

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Walz

130 State Capitol • 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd • Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

April 30, 2020

Becca Nash, Director Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. 65 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. Nash.

I approve the request of the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) for the expenditure of \$59,297 from the LCCMR Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Emerging Issues Account, M.L. 2018, Chapter 214, Article 4, Section 2, Subdivision 10, for a project at the University of Minnesota to conduct state-wide reconnaissance of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that caused COVID-19, in drinking water supplies.

Given our nascent knowledge of how SARS-CoV-2 transmits through our water infrastructure, this work completed by the University of Minnesota will provide valuable early research on how groundwater sources of drinking water could transmit the disease and can inform further action to protect Minnesotans.

This funding is approved according to M.S. 116P.08, subdivision 4:, paragraph d, which states:

"The commission may recommend the establishment of an emerging issues account in its legislative bill for funding emerging issues, which come up unexpectedly, but which still adhere to the commission's strategic plan, to be approved by the governor after initiation and recommendation by the commission."

Please work with staff at Minnesota Management and Budget for the transfer of these funds.

Sincerely,

Tim Walz Governor

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