

Legislative Analysis



EXTEND SUNSETS FOR CERTAIN FEES

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Senate Bill 579 (H-3)

Sponsor: Sen. Sam Singh

House Committee: Appropriations [Discharged]

Senate Committee: Appropriations [Discharged]

Complete to 10-2-25

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 579 would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to change the sunset (expiration) dates that now apply to certain fees authorized under the act. The fees listed below now have sunset dates of October 1, 2025, which the bill would extend by four years, to October 1, 2029:

- Floodplain application fees (section 3104).
- Wastewater and storm water operator training and certification fees (sections 3110 and 4104).
- Stormwater discharge fees (section 3118).
- Surface water discharge permit fees (section 3120).
- Hazardous waste user charges (section 11153).
- Inland lakes and streams application fees (section 30104).
- Ordinary high-water mark establishment service fee (section 30109).
- Great Lakes shoreline permit application fees (section 32312).
- Submerged lands permit application fees (section 32513).

MCL 324.301 et seq.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The H-3 substitute for Senate Bill 579 is likely to increase revenues for EGLE by extending the sunsets on certain fees collected by the department; EGLE would no longer be able to collect this revenue beyond the sunset date without these extensions. Annual revenue generated by these fees is as follows:

Fee	Fee revenue
Hazardous Waste User Charges	\$ 465,000
Land and Water Permit Fees	2,100,000
Operator Training and Certification Fees	600,000
Surface Water Discharge Fees	2,816,800
Stormwater Discharge Fees	1,625,100
TOTAL	\$7,606,900

Data source: EGLE

Hazardous Waste User Charges primarily support the Material Management Programs appropriation, which permits and regulates hazardous waste transporters and facilities. This appropriation is \$24.9 million Gross in FY 2024-25.

Revenue generated by Floodplain Permit Application Fees, Inland Lakes and Streams Application Fees, Ordinary High-Water Mark Establishment Service Fees, Great Lakes Shoreline Permit Application Fees, and Submerged Lands Permit Application Fees are included with the Land and Water Permit Fees above. This revenue is primarily used to support EGLE's Water Resources appropriation, which administers flood hazard, flood insurance, dam safety programs, and shoreline permit process for construction. This appropriation is \$28.1 million Gross in FY 2024-25.

Operator Training and Certification Fees primarily support the Drinking Water and Environmental Health appropriation and the Water Quality Programs appropriation. Drinking Water and Environmental Health provides emergency response to drinking water safety threats; this appropriation is \$40.2 million Gross in FY 2024-25. Water Quality Programs regulate Michigan's surface water, including pollutant monitoring and water quality testing; this appropriation is \$37.6 million in FY 2024-25.

Stormwater Discharge Fees primarily support the Water Quality Programs appropriation, which regulates stormwater discharges that require NPDES permits. This appropriation is \$37.6 million in FY 2024-25.

Surface Water Discharge Fees primarily support the Water Quality Programs appropriation which includes the National Pollutant Elimination Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Nonstormwater Program. This program issues NPDES permits to facilities that discharge waste to Michigan's surface waters. This appropriation is \$37.6 million in FY 2024-25.

The bill is unlikely to affect costs for EGLE; the department is already collecting these fees and would continue to do so under the bill. However, the bill may increase costs for local governments that own or operate fee-subject facilities by extending the period under which fee payments are submitted to EGLE. The bill is unlikely to affect local government revenues.

Legislative Analyst: Josh Roesner
Fiscal Analyst: Austin Scott

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.