



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

January 31, 2024

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The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court
 State House
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
 and the Honorable Council
 State House
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to budget and expend prior year carry forward funds under the provisions of RSA 485-A:45-54, in the amount of \$875,000 in order to provide funding for significantly increased operational costs at the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program (WRBP), effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2025. 100% WRBP Funds.

Funding to be budgeted as follows:

**Winnepesaukee River Basin
 03-44-44-442010-13000000
 FY2024**

Class	Title	FY24 Budget	Requested Action	Revised Budget
Revenue				
005-403204	Private Local Funds	(\$9,004,355)	\$ (875,000)	(\$9,879,355)
Expenditures				
010-500100	Personnel Services-Permanent	\$1,668,621		\$1,668,621
018-500106	Overtime	\$93,500	\$25,000	\$118,500
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$342,783		\$342,783
022-500257	Rents and leases	\$53,084	\$20,000	\$73,084
023-500291	Heat, Electricity, and Water	\$852,085	\$380,000	\$1,232,085
024-500228	Maint., Other than Bldg.&Grnds	\$441,066		\$441,066
026-500521	Organizational Dues	\$3,000		\$3,000
027-582703	Transfers to OIT	\$121,666		\$121,666
028-582814	Transfers to General Services	\$4,203		\$4,203
030-500331	Equipment	\$807,295	\$450,000	\$1,257,295
038-500177	Technology-Software	\$65,610		\$65,610

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Class (Con't)	Title	FY24 Budget	Requested Action	Revised Budget
039-500188	Telecommunications	\$56,800		\$56,800
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$190,199		\$190,199
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	\$131,835		\$131,835
044-500401	Debt Service	\$694,282		\$694,282
046-500416	Consultants	\$266,306		\$266,306
047-500240	Own Forces – Bldgs.&Grnds	\$280,894		\$280,894
048-500226	Contract Maint. –Bldg&Grnds	\$1,615,798		\$1,615,798
049-500246	Trans. to Other State Agencies	\$4,477		\$4,477
050-500109	Personnel Svcs. - Temporary	\$36,547		\$36,547
057-500534	Books & Periodicals	\$3,500		\$3,500
060-500601	Benefits	\$922,693		\$922,693
066-500543	Employee Training	\$21,420		\$21,420
067-500557	Training of Providers	\$3,100		\$3,100
070-500702	In-State Travel	\$3,350		\$3,350
080-500714	Out-of-State Travel	\$5,300		\$5,300
101-500729	Medical Patments to Providers	\$300		\$300
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$265,000		\$265,000
103-500741	Contracts for Ops Services	\$5,000		\$5,000
211-500757	Catastrophic Casualty Insurance	\$44,642		\$44,642
	Total Appropriations	\$9,004,355	\$875,000	\$9,879,355

EXPLANATION

The purpose of this request is to increase the FY24 Operating Budget of the WRBP in Classes 18, 22, 23 and 30. The WRBP is owned and operated by NHDES on behalf of the 10 communities who rely upon the regional wastewater collection and treatment system. Funds collected from the municipalities who benefit from the system are used to operate and maintain the system.

The WRBP's Class 18 *Overtime* expenditures include the routine SCADA on-call overtime for staff monitoring operations after hours as well as necessary responses to any alarms or emergencies. The WRBP has experienced several emergency responses this fiscal year including two sewer line repairs that have required additional staff overtime. The WRBP has used over 60% of the overtime budget in 6 months. Based on this history and forecast, an additional \$25,000 is requested in class 18.

Class 22 *Rents-Leases* needs an increase in funding due to the unexpected failure of the Franklin WWTF's loader/backhoe/forklift that required rental of alternate equipment for several months to provide for equipment and materials transportation on site. A new piece of equipment has been purchased to provide the necessary

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capabilities so this rental is no longer needed. Due to this unforeseen expense and routine expenses to date that used 70% of the rental budget, an additional \$20,000 is requested in class 22 to allow for scheduled man-lift, flail mower, and other rentals for the balance of the fiscal year.

The Class 023 *Heat, Electricity and Water* budget is not sufficient to meet the anticipated, additional expenses for fuel oil and electricity. The WRBP has used almost 60% of the current utility budget in 6 months and the winter month's heating season impacts costs more than summer and fall. Prior year's expenditures for class 23 were \$1.23M. Based on the history of expenditures and current utility costs, an additional \$380,000 is requested for class 23.

Class 30 *Equipment* funds are needed for replacement of critical treatment and pumping equipment. Over 90% of the FY24 budget has already been expended because of significantly increased prices and failure of costly equipment that required immediate replacement. Pending priority replacements include check valves, grinders and sewage pumps at multiple pump stations, multiple sludge pumps and flow meters at the WWTF, and non-contact level sensors at several pump stations. An additional \$450,000 is requested for class 30.

All of the WRBP's operating expenses are paid by the users of the system; there is no General Fund contribution to the system's operating budget.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner