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Efficient Water Utility Bills Signed into Law

The League of Wisconsin Municipalities, MEG-Water and the Wisconsin Rural Water Association, all members of the Municipal Water Coalition, thank Governor Evers signing two bills into law that will streamline the processes for water utility projects.

2021 Wisconsin Act 85 clarifies the application deadlines for Lead Service line applications and other water utility application approvals. Act 85 will provide applicants with a clearer direction on what additional information is needed for PSC to determine an application is complete and will provide more certainty regarding when a decision on an application will be issued.

2021 Wisconsin Act 86 exempts water utility meter upgrade projects from the Public Service Commission (PSC) construction review. Act 86 will reduce the cost and red tape involved in installing upgraded water meters that more accurately measure water usage, reduce labor costs associated with meter reading, and streamline utility operations.

Both bills will provide numerous administrative and fiscal benefits for local water utilities across the state, while still maintaining PSC review and oversight.

On behalf of the Municipal Water Coalition, we'd would like to publicly thank the legislative authors, Sen. Cowles, and Reps. VanderMeer and Thiesfeldt, and the PSC for their input throughout the process.