

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Water Resources Department USGS Groundwater Monitoring Network Data Providers

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Frederick

On March 22, the Natural Resources Subcommittee recommended approval, retroactively, of the submission of a federal grant application from the Water Resources Department to the U.S. Geological Survey in the amount of \$23,981 for data collection activities under the National Groundwater Monitoring Network program.

The federal program provides cooperative funding agreements to support long-term data collection activities for the planning, management, and development of groundwater supplies. For federal fiscal year 2021, program grant funds of up to \$150,000 are available to support this work. The Water Resources Department provided notice of its intent to apply for the federal grant in November 2020. The application deadline was January 21, 2021.

If awarded, the agency will use the funding to support their existing database management activities, for purchase of additional water level recording equipment, and to potentially rehabilitate certain observation wells. The grant opportunity does not require the agency to provide matching state funds, however, the agency has included existing budgeted expenditures in the application as in-kind match for the federal funds. Water Resources Department has sufficient Federal Funds expenditure limitation to expend the funding if awarded.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval.