

## Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB646

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

**2. Patron:** Hurst

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Pipeline construction permit; amount of civil penalty for violation.

**5. Summary:** Authorizes the State Water Control Board to issue special orders for violations to persons constructing or operating any natural gas transmission pipeline greater than 36 inches inside diameter. An order issued pursuant to the bill may include a civil penalty of up to \$50,000 per violation, not to exceed \$500,000 per order. The Board may assess a penalty if the person has been issued at least two written notices of alleged violation by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for violations involving the same pipeline; if such violations have not been resolved by a demonstration that there was no violation; and if there is a finding that such violation occurred after a hearing was conducted.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that any expenditure impact on the Department of Environmental Quality as a result of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources. Revenues resulting from the civil penalties established in this bill are to be deposited into the Virginia Environmental Emergency Response Fund or Virginia Stormwater Management Fund, depending on the type of violation. Any potential revenue impact resulting from this measure is indeterminate, as it is not possible to forecast the number of violations that will occur.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Environmental Quality; Virginia Water Control Board

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.