



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 857 (Substitute S-1 as reported)

Sponsor: Senator Liz Brater

Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to require the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to evaluate the impact of a proposed waterworks system for a community supply that would do any of the following:

- Provide new total designed withdrawal capacity of more than 2.0 million gallons of water per day from a source of water other than the Great Lakes and their connecting waterways, or more than 5.0 million gallons per day from the Great Lakes and their connecting waterways.
- Provide an increased total designed withdrawal capacity of more than 2.0 million gallons per day from a source other than the Great Lakes and their connecting waterways, or more than 5.0 million gallons per day from the Great Lakes and their connecting waterways, beyond the system's total designed withdrawal capacity.

The DEQ would have to reject the plans and specifications for the proposed system if it determined that the system would not meet certain standards under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (proposed by Senate Bill 850), unless both of the following conditions were met:

- The DEQ determined that there was no feasible and prudent alternative location for the withdrawal.
- The DEQ included in the approval conditions related to depth, pumping capacity, rate of flow, and ultimate use that ensured that the environmental impact of the withdrawal would be balanced by its public benefit related to public health, safety, and welfare.

The bill is tie-barred to Senate Bills 850, 851, 852 and 854.

MCL 324.1004

Legislative Analyst: Julie Koval

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 12-8-05

Fiscal Analyst: Jessica Runnels