



*Working to protect the Mississippi River  
and its watershed in the Twin Cities area.*

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Monday, April 15th

Re: HF4124 DE2 - Clean Water Fund appropriations

Chair Leon Lillie  
Minnesota House Legacy Finance Committee  
365 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Lillie,

On behalf of Friends of the Mississippi River, thank you for the work you and your committee have done in putting together the Legacy Budget Omnibus Bill (HF4124 DE2). We are particularly grateful to see that Article 2 (supplemental Clean Water Fund appropriations) includes the Clean Water Council's recommended funding levels, and does not include new funding line items.

As you know, the Clean Water Council works hard to prepare Clean Water Fund recommendations for the governor and legislature that best advance our shared clean water goals. The Council's process has produced supplemental recommendations that we strongly support, including:

- Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA): Nitrate in Groundwater (\$1.0 million) and the AgBMP Loan Program (\$3.402 million).
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA): River and Lake Monitoring and Assessment (\$326,000), Enhanced County Inspection/SSTS Corrective Actions (\$2.0 million), Chloride Reduction Grants (\$1.0 million) and the Continuous Nitrate Sensor Network (\$2.0 million).
- Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Fish Contamination Assessment (\$90,000).
- Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR): Great Lakes Restoration Initiative LAMP match (\$1.0 million), Critical Shoreland Protection Easements (\$4.0 million), Working Land and Floodplain Easements (\$4.434 million) and the Clean Water Partners Legacy small grants (\$2.0 million).
- Minnesota Department of Health (MDH): Drinking Water Contaminants of Emerging Concern (\$384,000) and the Southeast Minnesota Nitrate Response (\$2.79 million).
- The University of Minnesota: Stormwater BMP Performance Evaluation & Technology Transfer (\$1.0 million).

We look forward to working with you throughout the session to develop a final Legacy Budget Omnibus Bill that reflects the Council's recommendations.

Sincerely,

Trevor Russell

Water Program Director  
Friends of the Mississippi River