

# Administrative Rule Analysis

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## DRINKING WATER MONITORING RULES

Mary Ann Cleary, Director  
Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**Department: Environmental Quality (DEQ)**

**Agency: Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance (ODWMA)**

**Rule Set No.: 2014-023-EQ**

**Complete to: 9/24/15**

## BACKGROUND & SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RULES SUBMITTED TO JCAR

Rule set 2014-023-EQ amends the current ODWMA rules regarding drinking water standards and drinking water quality monitoring. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) delegates the authority to enforce drinking water standards to individual states as long as states maintain regulations that meet or exceed those of the USEPA. This rule set allows Michigan to remain in compliance with USEPA requirements in order to maintain state-level authority over its public drinking water systems.

## FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RULES

The administrative rules amended by 2014-023-EQ would have a significant fiscal impact on both state and local units of government. The USEPA has estimated that each state would incur a one-time startup cost of approximately \$57,000 and an annual cost of \$2,600 to implement and maintain the clean water standards necessary to remain in compliance. These state-level costs would be incurred by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Further, the USEPA estimates that local health departments will incur cumulative additional costs of \$1.4 million annually and 20 more work hours per week in order to implement these revised standards. Local governments have relied upon DEQ support to meet the necessary requirements.

The USEPA estimates costs to additional state (Departments of Natural Resources and Transportation) and local (municipalities and school boards) units of government in the implementation of these new rules. State-owned water sources including public campgrounds and rest stops as well as locally-owned water sources including city water systems and schools would also be responsible for implementing and maintaining compliance. These additional costs are estimated at \$662,000 (one-time) and \$282,000 (annual) for both the aforementioned state and local units of government combined.

Fiscal Analyst: Austin Scott