

April 16, 2024

The Hon. Rep. Leon Lillie Chair, House Legacy Finance Committee 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Room 365 St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Comments on HF4124 DE Amendment (Omnibus Legacy Finance Bill)

Dear Chair Lillie:

On behalf of the Clean Water Council, I am offering comments to the Senate's Omnibus Legacy Finance Bill.

The Clean Water Council has the statutory responsibility to recommend how to spend the Clean Water Fund, which is one-third of the dedicated sales tax revenue authorized by the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

The February forecast shows a surplus in the Clean Water Fund of \$25,426,000.

Thank you for proposing the same dollar amounts as the Clean Water Council's recommendations. These investments will meet the state's commitment to protecting Minnesotans from PFAS in surface waters and fish. In addition, they will provide critical capacity to the Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and local governments to reduce nitrates in private drinking water wells in southeast Minnesota.

The Council looks forward to working with you as you reconcile HF4124 with the Senate companion in conference committee.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

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Sincerely,

Paul Gardner Administrator