

HB 944 -- Clean Water Permits

Sponsor: Schatz

This bill specifies that no existing clean water permittee can be required to meet more stringent water quality standards or classifications prescribed by the Clean Water Commission within the Department of Natural Resources than existed at the time the permit was granted unless there are sufficient state or federal funds available to the permittee to cover the costs of any required upgrades or changes. An existing permittee may expand operations under the standards or classifications that existed at the time the permit was granted if sufficient federal or state funds are not available.

All new permit applicants may be required to meet any new water quality standards or classifications prescribed by the commission.