



North Dakota House of Representatives

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COMMITTEES:

House Appropriations
Interim Energy Development & Transmission

March 21, 2025

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Chairman Patten and Committee Members:

My name is Alisa Mitskog, I represent D25-Southeast North Dakota:

HB 1577 proposes to provide a wastewater grant program to be administered through the Department of Environmental Quality.

HB 1577 originally proposed to appropriate 50 million from SIF. The House Appropriations amended this amount to 25 million.

The proposed program would provide wastewater infrastructure grants to eligible entities to upgrade, replace, or construct infrastructure for a wastewater collection system, wastewater disposal system, or wastewater treatment plant with a 60:40 cost-share (60% grant and 40% local money). Eligible entities include cities, counties, townships, water resource districts, recreation service districts, and water districts operating wastewater systems in the state.

While North Dakota invests significant money in water development, wastewater projects remain greatly underfunded. Since 2023, the SWC has approved over \$403 million for water projects, yet wastewater needs remain unmet.

North Dakota faces over \$1 billion in wastewater project needs. Wastewater infrastructure is vital for North Dakota's growth. Cities and small communities have significant waste infrastructure needs. This proposed program is an initial step in helping fund these projects.

I urge your support for this essential program.

Thank You.