

Chair John Marty
Senate Finance Committee
Minnesota Senate Building 3235
95 University Avenue W.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

April 6, 2025

Chair Hawj and members of the Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee,

The organizations listed below support the recommendations the Clean Water Council to the legislature for Clean Water Fund appropriations. The 28-member Council is comprised of citizen members, as well as legislative and state agency representatives, chosen for their expertise and interest in the management and stewardship of our water resources in Minnesota.

Each two-year budget cycle, the Council goes through a rigorous and thorough months-long process to review and assemble a list of recommendations to the legislature for how Clean Water Funds should be spent to reflect the current clean water priorities of the state. This thorough process includes stakeholder engagement before recommendations are made. Because water management is complex and involving many different agencies and entities across the state, the Council's ability to take a holistic look is important to identifying priorities that align with the Council's strategic plan.

Especially in this year when funds available based on the change between the November 2024 and February 2025 budget forecasts have resulted in a reduction of anticipated funds, it is imperative the legislature follow the lead of the Council to make the best use of these limited funds that address priorities that will benefit water across the state.

We appreciate the Committee's support of these recommendations forwarded by the Council. Thank you for helping to protect Minnesota waters.

Sincerely,

