

#### AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

TESTIMONY ON FY24/25 CAPITAL BILL

Julia S. Moore, P.E., Secretary April 4, 2023

### Line 66: ANR/DEC Dam Safety and Hydrology Projects

- State of Vermont owns 115 dams; ANR owns 105 of those
- Most ANR-owned dams owned were designed and constructed over 50 years ago; a number are approaching (or exceeding) 100 years in age
- Investment required to improve the resiliency, condition and safety
- Comprehensive inspection underway to prioritize rehabilitation
- Estimated total cost to bring ANR-owned dams into compliance with Dam Safety Rules exceeds \$20m
- H.493 reduces investment in FY24/25 from \$1m to \$500k



Line 69: ANR/F&W General Infrastructure Projects, including small-scale maintenance and rehab

- Combines five line items from Gov's Recommend
  - Improving public access to Wildlife Management Areas and maintaining critical management infrastructure
  - Fishing Access Area infrastructure improvements
  - Infrastructure maintenance/improvement of F&W buildings including Conservation Camps
  - Hatchery improvements
  - Shooting Range Improvements
- Reduces overall investment from \$2.28m to \$1.68m in FY24, but provides flexibility
  - FY25 investment is consistent with Gov's Recommend



#### Line 182: ANR/F&W major maintenance

- Intended to augment capital bill funding for infrastructure maintenance/improvement
  - Specifically intended for improvements to Conservation Camps
- H.493 reduces investment in FY24 from \$1m to \$800k



**Line 178:** ANR/DEC State Match for IIJA Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF)

- Vermont has opportunity to access a total \$320 million in water infrastructure funding thru the SRF between now and FY27
  - Requires \$27 million in state match above on-going state match requirements
- Would support more than 80 wastewater projects and 30 drinking projects statewide
- H.493 provides IIJA match for FY24/25 but leaves the FY26/27 match to a future legislature
  - Historically, Vermont has provided an average of \$3.8 million of matching funds annually
  - To draw down the full IIJA funding, \$11.1 million in matching funds will need to be provided in each of FY26 and FY27 → nearly a three-fold increase
  - Will place unprecedented strain on the Capital Bill



### Line 180: ANR/DEC Municipal Pollution Control (PC) Grants

- Vermont statute allows for PC Grants of 10% 35% for qualifying water pollution abatement and control projects
- The percent grant depends on:
  - Project type and costs
  - Technical and Affordability scores under the Priority System
  - Availability of funding from the Vermont Legislature
  - Project ranking in the fundable range for PC Grants
- \$14m is required to meet the Legislature's traditional commitment to projects with bond votes that have already passed a local vote
  - Out-year demands for PC grants are expected to increase as a result of IIJA funding
- H.493 reduces investment in FY24/25 from \$10m to \$4m



# SFY24 Pollution Control Projects Applications with Bond Votes Passed

Draft Summary of a Subset of Priority List Applications - State Fiscal Year 2024 Pollution Control Grants			
Municipality	Project Description	Estimated Cost	Estimated Grant
Rutland	Moon Brook Pond Modifications Project - Thermal Pollution	1,570,000	44,000
Rutland	Meadow Street Stormwater Separation	1,195,600	71,127
Colchester	Malletts Bay Sewer Project - Phase 1	8,296,700	914,500
Montgomery	Town of Montgomery Center Wastewater Infrastructure	9,624,948	1,088,281
Montgomery	Town of Montgomery Village Wastewater Infrastructure	7,779,816	1,099,219
Montpelier	Biosolids, Odor Control and Nutrient Facility Improvements	18,346,152	4,403,076
Island Pond	Brighton Wastewater Treatment Facility Refurbishment	5,171,263	199,822
Vergennes	Vergennes WWTF Age-Related Upgrade	11,206,092	387,397
Vergennes	Vergennes WWTF Hydraulic Upgrade	6,557,547	411,441
Vergennes	MacDonough Drive Pump Station Improvements	4,398,000	403,000
Vergennes	MacDonough Drive PS Force Main Improvements	3,357,400	853,320
Vergennes	Vergennes North Main Street Sewer Improvements	1,007,000	34,830
Burlington	Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements	9,678,000	2,322,720
Burlington	Manhattan Outfall Repair	1,094,506	109,451
Winooski	Main Street Revitalization	8,073,361	161,336
Hinesburg	Hinesburg Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade Contract No. 2	12,700,000	1,778,000
Total		110,056,385	14,281,520

Note 1: Total number of priority list applications received is 108

Note 2: Table only includes projects that have passed a bond vote and have indicated project can proceed in SFY24

Note 3: Application deadline was 3/1/2023 and staff have not yet vetted all applications

