

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB963

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

2. Patron: Morrissey

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: South Central Wastewater Authority; watershed general permit for nutrients.

5. Summary: Directs the South Central Wastewater Authority (SCWWA) to submit a phased construction program to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by August 1, 2023, which DEQ shall approve by September 1, 2023, or as soon as possible thereafter. Such phased construction program for the SCWWA shall be completed as soon as possible on a schedule approved by the Department but no later than December 31, 2030. The bill also directs the Department to amend certain water quality improvement agreements and the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for the SCWWA wastewater treatment facility to conform to the changes in the bill.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: DEQ anticipates an indeterminate impact on disbursements made from Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) resources authorized for the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Certainty (ENRC) Program. According to DEQ, the impacted project to be completed by SCWWA is in the initial stages. The agency states that impact on the WQIF is indeterminate due to uncertainties in contractor availability and the construction market. In November 2022, SCWWA requested a time extension for its nutrient reduction project due to pricing challenges.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Environmental Quality; South Central Wastewater Authority; City of Petersburg.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is a companion to HB1839.