

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act
5 is amended by changing Sections 9.6a and 56 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 2605/9.6a) (from Ch. 42, par. 328.6a)

7 Sec. 9.6a. Bonds for sewage treatment, ~~and~~ water quality,
8 and facility improvements. The corporate authorities of a
9 sanitary district, in order to provide funds required for the
10 replacing, remodeling, completing, altering, constructing and
11 enlarging of sewage treatment works, administrative buildings,
12 water quality improvement projects, distributed renewable
13 energy generation devices, or flood control facilities, and
14 additions therefor, pumping stations, tunnels, conduits,
15 intercepting sewers and outlet sewers, together with the
16 equipment, including air pollution equipment, and
17 appurtenances thereto, to acquire property, real, personal or
18 mixed, necessary for said purposes, for costs and expenses for
19 the acquisition of the sites and rights-of-way necessary
20 thereto, and for engineering expenses for designing and
21 supervising the construction of such works, may issue on or
22 before December 31, 2034, in addition to all other obligations
23 heretofore or herein authorized, bonds, notes or other

1 evidences of indebtedness for such purposes in an aggregate
2 amount at any one time outstanding not to exceed 3.35% of the
3 equalized assessed valuation of all taxable property within
4 the sanitary district, to be ascertained by the last
5 assessment for State and local taxes previous to the issuance
6 of any such obligations. Such obligations shall be issued
7 without submitting the question of such issuance to the legal
8 voters of such sanitary district for approval.

9 The corporate authorities may sell such obligations at
10 private or public sale and enter into any contract or
11 agreement necessary, appropriate or incidental to the exercise
12 of the powers granted by this Act, including, without
13 limitation, contracts or agreements for the sale and purchase
14 of such obligations and the payment of costs and expenses
15 incident thereto. The corporate authorities may pay such costs
16 and expenses, in whole or in part, from the corporate fund.

17 Such obligations shall be issued from time to time only in
18 amounts as may be required for such purposes but the amount of
19 such obligations issued during any one budget year shall not
20 exceed \$150,000,000 plus the amount of any obligations
21 authorized by this Act to be issued during the 3 budget years
22 next preceding the year of issuance but which were not issued,
23 provided, however, that this limitation shall not be
24 applicable (i) to the issuance of obligations to refund bonds,
25 notes or other evidences of indebtedness, (ii) to obligations
26 issued to provide for the repayment of money received from the

1 Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund for the construction or
2 repair of wastewater treatment works, and (iii) to obligations
3 issued as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
4 of 2009, issued prior to January 1, 2011, that are commonly
5 known as "Build America Bonds" as authorized by Section 54AA
6 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Each
7 ordinance authorizing the issuance of the obligations shall
8 state the general purpose or purposes for which they are to be
9 issued, and the corporate authorities may at any time
10 thereafter pass supplemental appropriations ordinances
11 appropriating the proceeds from the sale of such obligations
12 for such purposes.

13 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Section 9.6 or
14 this Section, and in addition to any other amount of bonds
15 authorized to be issued under this Act, the corporate
16 authorities are authorized to issue from time to time bonds of
17 the district in a principal amount not to exceed \$600,000,000
18 for the purpose of making contributions to the pension fund
19 established under Article 13 of the Illinois Pension Code
20 without submitting the question of issuing bonds to the voters
21 of the District. Any bond issuances under this paragraph are
22 intended to decrease the unfunded liability of the pension
23 fund and shall not decrease the amount of the employer
24 contributions required in any given year under Section 13-503
25 of the Illinois Pension Code.

26 The corporate authorities may issue bonds, notes or other

1 evidences of indebtedness in an amount necessary to provide
2 funds to refund outstanding obligations issued pursuant to
3 this Section, including interest accrued or to accrue thereon.
4 (Source: P.A. 101-302, eff. 1-1-20; 102-707, eff. 4-22-22.)

5 (70 ILCS 2605/56)

6 Sec. 56. Resource recovery.

7 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

8 (1) technological advancements in wastewater treatment
9 have resulted in the ability to capture recovered
10 resources and produce renewable energy resources from
11 material previously discarded;

12 (2) the capture and beneficial reuse of recovered
13 resources and the production of renewable energy resources
14 serves a wide variety of environmental benefits including,
15 but not limited to, improved water quality, reduction of
16 greenhouse gases, reduction of carbon footprint, reduction
17 of landfill usage, reduced usage of hydrocarbon-based
18 fuels, return of nutrients to the food cycle, and reduced
19 water consumption;

20 (3) the district is a leader in the field of
21 wastewater treatment and possesses the expertise and
22 experience necessary to capture and beneficially reuse or
23 prepare for beneficial reuse recovered resources,
24 including renewable energy resources; and

25 (4) the district has the opportunity and ability to

1 change the approach to wastewater treatment from that of a
2 waste material to be disposed of to one of a collection of
3 resources to be recovered, reused, and sold, with the
4 opportunity to provide the district with additional
5 sources of revenue and reduce operating costs.

6 (b) As used in this Section:

7 "Distributed renewable energy generation device" has the
8 meaning given to that term in Section 1-10 of the Illinois
9 Power Agency Act.

10 "Recovered resources" means any material produced by or
11 extracted from the operation of district facilities,
12 including, but not limited to:

13 (1) solids, including solids from the digestion
14 process, semi-solids, or liquid materials;

15 (2) gases, including biogas, carbon dioxide, and
16 methane;

17 (3) nutrients;

18 (4) algae;

19 (5) treated effluent; and

20 (6) thermal energy or hydropower.

21 "Renewable energy facility" shall have the same meaning as
22 a facility defined under Section 5 of the Renewable Energy
23 Production District Act.

24 "Renewable energy resources" means resources as defined
25 under Section 1-10 of the Illinois Power Agency Act.

26 "Resource recovery" means the recovery of material or

1 energy from waste as defined under Section 3.435 of the
2 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Act.

3 (c) The district may sell or otherwise dispose of
4 recovered resources or renewable energy resources resulting
5 from the operation of district facilities, and may construct,
6 maintain, finance, and operate such activities, facilities,
7 distributed renewable energy generation devices, and other
8 works as are necessary for that purpose.

9 (d) The district may take in materials which are used in
10 the generation of usable products from recovered resources, or
11 which increase the production of renewable energy resources,
12 including, but not limited to food waste, organic fraction of
13 solid waste, commercial or industrial organic wastes, fats,
14 oils, and greases, and vegetable debris.

15 (e) The authorizations granted to the district under this
16 Section shall not be construed as modifying or limiting any
17 other law or regulation. Any actions taken pursuant to the
18 authorities granted in this Section must be in compliance with
19 all applicable laws and regulations, including, but not
20 limited to, the Environmental Protection Act, and rules
21 adopted under that Act.

22 (Source: P.A. 98-731, eff. 7-16-14.)