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April 29, 2024

To: Chair. Pappas & Chair. Lee

Subject: HF4072(Jordan)/SF4036(McEwen) - Lead Service Line Investment

Chair Pappas and Chair Lee

Thank you for all your work on the bonding bill, not only this year but last year. We appreciate it.

We were disappointed not to see any investment in the statewide public health issue of lead service lines in the bonding bill that was released over the weekend. We are hoping to have the opportunity to continue to work with both of you as the session proceeds to find needed resources for this investment.

We very much appreciated last year's investment of \$240M, which was a good first step towards ridding the State of Minnesota of lead service lead lines. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) estimates there are about 100,000 water service lines in the state leaching lead into the drinking water flowing through them and the Public Facilities Authority (PFA) has suggested that it is going to cost nearly \$1 billion dollars to remove them. To make sure the State hits that goal, ongoing investment is required.

Since 1882, Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) has been the public drinking water utility for the city of Saint Paul and surrounding suburbs. We currently serve approximately 450,000 customers. To meet this demand for reliable, high-quality drinking water, we treat and pump an average of 40 million gallons of water per day.

SPRWS estimates that there are 25,000 lead services lines in our water system and will cost nearly \$500,000 to replace them. We are currently in year two of a 10-year plan to replace 100% of those lead service lines. Without additional funding appropriations for lead services lines, our program will fall far short of our goal.

We appreciate your consideration and look forward to working with you as this session comes to a close.

Thank you,

Racquel Vaske - General Manager

SAINT PAUL REGIONAL WATER SERVICES

Racquel Vaske, General Manager

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Saint Paul Regional Water Services provides quality water services to the following cities:

Arden Hills • Falcon Heights • Lauderdale • Little Canada • Maplewood • Mendota • Mendota Heights • Roseville • Saint Paul • West St. Paul

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