
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1010

AN ACT CONCERNING SEA LEVEL RISE AND THE FUNDING OF PROJECTS BY THE CLEAN WATER FUND.

SUMMARY:

This bill expands the factors that the energy and environmental protection commissioner must consider when establishing the priority list and ranking system for making clean water fund grants and loans for eligible water quality projects. Specifically, it requires him to consider the necessity and feasibility of implementing measures designed to mitigate sea level rise impact over a project's life span.

Current law requires the commissioner to consider all factors he deems relevant, including:

1. public health and safety,
2. environmental resource protection,
3. population affected,
4. state water quality goals and standards attainment,
5. consistency with the state plan of conservation and development,
6. state and federal regulations, and
7. municipalities' formation of local housing partnerships.

By law, the commissioner must make the grants and loans to municipalities based on the priority list order. The priority list must (1) include a description of each project and its purpose, impact, cost, and construction schedule and (2) explain how the priorities were established.

An “eligible water quality project” includes the planning, design, development, construction, repair, extension, improvement, remodeling, alteration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or acquisition of a water pollution control facility approved by the commissioner (CGS § 22a-475).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Clean Water Fund

The Clean Water Fund provides financial aid to municipalities through grants and loans for the planning, design, and construction of water pollution control facilities. It is financed through a combination of federal funding, state general obligation bonds for the grant portion, and state revenue bonds for the loan portion.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (03/18/2013)