

Subject Cumulative Environmental Impacts Analysis

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Overview

House File 637, as amended by H0637DE1, requires a cumulative environmental impacts analysis to be conducted for certain permit decisions that may affect an environmental justice area, and requires the commissioner to deny a permit application if the analysis shows that issuing it would contribute to cumulative adverse environmental stressors in the area. The bill requires the Pollution Control Agency to develop and adopt rules to implement the provisions of this bill.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p>[116.065] Cumulative environmental impacts analysis; permit decisions in environmental justice areas.</p> <p>Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines terms, including “cumulative impacts,” “environmental justice,” and “environmental justice area.”</p> <p>Subd. 2. Cumulative analysis; when required. Specifies what types of permit decisions that may impact an environmental justice area require analysis of the cumulative environmental impacts on the area before a permit is issued.</p> <p>Subd. 3. Cumulative environmental impacts analysis; public meeting requirements. Specifies provisions requiring notice of a public meeting that must be held in the environmental justice area impacted by permit decision.</p> <p>Subd. 4. Environmental justice area; permit decisions. Requires the commissioner to deny a permit application if granting the permit, in combination with environmental stressors determined to be present in the area, would contribute to adverse cumulative environmental stressors, unless the agency and a community-based organization representing residents enter into a community benefit agreement, or the commissioner determines that a compelling public interest exists to support issuance of the permit.</p> |
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Section **Description**

Subd. 5. Rulemaking. Requires the agency to adopt rules to implement this section, and specifies elements the rules must contain, including defining “compelling public interest,” establishing criteria for requiring a cumulative environmental impacts analysis and a process for conducting the analysis, establishing the content of a community benefit agreement, and other provisions.



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