

## Budget Adjustment Act - Summary of Relevant Committee Areas from Governor's Recommended Budget Adjustment Act

Presented to House Environment and Energy Committee by Rep. Stebbins

January 16, 2024

Agency	Section Letter / Number	Proposal / Explanation
ANR / F&W	B.702	Adds \$655k for a payclass upgrade from mix of General Fund, Special funds and Federal funds
ANR / DEC	B. 710  Transfer shown as D.101(a)(5) (A)	Transfer \$3.5 million from Solid Waste Management Assistance Account of the Waste Management Assistance Fund to the Environmental Contingency Fund for the PCB testing program.  An increase in the # of schools above the original estimate, and the addition of a building materials survey which is used to define the number of indoor air samples that need to be collected, have resulted in an increase to the overall budget. This transfer represents the additional amount needed to ensure testing in schools scheduled for sampling through July 2025. Failure to provide these funds will result in schools being responsible for testing, per Act 74 (2021), without State financial support.
PSD	B..1100(v)(4)	Refilling \$20 million for broadband funding from the general fund (the Broadband Board received a large federal grant that requires \$57 million of match dollars). After the July 2023 funds, the Emergency Board approved a \$20 million transfer from General Fund (for which the PSD had spending authority) to support the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program. When the E Board approved the transfer in July of 2023, they included a requirement that the Commissioner of Finance and Management present a plan to replenish the spending authority for the PSD in the FY 24 BAA. This is that plan.
ANR / DEC	B.1103(n)	Adding \$165k to continue with the assessment regarding the Green River Reservoir (we initially appropriated \$350k). This is for an analysis to evaluate structural stability, hydraulic adequacy, risk valuation of the infrastructure and alternative uses.  One time funds.
NRB	D.101(a)(1) (l)	Taking \$120,300 from General Fund to go to the Act 250 Permit Fund (to fill NRB budget gap resulting from S. 100, specifically new housing and utility exemptions).
	D.101(c)(5)	"Annual reversion of excess spending authority (in the amount of \$100k)." These funds were given to AoA three years ago to do an audit of the Clean Water Fund. No one responded to the RFP, so the funds are now going back to the CWF.
	D.101(a)(1) (k)	Placing \$1.18 million from General Fund into the Protection Projects Fund (this is needed to backfill a gap resulting from bond timing issue).
	D.101(a)(1) (L)	Placing \$2.12 million from the General Fund into the Natural Resources Projects Fund (this is needed to backfill a gap resulting from bond timing issue).

**Also, language changes that will not appear in the spreadsheet,** include (B.1103 from the 2023 budget act) (P. 24):

- A change to the \$2.5 million of General Fund dollars that we appropriated last year to the Department of Environmental Conservation for the Brownfields Reuse and Environmental Liability Limitation Act, as follows:
  - “Funds shall be used for ~~the~~ assessment and cleanup planning ~~for a maximum of 25~~ brownfield sites.”
  - Removes the cap on the number of brownfields for consideration.
- Language in §6083a is amended to clarify that Act 250 permit fees apply per application. E.g. (P. 45/46):
  - “In addition, applicants shall be subject to each of the following fees for each individual permit or permit application for the purpose of compensating the State of Vermont for the direct and indirect cost incurred with respect to the administration of the Act 250 program.”