. **Electric utility.** "Electric utility" means persons, corporations, or other legal entities, their lessees, trustees, and receivers operating, maintaining, or controlling in Minnesota facilities used for the generation of electricity.

**7021.0010 DEFINITIONS.**

Subp. 4. **Reasonably available control technology (RACT).** "Reasonably available control technology (RACT)" means the lowest emission limit that a particular source is capable of meeting by the application of control technology that is reasonably available considering technological and economic feasibility.

**7021.0010 DEFINITIONS.**

Subp. 5. **Sensitive areas.** "Sensitive areas" means the areas listed by the agency pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 116.44 because the agency has determined these areas contain natural resources sensitive to the impacts of acid deposition.

**7021.0020 APPLICABILITY.**

The acid deposition standard established in part 7021.0030 applies only in sensitive areas.

**7021.0030 ACID DEPOSITION STANDARD.**

The acid deposition standard is an annual average of 11 kilograms of wet sulfate deposition per hectare.

**7021.0040 MEASUREMENT METHODOLOGY FOR SULFATE.**

Subpart 1. **Incorporation by reference.** Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems (EPA-600/4-82-042 a & b), as amended, is incorporated by reference. This publication is available from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, 26 West St. Clair, Cincinnati, Ohio 45268 and can be found at the offices of the agency, 1935 West County Road B-2, Roseville, Minnesota 55113, the Government Documents Section, Room 409, Wilson Library, University of Minnesota, 309 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55454, and the State of Minnesota Law Library, 25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155. This document is not subject to frequent change.

Subp. 2. **Measurement procedure.** For sulfate, measurements made to determine compliance with the standard contained in part 7021.0030 shall be performed in accordance with the Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems: Volume V, Manual for Precipitation Measurement Systems (EPA-600/4-82-042 a & b). A person seeking to make measurements to determine compliance with the acid deposition standard shall develop and submit to the commissioner for approval a quality assurance plan containing equipment specifications and procedures for operation, maintenance, and internal quality control of the measurement system.

**7021.0050 ACID DEPOSITION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS IN MINNESOTA.**

Subp. 5. **Requirement for application of reasonably available control technology.** On and after January 1, 1990, the owner or operator of any electric generating facility that contains indirect heating equipment with a rated heat input of greater than 5,000 million BTU per hour shall reduce sulfur dioxide emissions at the facility to a level consistent with RACT.

**9210.0300 DEFINITIONS.**

Subpart 1. **Scope.** For the purposes of parts 9210.0300 to 9210.0380, the following terms have the meanings given them, unless the context requires otherwise.

Subp. 2. **Agency.** "Agency" means the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Subp. 3. **Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

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Subp. 4. **Cities.** "Cities" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 4.

Subp. 5. **Comprehensive solid waste management plan.** "Comprehensive solid waste management plan" means a written plan prepared under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.46.

Subp. 6. **Disposal.** "Disposal" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 9.

Subp. 7. **Final design and engineering/architectural plans.** "Final design and engineering/architectural plans" means those engineering drawings and specifications used to secure bids for construction or equipment.

Subp. 8. **Institutional arrangements.** "Institutional arrangements" means methods of financing, marketing, procurement, securing the waste supply, or joint efforts by more than one local government unit.

Subp. 9. **Mixed municipal solid waste.** "Mixed municipal solid waste" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 21.

Subp. 10. **On-site utilities.** "On-site utilities" means gas, electrical, water, and sewer facilities within the geographic boundaries of the waste processing facility.

Subp. 11. **Preliminary design and engineering/architectural plans.** "Preliminary design and engineering/architectural plans" means conceptual plans adequate to obtain preconstruction permits and to meet the needs of an environmental assessment.

Subp. 12. **Processing.** "Processing" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 25.

Subp. 13. **Project.** "Project" means a processing facility, together with any transfer stations, transmission facilities, and other related and appurtenant facilities primarily serving the processing facility.

Subp. 14. **Recipient.** "Recipient" means an applicant who has received a grant or loan under the solid waste processing facilities demonstration program.

Subp. 15. **Recyclable materials.** "Recyclable materials" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 25a.

Subp. 16. **Recycling.** "Recycling" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 25b.

Subp. 17. **Resource recovery.** "Resource recovery" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 27.

Subp. 18. **Resource recovery facility.** "Resource recovery facility" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 28.

Subp. 19. **Solid waste.** "Solid waste" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 116.06, subdivision 22.

Subp. 20. **Solid waste disposal facilities and equipment.** "Solid waste disposal facilities and equipment" means structures, machinery, or devices at a disposal site necessary for efficient land disposal of solid wastes, including machinery or devices designed to move earth during burial of wastes or to increase the density of wastes buried or to be buried, and facilities in which solid waste is temporarily stored and concentrated prior to transport to a disposal site.

Subp. 21. **Solid waste management district.** "Solid waste management district" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 32.

Subp. 22. **Special waste stream.** "Special waste stream" means materials that are normally found in the solid waste stream in sufficient quantity to be recovered for subsequent use, if separated from the solid waste stream and processed separately. Examples of special waste streams include waste tires, wood wastes, and agricultural wastes.

Subp. 23. **Transfer station.** "Transfer station" has the meaning given it in Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.03, subdivision 33.

Subp. 24. **Waste processing equipment.** "Waste processing equipment" means machinery or devices acquired and used as an integral component of a waste processing facility.

Subp. 25. **Waste processing facility.** "Waste processing facility" means structures and equipment singly or in combination, designed, constructed, and used to separate, modify, convert, heat, prepare, or otherwise process solid waste so that materials, substances, or energy contained within the waste may be recovered for subsequent use.

**9210.0310 SOLID WASTE PROCESSING FACILITIES DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.**

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Parts 9210.0300 to 9210.0380 implement the solid waste processing facilities demonstration program created and described in Minnesota Statutes, sections 115A.49 to 115A.54, by establishing the substantive criteria and procedural conditions under which the agency may award grants and loans for capital costs of waste processing facilities.

**9210.0320 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.**

Subpart 1. **Eligible applicants.** Eligible applicants are limited to cities, counties, and solid waste management districts established pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 115A.62 to 115A.72.

Subp. 2. **Eligible projects.** Only projects that demonstrate feasible and prudent alternatives to disposal are eligible for loans and grants. Three types of projects are eligible for loans and grants: materials recovery; chemical, physical, or biological modifications; and special waste streams. Eligible projects are limited to those in which the land, buildings, and equipment are publicly owned.

Subp. 3. **Eligible costs.** Except as provided in part 9210.0200, eligible costs under parts 9210.0300 to 9210.0380 shall be limited to the costs of land, waste processing equipment, structures necessary to house the waste processing equipment, appropriate and necessary on-site utilities, landscaping; on-site roads and parking; trailers, containers, and rolloff boxes necessary to transport products to market, or to transport residue from the processing facility to a solid waste land disposal facility, and final design and engineering/architectural plans.

Subp. 4. **Ineligible costs.** Except as provided in part 9210.0200, ineligible costs include any costs related to solid waste disposal facilities and equipment, structures for housing and maintenance of rolling stock, or any costs related to resource recovery studies, feasibility analyses, or preliminary design and engineering/architectural plans.

**9210.0330 INFORMATION REQUIRED ON APPLICATION.**

Applications for grants, loans, or grants and loans for waste processing facilities shall include the following information as required in the application forms supplied by the agency:

- A. the name of each applicant making the application;
- B. the name of each political subdivision affected by the project, located in the area studied in the project, or located in the area in which the project is intended to be implemented;
- C. the name, qualifications, and address of the project manager;
- D. the name and qualifications of the facility operator, if available;
- E. the total capital cost of the project;
- F. the total grant- or loan-eligible cost of the project;
- G. the amount of grant, loan, or grant and loan funding requested;
- H. the amount and sources of all other funding contributions, including the amount of funds to be contributed by the applicant;
- I. the type of assistance applied for (grant, loan, or grant and loan together); and
- J. the type of waste processing facility for which assistance is being requested: materials recovery; chemical, physical, or biological modification; or special waste stream.

**9210.0340 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED TO BE SUBMITTED WITH APPLICATION.**

Applications for grants or loans for waste processing facilities shall include the following supporting documentation:

- A. a conceptual and technical feasibility report that includes at least the following: a detailed description of the proposed waste processing facility; a description of the institutional arrangements necessary for project implementation and operation; a description of the method of facility procurement; and an analysis of the waste stream for the facility;
- B. a financial plan that contains:
  - (1) initial capital development costs and the method of financing those costs;
  - (2) annual operating and maintenance costs;
  - (3) projections of total facility costs and revenues over 20 years or for the term of the longest debt obligation, whichever is longer; and
  - (4) total capital costs per ton of installed daily capacity;
- C. a comprehensive solid waste management plan;

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D. preliminary design and engineering/architectural plans and equipment specifications of the proposed waste processing facility;

E. documentation that waste supplies will be committed to the project and that the applicant has the mechanism to commit the wastes;

F. a market analysis of recovered materials/energy, including documentation of market commitments such as letters of intent or contracts;

G. a report on the status of required permits from permitting agencies;

H. a report on time frames of project development;

I. resolutions that comply with Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.54, subdivision 3; and

J. if the applicant requests priority under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.49, documentation:

(1) that the natural geologic and soil conditions are especially unsuitable for land disposal of solid waste;

(2) that the available capacity of existing solid waste disposal facilities is less than five years; or

(3) that the proposed project would serve more than one local government unit.

**9210.0350 GRANT AND LOAN APPLICATION PROCEDURES.**

Subpart 1. **Applications.** An application may be submitted to the agency when the applicant has met the information and documentation requirements in parts 9210.0330 and 9210.0340. The applicant is encouraged to contact the commissioner and request a preapplication review of the proposed project.

Subp. 2. **Review of applications.** Upon receipt of an application, the commissioner or a designee shall conduct an initial review of the application under part 9210.0360. The agency shall evaluate projects and award grants and loans.

Subp. 3. **Applications accepted.** The agency shall accept applications for funds under the solid waste processing facilities demonstration program until all funds for the program are awarded or until three months before the expiration of the agency pursuant to law, whichever occurs first.

Subp. 4. **Legislative priorities.** The agency shall give priority to projects located in cities, counties, or districts in which:

A. the natural geologic and soil conditions are especially unsuitable for land disposal of solid waste;

B. the capacity of existing solid waste disposal facilities is less than five years; or

C. the project serves more than one local government unit.

**9210.0360 REVIEW AND EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.**

Subpart 1. **Determination of eligibility and completeness.** Upon receipt of an application, the commissioner or a designee shall determine the eligibility of the applicant, the eligibility of the costs specified in the application, the eligibility of the project specified in the application, and the completeness of the application.

Subp. 2. **Notice of determination of eligibility and completeness.** Within 14 days after receiving the application, the commissioner shall notify the applicant of the commissioner's determinations of eligibility and completeness. If the commissioner determines that the applicant or the project is ineligible, the commissioner shall reject the application, return it to the applicant, and notify the applicant of the reasons for the rejection. If the commissioner determines that any part of the project costs is ineligible or that the application is incomplete, the commissioner shall notify the applicant of the ineligible portion of the costs or of the deficiency. The applicant has 14 days after receiving the notice to correct inadequacies identified by the commissioner. If the inadequacies are corrected within the time allowed, the application will be further considered.

Subp. 3. **Evaluation of applications.** If the applicant, the costs, and the project are determined to be eligible and the application is complete, the agency shall evaluate the application to determine whether the documentation demonstrates:

A. that the project is conceptually and technically feasible;

B. that affected political subdivisions are committed to implementing the project, providing necessary local financing, and accepting and exercising the government powers necessary for project implementation and operation;

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C. that operating revenues from the project, considering the availability and security of sources of solid waste and of markets for recovered resources together with any proposed federal, state, or local financial assistance, will be sufficient to pay all costs over the projected life of the project; and

D. that the applicant has evaluated the feasible and prudent alternatives to disposal and has compared and evaluated the costs of the alternatives, including capital and operating costs, the effects of the alternatives on the cost to generators, and the effects of the alternatives on the solid waste management and recycling industry within the project's service area.

Subp. 4. **Consultation with other agencies.** In its evaluation of the application, the agency shall consider any recommendations provided by the State Planning Agency and the appropriate regional development commission or the Metropolitan Council.

Subp. 5. **Agency determination.** If the agency determines that the application satisfies the requirements of subpart 3, the agency shall determine the amount of the grant, loan, or grant and loan award and the applicant shall be notified of the grant, loan, or grant and loan awarded. If the agency determines that the application fails to satisfy the requirements of subpart 3, the agency shall reject the application and the commissioner shall return the application to the applicant, together with a statement of the reasons for rejection.

**9210.0370 AWARD OF GRANTS AND LOANS.**

Subpart 1. **Maximum awards.** The maximum loan award shall be 50 percent of the eligible costs specified in the application or \$400,000, whichever is less. Except as provided in part 9210.0200, the maximum grant award shall be 50 percent of the eligible costs specified in the application or \$400,000, whichever is less. Except as provided in part 9210.0200, the maximum combined grant and loan award is \$400,000.

Subp. 2. **Limitations.** The amount of the agency's grant, loan, or grant and loan award shall be limited to an amount needed to complete the project considering all sources of funding presently available to the applicant.

Grants and loans shall not be awarded to cover any cost associated with tasks performed before the award of a grant, loan, or grant and loan or after the expiration of the grant, loan, or grant and loan agreement.

Subp. 3. **Limitations on disbursement of funds.** No funds shall be disbursed until the agency has determined the total estimated capital cost of the project and ascertained that financing of the cost is assured by funds provided by the state, by an agency of the federal government within the amount of funds then appropriated to that agency and allocated by it to projects within the state, by any person, or by the appropriation of proceeds of bonds or other funds of the recipient to a fund for the construction of the project.

**9210.0380 GRANT, LOAN, OR GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENT.**

Subpart 1. **Requirements.** A grant, loan, or grant and loan agreement shall:

A. include as attachments the resolutions required under Minnesota Statutes, section 115A.54, subdivision 3;

B. incorporate by reference the final application submitted to the agency in accordance with part 9210.0350;

C. establish the term of the grant, loan, or grant and loan. Grants awarded under parts 9210.0300 to 9210.0380 shall have a maximum term of two years. Loans awarded under parts 9210.0300 to 9210.0380 shall have a loan life determined by considering facility type, expected life of equipment, capital cost of the project, and loan amount;

D. in the case of a loan agreement, include schedules for the repayment of principal and interest;

E. allow the recipient to enter into contracts to complete the work specified in the agreement subject to any agency approval that may be required in the agreement;

F. provide that any cost overruns incurred in the development of the proposed facility shall be the sole responsibility of the recipients;

G. provide that the agency will not accept amendments requesting that additional funds be awarded to the recipient except as provided in part 9210.0200;

H. require that the recipient provide periodic reports to the agency on the developmental and operational history of the project so that knowledge and experience gained from the project may be made available to other communities in the state;

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I. provide that if the recipient sells the facility to a private enterprise, all outstanding loan obligations to the agency shall become due and payable upon sale to the private enterprise;

J. require total repayment of the grant if the facility is sold to a private enterprise within three years of the effective date of the grant agreement. Beginning on the third anniversary of the grant, the amount of the grant that must be repaid shall be reduced ten percent each year. The sales agreement between the recipient and the private enterprise shall transfer the responsibilities outlined in item H to the private enterprise; and

K. require that the facility may only be sold to a private enterprise in accordance with the constitution of the state of Minnesota and any applicable Minnesota statutes and rules.

Subp. 2. **Rescission of grants and loans.** If projects are not completed and operational in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective agreements, including time schedules, the grants and loans for those projects shall be rescinded, and the entire amount of grants and loans shall be repaid unless the agency determines that variances from the respective agreements are justified and that the original objectives of the project will be accomplished.

Subp. 3. **Disbursement.** The agency shall disburse grants in accordance with the payment schedule in the grant, loan, or grant and loan agreement.

Subp. 4. **Interest payments.** Interest payments on the loan shall be due annually and shall begin to accrue from the date the loan agreement is signed. The first repayment of the principal amount of the loan shall be due one year after the facility becomes operational or two years after the date the loan agreement is executed, whichever is earlier. The agency shall consider the facility operational at the point where the facility meets all vendor guaranteed operating specifications. Subsequent repayments of principal and interest shall be due annually on the anniversary date of the first repayment.

**9220.0530 WASTE TIRE TRANSPORTATION.**

Subp. 6. **Submittal of operating record.** Transporters shall submit to the commissioner an operating record that identifies the transporter by name and identification number, and that summarizes the information accumulated under subpart 5 for the three months preceding the month the record is to be submitted. This record must be submitted April 10, July 10, October 10, and January 10 of each year.