



Minnesota Solid Waste Administrators Association | 125 Charles Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55103-2108 | www.mn-swaa.org

March 16, 2023

Senator Sandra Pappas, Chair
Senate Capital Investment Committee
2113 Minnesota Senate Building

Re: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency - Capital Budget Request

Dear Chair Pappas and Committee Members:

The Minnesota Solid Waste Administrators Association (SWAA) is an organization of county and solid waste district professionals and affiliated waste specialists and is an affiliate of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), which represents all 87 Minnesota counties. SWAA advocates for policies and funding that improve and promote responsible waste management and reduce environmental impacts of solid waste.

The CAP supplements local government investments in recycling and waste reduction infrastructure. Minnesota needs to address aging facilities and buildout its infrastructure to maintain and even increase recycling and resource recovery levels. The cost of this infrastructure has grown overtime, and CAP plays an important role in keeping facilities viable and creating additional opportunities.

SWAA supports fully funding the bonding requests for the Solid Waste Capital Assistance Program (CAP) submitted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and included in the Governor's bonding recommendations. The projects proposed for 2023 bonding were all part of the 2022 recommendations. For several facilities, this is phase two funding to complete projects that the state helped to begin. Many are regional resources that help communities beyond the sponsoring counties listed here. They all address important environmental and community needs.

2023 Projects	Request
Pope Douglas - Material Recovery Facility	\$12.833 M
Dakota and Scott Counties - Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Recycling Facility	\$8 M
Olmsted County - Materials Recovery Facility	\$10 M
Polk County - Materials Recovery Facility	\$2.4 M
Chisago County - Household Hazardous Waste Facility	\$281,000
Cass County - Household Hazardous Waste and Recycling Operations Center	\$3.5 M
Organics Capacity - Statewide	\$12 M

Modernizing Minnesota's statewide composting and recycling infrastructure will increase waste diversion efforts, create jobs, reduce landfill costs, and prevent harmful climate impacts.

Sincerely,

Laine Sletta, Brown County
Solid Waste Administrators Association, President