

House Environment 2025
Michael O’Grady Subject Areas and Pending Issues

A. Toxic Substances and the Environment

1. ANR recommended draft legislation for regulating Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in consumer products as required by Act No. 131 of 2024.
2. Land application of biosolids containing PFAS.
3. Water quality and drinking water quality standards for PFAS.
4. Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in schools.

B. Waste Management—Solid Waste, Hazardous Waste, Recycling

1. Landfill management—significant advocate concern about management of landfill and future landfill siting, including management of effluent containing PFAS from landfill.
2. Extended producer responsibility (EPR), likely to see requests for EPR bills for tires, mattresses, packaging, and maybe more.

C. Water Quality

1. EPA Region 1 Order requiring Vermont to amend agricultural water quality enforcement to comply with Clean Water Act permitting and enforcement requirements for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.
2. Ongoing compliance with U.S. EPA Total Maximum Daily Load Plan for Lake Champlain; Clean Water Investment Report, including implementation and funding of the three-acre stormwater permit.
3. Ongoing implementation of State water quality initiative in general—Clean Water Service Providers implementation; summary of grant programs.
4. Implementation of Act No. 121 of 2024—An act relating to the regulation of wetlands, river corridor development, and dam safety.
5. Use of waters—e.g., wake boat petition, aquatic nuisance control.

D. Forestry; Land Management

1. Enrollment of Reserve Forestland in Use Value Appraisal; Report due December 31 from Commissioner of Taxes on strategies and rate for the valuation of all land enrolled in Use Value and that recommend whether and how to ensure that the fiscal return for landowners and the State is consistent among use values and uses of different categories of enrolled land. Report submitted December 26, 2024.

E. Fish and Wildlife

1. Trapping rules—Fish and Wildlife Board filing of rules over LCAR objections.

F. Miscellaneous

1. DEC and DFW usually have an annual miscellaneous bill; often technical.