

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 819  
**Version:** As introduced

**DATE:** March 5, 2013

**Authors:** Murphy, M.

**Subject:** Public Facilities Authority Program Modifications

**Analyst:** Janelle Taylor

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: [www.house.mn/hrd/hrd.htm](http://www.house.mn/hrd/hrd.htm).

---

### Overview

This bill contains a number of changes to the programs administered by the Public Facilities Authority (PFA)

#### Section

- 1** **Program established.** Amends § 446A.073, subd. 1. Expands the total maximum daily load (TMDL) grant program administered by the PFA to allow grants for wastewater treatment or storm water projects that are necessary to meet certain phosphorous limits required as part of a permit, other water quality based effluent limits, or nitrogen limits for a land-based treatment system. (Currently the program provides grants to units of local government for wastewater treatment or storm water projects necessary to meet waste load reduction requirements under TMDL implementation plans.)
- 2** **Project priorities.** Amends § 446A.073, subd. 3. Removes the requirement that projects receiving funding under the TMDL grant program be included in a TMDL plan approved by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- 3** **Grant approval.** Amends § 446A.073, subd. 4. Eliminates conditions that need to be met prior to the PFA awarding grants under the TMDL grant program, including the requirement that the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) certify to the EPA a TMDL plan including a point source wasteload allocation and the EPA has approved the plan.
- 4** **Technical assistance grants.** Amends § 446A.075, subd. 1a. Increases the maximum grant amount for technical assistance grants under the small community wastewater treatment program from \$10,000 to \$20,000 plus \$1,000 (up from \$500) for each household up to a maximum of \$60,000 (up from \$40,000). Allows a government unit to contract with a

## **Section**

county for subsurface sewage treatment system (SSTS) related services.

- 5**        **Construction loans and grants.** Amends § 446A.075, subd. 2. Expands the type of projects eligible for funding under the small community wastewater treatment program to projects for land-based treatment systems with state disposal system permits. Establishes new calculation and project cost limits on the grants awarded under the program, including limiting the grants to 80 percent of the amount needed to reduce the average annual residential wastewater system cost to 1.4 percent of the median household income minus any other grants.
- 6**        **Awards.** Amends § 446A.075, subd. 5. Establishes a new maximum amount that may be awarded for a project under the small community wastewater treatment program of \$2,000,000.
- 7**        **Wastewater infrastructure funding; conversion of certain loans to grants.** Allows the PFA to convert a loan to a grant if the average annual residential wastewater system cost after completion of the project would otherwise exceed 1.4 percent of the median household income of the project service area.
- 8**        **Instructions to revisor.** Requires the revisor to eliminate references to sections repealed in the bill and to change the headnote of section 446A.073 to “Point Source Implementation Grants” to reflect the expansion of the TMDL grant program.
- 9**        **Repealer.** Repeals § 446A.051, subd. 2 (grant amount limitations) and § 446A.074 (clean water phosphorus reduction grants).