



# NEW Water Updates

Municipal & Industrial Partner Meeting

June 18, 2025



# Today's Agenda

- Welcome / Updates – Nathan Qualls, P.E., Executive Director
- CIP / Project Updates; I&I Program Updates – Lisa Sarau, Technical Services Director
- HABs Update – Sarah Bartlett, Water Resources Specialist

# Executive Director Updates

- 2026 Budget update
  - *Projections underway with customers. Thank you for working with us on these – this helps us budget better.*
- Financing issues → advocating for our ratepayers
  - Federal
  - State



TO: Joint Finance Committee Members  
FROM: The Clean Water Fund Coalition: League of Wisconsin Municipalities, Municipal Environmental Group (Wastewater/Drinking Water Divisions), NEW Water (Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District), Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and the Wisconsin Rural Water Association  
DATE: June 3, 2025  
RE: **LFB Budget Paper #305:** Revenue Obligation Bonding Authority (Environmental Improvement Fund)

Our organizations respectfully request the committee **support an increase in revenue obligation bonding authority in the Environmental Improvement Fund (EIF) by \$725.9 million** to meet local wastewater and drinking water project needs over the next four fiscal years. This increase would provide sufficient bonding authority to stabilize funding despite year-to-year fluctuations in demand and can be authorized through the combination of Alternatives A1 and B1, or via the Republican budget motion for \$726 million.

EIF is a revolving loan program that provides low-interest loans to municipalities for essential water infrastructure projects. It includes the Clean Water Fund (CWF) for sanitary sewer projects and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) for drinking water infrastructure. EIF is funded through federal capitalization grants, revenue obligation bonds (which provide the state match and loan authority), and repayments from municipalities. Importantly, the EIF operates without state general purpose revenue (GPR) while significantly reducing interest costs to municipalities, thereby reducing taxes and/or fees to residents throughout the state.

For the first time in program history, the EIF lacked sufficient loan capacity to meet 2024 demand—falling short by \$126.6 million after applications exceeded projections by \$387 million. Some communities had to borrow at market rates or delay projects, impacting public health and increasing costs to utilities and their ratepayers. DNR has reported applications submitted for the 2025 EIF loan cycle will exceed the funding available by \$89.9 million.



# CIP / Project Updates – Current

## GBF North Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation

- (4) Primary Clarifiers
- (8) Final Clarifiers
- Existing equipment in service continuously since 1975
- Experiencing drive failures, thinning metal in rake mechanism, floating weir troughs
- \$41M capital costs
- Status – Construction ongoing



# CIP / Project Updates – Current

## GBF Thickening Improvement Project

- Gravity Belt Thickener Replacement
- Rehabilitation of (4) gravity thickeners
- \$27.5M capital cost
- Status – Construction has started, but equipment likely will not be on-site until Q3





# CIP / Project Updates – Current

## East River Interceptor Renewal Project and Downtown Interceptor Renewal Project

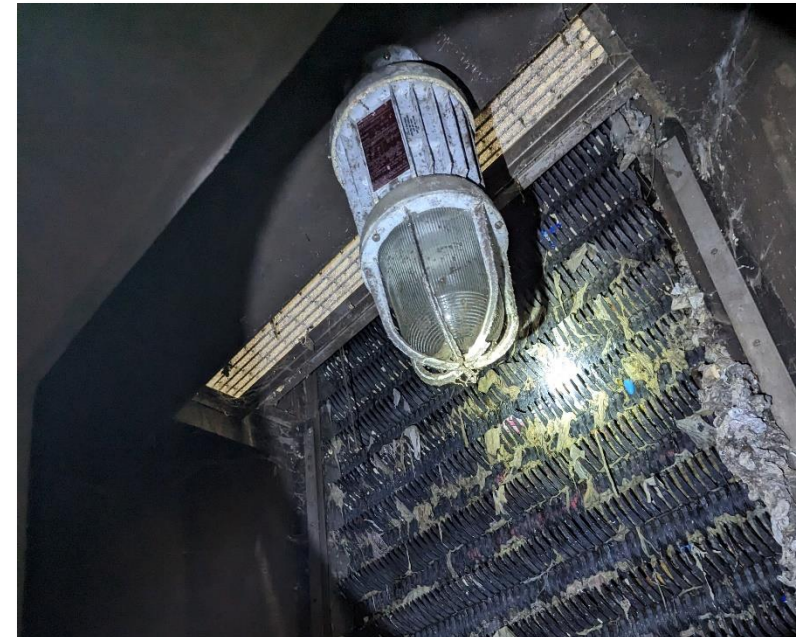
- Existing interceptor pipes have been in service since the 1930s
- Deterioration of concrete pipe and manholes
- Opportunity to significantly extend the service life of this infrastructure
- \$31M capital cost
- Status – Contractors are preparing for field work.



# CIP / Project Updates – Coming Soon

## DPF Pumping and Headworks

- Existing equipment is undersized and has reached the end of its useful life
- Scope includes:
  - Replace screens and screenings washer/compactors
  - Replace influent pumps/increase capacity
  - Replace grit removal/washing equipment
- \$24M capital cost
- Status – Contractors are preparing for field work.





# CIP / Project Updates

Project	Capital Estimate	Status
GBF North Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation	\$41M	Under Construction
GBF Thickening Improvements	\$27.5M	Under Construction
ERI / Downtown Interceptor Renewal	\$31M	Construction Starting Soon
DPF Pumping & Headworks	\$24M	Construction Starting Soon
GBF Pumping & Headworks	\$43M - \$64M	Design
East River Lift Station & Force Main	\$10M to \$12M	Design





# I&I Program Update

## Phase 2

- Draft Ordinance Language
  - NEW Water use
  - General language for municipal customer use
- Technical Assistance
- Educational Assistance
- Technical Advisory Committee Meetings (3)



# Avoid The Ick

Bringing together the right experts for a local harmful algal bloom campaign

Sarah Bartlett, Water Resources Specialist

# Blue green algae have been present in local Green Bay waters for decades

- Warning signs are
  - Non-existent at many points of access to the water
  - Small in size
  - Not accessible to all unless you speak/read English





Find expert partners. Build a framework for a harmful algal campaign that works on local scale

- And hope your grant gets funded.
- *With thanks to the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program*



# Campaign Wishlist

- Promotional Posters
- Caution Sign
- Brand
- All needs to be accessible to the major demographics in Brown County



Evítela. Enjuáguese. Si no está seguro, no se meta.

**NO TE  
ENFERMES,  
EVITA LOS  
GÉRMENES.**



**LAS ALGAS VERDEAZULADAS PUEDEN PRODUCIR  
TOXINAS QUE ENFERMAN A LAS PERSONAS Y A LOS  
ANIMALES.**

Las floraciones de algas nocivas (FAN) se producen cuando las algas crecen sin control, liberando a veces toxinas que pueden dañar a las personas, los animales domésticos, los peces y la fauna salvaje.

Las FAN pueden enfermarlo por contacto o ingestión de agua. Si ve agua descolorida, espumosa o con mal olor, no se meta y aleje a las mascotas.

Evítela. Enjuáguese. Si no está seguro, no se meta.

Si usted o sus mascotas presentan una enfermedad repentina o señales de envenenamiento tras la exposición, llame a su médico o veterinario, o al Wisconsin Poison Center al 800-222-1222.

# Brand and Website



[www.avoidtheick.org](http://www.avoidtheick.org)



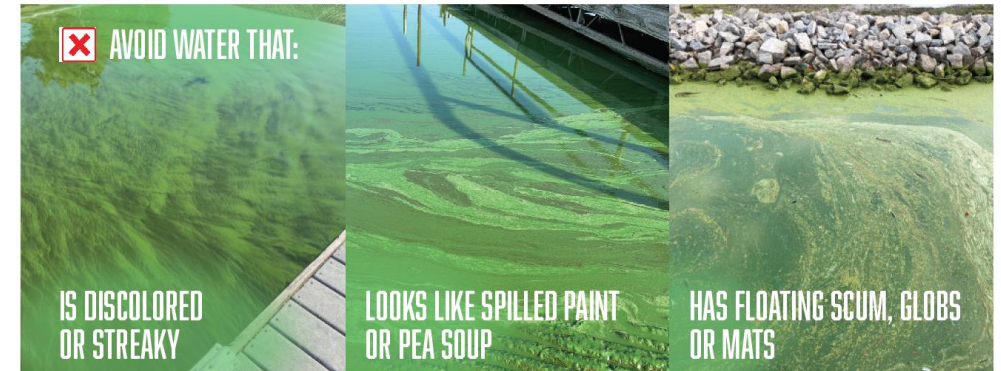


# CAUTION Poster

- Simplify
- Increase access to knowledge by using multiple languages
- Opportunity for other organizations to use their logo



**BLUE-GREEN ALGAE (CYANOBACTERIA)  
BLOOMS CAN PRODUCE TOXINS THAT MAKE  
PEOPLE AND ANIMALS SICK.**



**STEER CLEAR. | RINSE OFF. | WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT.**

If you or your pets have sudden illness or signs of poisoning following exposure, please call your doctor or veterinarian, or the Wisconsin Poison Center at 800-222-1222.

Consulte la información de precaución en español en [www.avoidtheick.org](http://www.avoidtheick.org)  
Saib cov ntaub ntawv qhia txog kev yuav tau ceev faj ua Lus Hmoob ntawm [www.avoidtheick.org](http://www.avoidtheick.org)  
Ka eeg macluumadka feejignaanta oo Soomaali ku qoran bogga [www.avoidtheick.org](http://www.avoidtheick.org)



WISCONSIN COASTAL  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

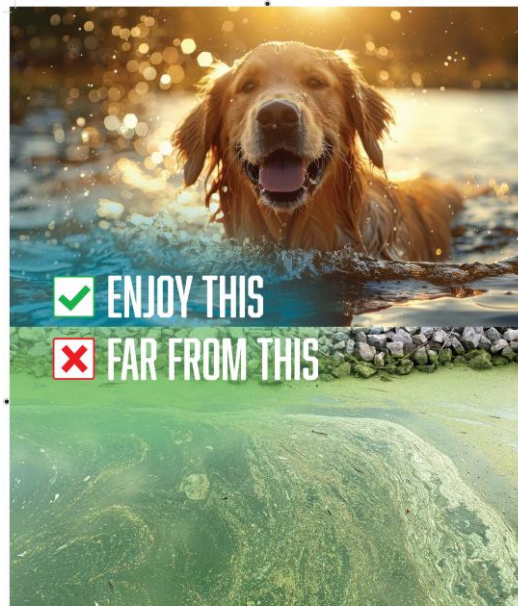
NEW Water  
Wisconsin's Water Future

This public health campaign is funded by the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office for Coastal Management under the Coastal Zone Management Act, Grant # NA24NOSX419C0009.



[AVOIDTHEICK.ORG](http://AVOIDTHEICK.ORG)

# Promotional Posters



**BLUE-GREEN ALGAE CAN PRODUCE TOXINS THAT MAKE PEOPLE AND ANIMALS SICK.**  
STEER CLEAR. | RINSE OFF. | WHEN IN DOUBT, STAY OUT.



Funded by the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office for Coastal Management under the Coastal Zone Management Act, Grant # NA16OAR00010008.



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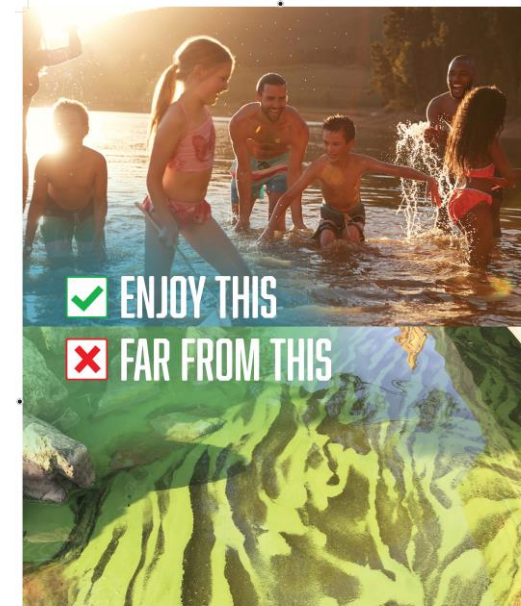
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# Spanish. Somali. Hmong.



**LAS ALGAS VERDEAZULADAS  
PUEDEN PRODUCIR TOXINAS  
QUE ENFERMAN A LAS  
PERSONAS Y A LOS ANIMALES.**

EVITELA. | ENJUÁGUESE. | SI NO ESTÁ SEGURO, NO SE META.



Funded by the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,  
Office for Coastal Management under the Coastal Zone Management Act, Grant # NA36N0045BC0005.

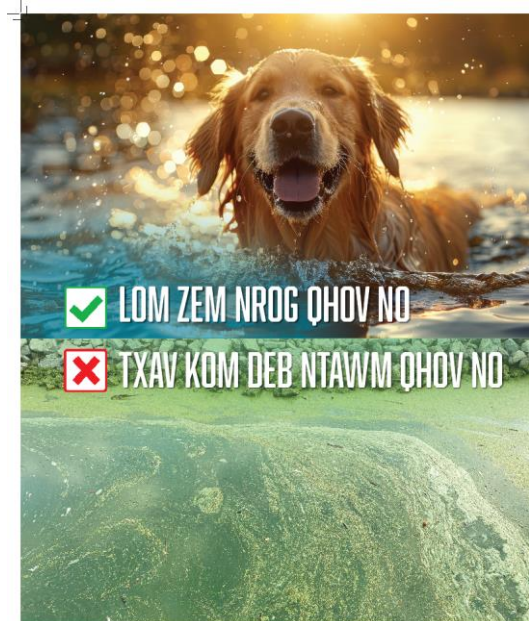


**ALGIYADA BULUUGA CAGAARAN,  
WAXAY SOO SAARI KARTAA SUN KA  
DHIGTA DADKA IYO XAWAYAANKABA  
INAY JIRAANAADAAN.**

U WAD SI CAD. | BIYO KU TIR. | MARKAAD KA SHAKIDO, KA JOOG.



Funded by the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,  
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**COV NTXHUAB XIM XIAB-NTSUAB TUAJ  
YEEM TSIM TAU COV KUAB TSHUJ  
TXHAUM UAS UA RAU TIB NEEG THIAB  
TSIAJ TXHUA MUJ MOB TAU.**

ZAM. | SAWV LOS. | YOG TIAS MUJ QHOV XOM XAM, CES TXAV KOM DEB.



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*Thank you for partnering to  
protect our most valuable  
resource, water*

**Stay tuned to NEW Water news**

Sign up for our E-newsletter, follow us on social media, get in touch

[www.newwater.us](http://www.newwater.us)

