Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number: SB961
	House of Origin
	Second House
2.	Patron: Northam
3.	Committee: Passed Both Houses
4.	Title: Virginia Water Protection Permit; fee exemption for U.S. Navy dredging projects.
5.	Summary: The bill proposes to extend to the U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) an exemption from fee requirements for a Virginia Water Protection (VWP) permit for dredging activities. Dredging operations sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are already exempt from similar permit fees.
6.	Budget Amendment Necessary: No.
7.	Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final
8.	Fiscal Implications: The proposal arises from a Navy plan to dredge a five mile section of the Norfolk Harbor Channel along the Elizabeth River to provide aircraft carrier access to maintenance facilities at Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Dredging activities require a VWP permit and an application fee based on the amount of acreage proposed for dredging. It is expected that this is the only project in the near future that will be impacted by this legislation. The small decrease in fees for this project is not material compared to overall water permit revenue collections.
9.	Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Environmental Quality
10.	Technical Amendment Necessary: No
11.	Other Comments: None

Date: 2/15/2011