

Subject Environmental Standards for Certain Construction Materials

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Summary

Section	Description
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1 [16B.312] Construction materials; environmental analysis.

Subd. 1. Title. Titles this act the “Buy Clean and Buy Fair Minnesota Act.”

Subd. 2. Definitions. Defines terms, including “eligible material” and “environmental product declaration.”

Subd. 3. Standard; maximum global warming potential. Requires the commissioner of administration to establish a maximum acceptable global warming potential value for each eligible material (concrete, structural steel, carbon steel rebar, and asphalt) equal to the industry average.

Subd. 4. Procurement process. Requires requests for bids for eligible materials issued by the Departments of Administration and Transportation to specify that the global warming potential of an eligible material in an environmental product declaration must not exceed the maximum established in subdivision 2. Higher scores or premium payments may be given to bids having a global warming potential below the maximum acceptable level.

Subd. 5. Pilot program. Requires the agencies to establish a pilot program by July 1, 2024, to encourage vendors to report estimates of lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions for selected products, and other information on the product’s environmental impacts and working conditions in the facilities that manufacture the product.

Subd. 6. Waiver process. Requires the commissioner of administration to establish a process allowing a manufacturer to seek a waiver from subdivision 4 on the basis of technical considerations or financial hardship.

Subd. 7. Grants to develop environmental product declarations. Requires the commissioner of administration to establish a grant program to assist manufacturers of eligible materials to obtain environmental product declarations.

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Subd. 8. Environmental standards procurement task force. Requires the commissioners of administration and transportation to establish a task force by October 1, 2023, to examine issues surrounding a program requiring environmental product declarations for construction materials purchased by the state, including what materials should be included, what factors should be addressed in setting greenhouse gas emissions standards, and the use of incentives.

Lists groups from which representatives to the task force must be appointed.

Requires a report from the task force to legislators by December 1, 2025.

Subd. 9. Reports. Requires the commissioners of administration and transportation to submit a report to the legislature by February 1, 2025, that contains the maximum global warming potential values for eligible materials established by the commissioner of administration, a summary of vendors' experiences in obtaining environmental product declarations, impacts on the procurement process of the requirement to submit environmental product declarations under subdivision 4, and other issues.



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