

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB698

House of Origin	☐	Introduced	☐	Substitute	☐	Engrossed
Second House	☐	In Committee	☐	Substitute	☒	Enrolled

2. Patron: Deeds

3. Committee: Passed both Houses.

4. Title: Erosion and sediment control; inspections; natural gas pipelines; stop work instructions; emergency.

5. Summary: This bill authorizes the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to conduct inspections of the land-disturbing activities of interstate and intrastate natural gas pipeline companies that have approved annual standards and specifications. Such inspections shall determine (i) compliance with such annual standards and specifications, (ii) compliance with any site-specific plans, and (iii) if there have been or are likely to be adverse impacts to water quality as a result of such land-disturbing activities. The bill authorizes DEQ to issue a stop work instruction when DEQ determines that there has been an adverse impact to water quality or that an adverse impact to water quality is likely to occur as a result of such land-disturbing activities. If requested by the company, such instruction is to be reviewed by the Director within 48 hours. The bill further requires that upon completion and approval by DEQ in writing of the corrective measures specified in the stop work instruction, the instruction shall be immediately lifted. Such stop work instruction may be appealed to the circuit court of the jurisdiction where the violation was alleged to have occurred or other appropriate court.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See #8.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any fiscal impact on the Department of Environmental Quality as a result of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Environmental Quality.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar to SB699. SB699 pertains to stormwater management.