

Subject Whole Effluent Toxicity

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Summary

This bill would require the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) to adopt rules, by January 31, 2022, evaluating and applying whole effluent toxicity (WET) water quality effluent limits and standards for chronic mixing zones applicable to discharges outside the Lake Superior basin. It requires the limits and standards to be substantially identical to existing rules so that all parts of the state are subject to the same requirements. The bill establishes interim discharge standards and requirements to the extent allowable under federal law. States that the state's antibacksliding provisions do not apply to new or revised permit conditions established under the interim provisions.