



August 31, 2026

DNR Project No. DC-0246

Nick Bower, Water Quality Program Director
Capital Area Regional Planning Commission
100 State Street, Suite 400
Madison, WI 53703

[Subject: CARPC Dane County Water Quality Plan Amendment Resolution 2026-12 - Policies and Criteria for Environmental Corridors](#)

Dear Mr. Bower:

On June 17th, 2026, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Department) received Resolution No. 2026-12 from the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission (CARPC), on behalf of Dane County. Resolution No. 2026-12 requested the Department's administrative review of an amendment to the Dane County Water Quality Plan. The amendment will update the Policies and Criteria for Environmental Corridors, which set requirements and guide the implementation of Environmental Corridors under the Dane County Water Quality Plan ([Link to Summary of Changes to Policies and Criteria](#); [Link to complete Policies and Criteria](#)).

Public Involvement

CARPC gathered input from various stakeholders as part of the policy revision process between June 2025 and April 2026 ([Link to Record of Stakeholder Engagement](#)). A public hearing on the proposed Policies and Criteria was held at CARPC's meeting on May 14, 2026. No public comments were received during the public hearing. Commission action was taken at CARPC's meeting on June 11, 2026 to approve the updated Policies and Criteria.

Administrative Decision

The proposed amendment, as described in CARPC's Resolution No. 2026-12, is hereby approved in accordance with water quality standards under ss. 281.15 and 283.83(1m), Wis. Stats. This amendment is a formal amendment to the state's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan, per ch. NR 121, Wis. Adm. Code. The Dane County Water Quality Plan Amendment entitled "Policies and Criteria for Environmental Corridors" will be forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act of 1987 (Public Law 92-500 as amended by Public Law 95-217) and outlined in the code of federal regulations, 40 CFR Part 35. This review is an integrated analysis action under s. NR 150.20(2)(a)3., Wis. Adm. Code. By means of this review, the department has complied with ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code, and with s. 1.11, Wis. Stats.



Appeal Rights

Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish time periods within which requests to review department decisions must be filed. For judicial review of a decision pursuant to ss. 227.52 and 227.53, Wis. Stats., a party has 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the department, to file a petition with the appropriate circuit court and serve the petition on the department. Such a petition for judicial review must name the Department of Natural Resources as the respondent. To request a contested case hearing pursuant to s. 227.42, Wis. Stats., a party has 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the department, to serve a petition for hearing on the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. All requests for contested case hearings must be made in accordance with s. NR 2.05(5), Wis. Adm. Code, and served on the Secretary in accordance with s. NR 2.03, Wis. Adm. Code. The filing of a request for a contested case hearing does not extend the 30-day period for filing a petition for judicial review.

Sincerely,

Timothy R Asplund

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