

1 Sec. 25. ANR REVIEW OF PERMITTING OF POTABLE WATER AND
2 WASTEWATER CONNECTION PERMITS

3 (a) The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) shall review the statutory
4 requirements, regulatory requirements, and ANR processes governing ANR's
5 issuance of potable water and wastewater connection permits in order to
6 identify approaches for reducing the administrative burden and costs incurred
7 by municipalities and permit applicants. In conducting its review, ANR shall
8 consult with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development,
9 representatives of municipal water and wastewater systems, professional
10 engineers and licensed designers, and environmental organizations regarding
11 alternatives for improving permitting of potable water and wastewater
12 connections.

13 (b) In conducting the review required by this section, the Agency shall:

14 (1) review and analyze the permitting standards and permit processes for
15 potable water and wastewater connections in other jurisdictions;

16 (2) identify any State permitting requirements or ANR processes that
17 may be duplicated under State and local permits and propose how to eliminate
18 such redundancies;

19 (3) assess how to simplify and expedite the permitting process for
20 potable water and wastewater connection permits;

1 (4) identify data and document sharing and management solutions for
2 potable water and wastewater connection permits, including how to make
3 municipal and State permits available to the public in an electronic format or
4 on a statewide platform; and

5 (5) evaluate alternative approaches for the issuance of potable water and
6 wastewater connection permits, including criteria to address public interest,
7 public health and safety, and environmental impacts of connections.

8 (c) ANR shall complete the review required by this section on or before
9 July 1, 2025. On or before January 31, 2025, the Agency shall present to the
10 House Committee on Environment and Energy and the Senate Committee on
11 Natural Resources and Energy a written report or oral testimony on the status
12 of the review required under this section, including potential recommended
13 statutory or regulatory changes.