

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Environmental Quality Climate Pollution Reduction

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

On February 14th, the Natural Resources Subcommittee recommended approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Department of Environmental Quality to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency of up to \$200 million over a five-year period for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution.

This federal opportunity is the next step following the Climate Pollution Reduction planning grant that DEQ was approved to apply for in April 2023. The EPA will prioritize funding for “shovel-ready” investments, and DEQ has identified these in three categories: transportation; buildings; and waste management. Funds will be distributed in roughly equal amounts for each category to individuals, businesses, and local jurisdictions in the form of grants and rebates. There is no requirement for state matching funds.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval.