Wisconsin Department of Administration Division of Executive Budget and Finance

Fiscal Estimate - 2017 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected Sup	plemental				
LRB Number 17-0400/3	Introduction Number AB-006	33				
Description exempting utility activities in a highway right-of-way from wetland permitting requirements						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Revenue Create New Appropriations	e Existing within agency's budget	essible to absorb				
2. Decrease Costs 4. Decrease	e Mandatory Towns UVIIIa	ge Cities ers CS				
Fund Sources Affected GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	2/22/2017				

Fiscal Estimate Narratives DNR 2/22/2017

LRB Number 17-0400/3	Introduction Number AB-	0063	Estimate Type	Original		
Description						
exempting utility activities in a highway right-of-way from wetland permitting requirements						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The Department assumes that the bill has a very limited fiscal impact. Revenues may see a very slight decrease. Staff time saved in not having to issue permit coverage will likely be offset by staff time explaining the changes to the process.

The bill could result in fewer permits for some utilities which would mean less permit fees to DNR. We estimate the loss in revenue to be < \$5000/ year; however, the decrease should be characterized as indeterminate as some utilities currently do not pay permit fees and instead provide revenue to DNR via a PSC/DNR funding agreement pursuant to 196.85(1), Stats., while other utilities only pay the permit fees (\$300 for a general permit and \$500 for an individual permit).

It should be noted that the bill only addresses wetland permitting, while the DNR utility general permit for utility projects covers both wetland permitting (s. 281.36) and waterway permitting (Chapter 30). So with the bill, the utility may be exempt from wetland aspects of the general permit, but still need coverage for waterway crossing aspects.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications