LEAGUE OF WISCONSIN MUNICIPALITIES

316 W. Washington Ave., Suite 600
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: 608-267-2380
Fax: 608-267-0645
Email: league@lwm-info.org
Website: lwm-info.org

October 8, 2025

Department of Natural Resources
Attn: Constantine Tsoris DG/5
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Submitted via email to DNRAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov

Re: League of Wisconsin Municipalities Comments on DG-01-24 on drinking water standards for PFAS and Board Order DG-02-24 to clarify and correct existing language and add federal requirements

Dear Mr. Tsoris,

The League of Wisconsin Municipalities (League) appreciates the opportunity to submit written comments on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) proposed permanent administrative rule DG-01-24 on drinking water standards for PFAS and DG-02-24 to clarify and correct existing language and add federal Consumer Confidence Report Requirements.

The League is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit membership organization that advocates for the interests of our over 600 member cities and villages, large and small, urban and rural, throughout the state. While each of our members have characteristics about their community and municipal operations that make them unique, nearly every member shares the responsibility of the provision of safe and reliable drinking water to their residents, schools, and businesses. Our members do not take this responsibility lightly.

In Board Order DG-01-24, the League joins Municipal Environmental Group (MEG)-Water Division in our caution against the Department's continued pursuit of these rules. The federal Environmental Protection Agency has indicated its intent to vacate current requirements for shorter chain PFAS compounds and the proposed hazard index. Incorporating these provisions into state rules prematurely will remove Wisconsin's ability to remain competitive with water rates as we'll have more stringent requirements than many of our other neighboring states competing for the same residents and businesses. Our members are looking to address PFAS contamination, but these requirements would be overly burdensome and challenging if the whole nation isn't under the same standards.

In Board Order DG-02-24, the League joins Municipal Environmental Group (MEG)-Water Division in objecting Sto the Department's proposed deletion of NR 809, Subch. VI, in DG-02-24. This section permits a public water system to apply to the DNR for a conditional waiver from a nonmicrobial contaminant MCL or treatment technique requirement for a period up to three years if certain requirements are met. This flexibility is crucial for reasonable compliance and its deletion is concerning to the League and its members who are doing the best they can with the resources available.

The League's members are committed to the delivery of clean and safe water to their residents. But these efforts do not exist in a vacuum. The impacts of these rule revisions will be felt throughout municipal governments, local residents, businesses, and the state as a whole. The League would request that the DNR incorporates the remedies proposed by MEG-Water into these rules.

Thank you for your time and attention to the League of Wisconsin Municipalities' comments. If you have questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience at therkert@lwm-info.org.

Sincerely,

Toni Herkert

Toni Herkert
Government Affairs Director
League of Wisconsin Municipalities