

Subject Water Use Permits

Authors Pursell

Analyst Janelle Taylor

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## Overview

This bill would require industrial and commercial water users exceeding certain water use thresholds to obtain their own water use permit from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) instead of using water under a municipal water use permit. It would also establish requirements of the DNR for issuing such permits and reporting requirements for the permit holders.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p><b>Large water appropriation projects; permit conditions.</b></p> <p>Requires a water user seeking a new or modified water use permit for an industrial or commercial consumptive water use to apply for their own permit instead of relying on a municipal permit when the use will exceed 100,000,000 gallons per year or 50 percent or more of the municipality's current annual appropriation volume. Requires the DNR to prepare a draft permit and provide notice and a public comment period of at least 30 days on such a permit before issuing it. Requires the DNR to consider the comments received when determining whether to issue the permit and the terms of the permit. Requires the DNR to conduct an aquifer test if necessary to ensure that public health, safety, and welfare are adequately protected. Requires results of such aquifer tests to be included and considered in any environmental review process under chapter 116D, which governs the environmental assessment worksheet and environmental impact statement processes.</p> |
| 2 | <p><b>Report.</b></p> <p>Requires water use permit holders that meet the new thresholds established in the previous section to report their water use each month instead of annually which is required for water use permit holders generally.</p>   |