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Casey Sweeney Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Casey.Sweeney@wisconsin.gov

RE: Comments of the Municipal Environmental Group – Wastewater Division

Clean Water Fund Intended Use Plan for SFY 2026

Mr. Sweeney:

We are submitting these comments on behalf of the Municipal Environmental Group-Wastewater Division (MEG Wastewater). MEG Wastewater is an organization of over 100 municipalities statewide who own and operate wastewater treatment plants. We represent facilities ranging in size from small sanitary districts to larger utilities. MEG Wastewater appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Clean Water Fund Intended Use Plan for SFY 2026 (the "2026 IUP").

The 2026 IUP proposes a transfer of \$5,749,000 in emerging contaminants grant funding from the CWF to the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program ("SDWLP"). MEG Wastewater generally agrees with the premise underlying this transfer of funds, which is that there is currently more demand in the SDWLP for funding for PFAS-related projects than in the CWF. However, MEG Wastewater is aware of a growing demand for funding for PFAS-related projects for wastewater utilities. Our understanding is that if there is a more significant demand than anticipated for these types of projects from wastewater utilities, that funding could be transferred back to the CWF. MEG Wastewater requests that the department continue to review demand for PFAS-related projects to ensure there is sufficient funding available in the CWF for those types of projects in the 2026 IUP.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. MEG greatly appreciates the opportunity to participate in this process and welcomes further communication with the department on this topic.

Sincerely,

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