

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of the State Auditor



**Rebecca Otto**  
**State Auditor**

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MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR

**WESTERN LAKE SUPERIOR SANITARY DISTRICT**  
**DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

## **Description of the Office of the State Auditor**

The mission of the Office of the State Auditor is to oversee local government finances for Minnesota taxpayers by helping to ensure financial integrity and accountability in local governmental financial activities.

Through financial, compliance, and special audits, the State Auditor oversees and ensures that local government funds are used for the purposes intended by law and that local governments hold themselves to the highest standards of financial accountability.

The State Auditor performs approximately 160 financial and compliance audits per year and has oversight responsibilities for over 3,300 local units of government throughout the state. The office currently maintains five divisions:

**Audit Practice** - conducts financial and legal compliance audits of local governments;

**Government Information** - collects and analyzes financial information for cities, towns, counties, and special districts;

**Legal/Special Investigations** - provides legal analysis and counsel to the Office and responds to outside inquiries about Minnesota local government law; as well as investigates allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance in local government;

**Pension** - monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 730 public pension funds; and

**Tax Increment Financing** - promotes compliance and accountability in local governments' use of tax increment financing through financial and compliance audits.

The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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**WESTERN LAKE SUPERIOR SANITARY DISTRICT  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2011**



**Management and Compliance Report**

**Audit Practice Division  
Office of the State Auditor  
State of Minnesota**

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**WESTERN LAKE SUPERIOR SANITARY DISTRICT  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

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**WESTERN LAKE SUPERIOR SANITARY DISTRICT  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

**I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued: **Unqualified**

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weaknesses identified? **No**
- Significant deficiencies identified? **No**

Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted? **No**

**Federal Awards**

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weaknesses identified? **No**
- Significant deficiencies identified? **No**

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: **Unqualified**

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133? **No**

The major program is:

Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Funds      CFDA #66.458

The threshold for distinguishing between Types A and B programs was \$300,000.

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District qualified as low-risk auditee? **Yes**

**II. FINDINGS RELATED TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

None.

**III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS**

None.





REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

# STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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## **REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Board of Directors  
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, and have issued our report thereon dated June 4, 2012. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Management of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### Minnesota Legal Compliance

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65. Accordingly, the audit included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions* contains six categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions. Our study included all of the listed categories.

The results of our tests indicate that for the items tested, the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District complied with the material terms and conditions of applicable legal provisions.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, others within the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

*/s/Rebecca Otto*

REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

*/s/Greg Hierlinger*

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA  
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

June 4, 2012



REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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### **REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD HAVE A DIRECT AND MATERIAL EFFECT ON EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133**

Board of Directors  
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

#### Compliance

We have audited the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2011. The Western Lake Superior Sanitary District's major federal program is identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its major federal program is the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2011.

#### Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

#### Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, and have issued our report thereon dated June 4, 2012. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District's basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by OMB Circular A-133 and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The SEFA is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The SEFA has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial

statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the SEFA is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, others within the District, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

*/s/Rebecca Otto*

REBECCA OTTO  
STATE AUDITOR

*/s/Greg Hierlinger*

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA  
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

June 4, 2012

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**WESTERN LAKE SUPERIOR SANITARY DISTRICT  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

<b>Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title</b>	<b>Pass-Through Grant Numbers</b>	<b>Federal CFDA Number</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
<b>U.S. Department of Commerce</b>			
Passed through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources			
Coastal Zone Management Administration Awards			
Coastal Zone	11-306-13	11.419	\$ 3,695
Coastal Zone Star Grant	306-STAR05-11	11.419	<u>4,071</u>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Commerce</b>			<b><u>\$ 7,766</u></b>
<b>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</b>			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development			
Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Funds			
Pike Lake Storage Basin Project	MPFA-09-0094-R-FY11	66.458	\$ 86,297
Polk Street Pump Station Project	MPFA-09-0095-R-FY11	66.458	2,599,473
Proctor Interceptor Project	MPFA-11-0075-R-FY12	66.458	98,944
Electrical Reliability Project	MPFA-11-0080-R-FY12	66.458	969,773
Passed Through Minnesota Pollution Control Agency			
Great Lakes Program			
Toxic Reduction Grant	B55488	66.469	<u>15,454</u>
<b>Total U.S. Environmental Protection Agency</b>			<b><u>\$ 3,769,941</u></b>
<b>Total Federal Awards</b>			<b><u><u>\$ 3,777,707</u></u></b>

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**WESTERN LAKE SUPERIOR SANITARY DISTRICT  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

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1. Reporting Entity

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activities of federal award programs expended by the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District. The District's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal grant activity of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2011. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets, or cash flows of the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District.

3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Pass-through entity identifying numbers are presented where available.

4. Reconciliation to Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets and Note 3.B.4.

Expenditures under CFDA No. 66.458 are capitalized in capital assets on the financial statements. The funding received under this program is federal grant funding shown as additions to the long-term debt payable. Other federal grants are reported as operating grants or federal contributions.

**WESTERN LAKE SUPERIOR SANITARY DISTRICT  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

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4. Reconciliation to Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets and Note 3.B.4. (Continued)

Nonoperating revenues: operating grants (Exhibit B)	\$ 382,969
Less: state portion of operating grants	<u>(363,820)</u>
 Federal portion of operating grants	 \$ 19,149
 Capital contributions - federal (Exhibit B)	 4,071
Public Facility Authority loans (Note 3.B.4.)	<u>3,754,487</u>
 Expenditures Per Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	 <u>\$ 3,777,707</u>

5. Subrecipients

Of the expenditures presented in the schedule, the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District did not provide federal awards to any subrecipients.