

Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1495

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Ware, O.

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Erosion and sediment control; allows public service authorities to file specifications.

5. Summary: This bill allows public service authorities related to water and sewer lines to annually file general erosion and sediment control specifications with the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No, see Item 8 below.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill specifies that authorities created pursuant to § 15.2-5102, Code of Virginia, may file annual general erosion and sediment control specifications for water and sewer lines to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board (the Board) for its review and approval. The authorities affected include a water authority, a sewer authority, a sewage disposal authority, a stormwater control authority, a refuse collection and disposal authority, or any combination or parts thereof that have been created by the governing body of one or more localities.

This bill is likely to result in an additional workload for the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the state agency that serves as staff to the Board. It is not known how many authorities will opt to file general erosion and sediment control specification as is authorized by this bill. However, for each authority that elects to submit, DCR anticipates review costs similar to those for other customers in the review group: electric, natural gas and telephone utility companies, interstate and intrastate natural gas pipeline companies, and railroad companies.

In 2010, DCR reviewed 24 annual standards and specifications for the group of customers included in the Code site; for this group of customers, the average cost for review was \$1,140 per annual standard and specification. At present, DCR has absorbed the costs associated with the review and approval, project inspections, and compliance of annual standards and specifications. However, while it is unknown how many additional specifications will be

filed as a result of this bill, there is the potential that it could result in a fiscal impact on the agency that cannot be absorbed within current resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Conservation and Recreation.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to SB1064 except SB1064 authorizes DCR to charge a fee of not more than \$1,000 to cover the costs associated with standard and specification review and approval, project inspections, and compliance.

Date: February 4, 2011

c: Secretary of Natural Resources