



North Dakota Legislative Council

Prepared for the House Appropriations Committee
March 6, 2025

MAJOR RELATED LEGISLATION AFFECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AS OF CROSSOVER

This memorandum provides information on major related legislation affecting the Department of Environmental Quality as of Crossover:

House Bill No. 1058 - Regulation of aboveground storage tanks - This bill provides for Department of Environmental Quality regulation of aboveground storage tanks, including fees for permits and licensing. A fiscal note prepared by the Department of Environmental Quality indicates the fiscal impact would be approximately \$15,000 from other funds related to travel.

House Bill No. 1541 - Permitting and inspection of sewer, septic, and private water systems - This bill establishes an Environmental Quality Advisory Committee and authorizes the department and the committee to adopt rules regarding the licensing, permitting and inspection of sewer, septic, and private water systems; provides one-time funding of \$99,500 from the general fund to the Department of Environmental Quality for the regulation of septic tanks and septic systems; and transfers any remaining funds at the end of the biennium relating to the regulation of septic tanks and septic systems from the State Plumbing Board fund to the Department of Environmental Quality operating fund. A fiscal note prepared by the Department of Environmental Quality indicates anticipated special fund revenue of \$100,000 and expenditures of \$334,000, of which \$234,000 is from the general fund and \$100,000 is from other funds, related to 1 FTE environmental scientist position and related operating expenses of the program.

House Bill No. 1577 - Wastewater infrastructure grants - This bill provides one-time funding of \$25 million from the strategic investment and improvements fund to the Department of Environmental Quality for wastewater infrastructure grants.

Senate Bill No. 2110 - Water system operator certificate exams - This bill allows water distribution and wastewater system operator certificate exams to be given by a third-party testing service and would allow the fees for the exams to be set in North Dakota Administrative Code. A fiscal note prepared by the department indicates revenue and expenses would both increase approximately \$72,000 for the cost of the third-party testing service and revenue related to the additional fees collected to cover the third-party testing service cost.