



# SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

WWW.RFA.SC.GOV • (803)734-3793

*This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.*

---

**Bill Number:** S. 0139    Introduced on January 14, 2025  
**Subject:** NPDES Outlet Sign  
**Requestor:** Senate Medical Affairs  
**RFA Analyst(s):** Griffith  
**Impact Date:** January 15, 2025

---

## Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill requires a person who holds a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which allows the discharge of effluent into state waters, to post a conspicuous and legible sign containing certain information about the permit, permittee, facility, and specification between “Treated Wastewater” or “Cooling Water,” as appropriate. Certain circumstances allow the permittee to apply to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) for a waiver instead of posting the sign. The bill also requires DES to notify all NPDES permit holders registered with the department of the new requirement no later November 29, 2025. There is no expenditure impact to DES because the department expects that it can manage the requirements of the bill with existing staff and resources.

## Explanation of Fiscal Impact

### Introduced on January 14, 2025

#### State Expenditure

This bill requires a person who holds a NPDES permit, which allows the discharge of effluent into state waters, to post a conspicuous and legible sign containing certain information about the permit, permittee, facility, and specification between “Treated Wastewater” or “Cooling Water,” as appropriate. Certain circumstances allow the permittee to apply to DES for a waiver instead of posting the sign. The bill also requires DES to notify all NPDES permit holders registered with the department of the new requirement no later November 29, 2025. DES expects to be able to manage the requirements of the bill with existing staff and resources. Therefore, there is no expenditure impact to DES.

#### State Revenue

N/A

#### Local Expenditure

N/A

#### Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director