Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: mark pass <moishe18us@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 8:02 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: waukesha water diversion request is a perversion of logic and environmental justice

Dear DNR,
I am a city of Waukesha resident and I am appalled at the request our local Water Utility (WU)and City Leadership has taken in requesting a permanent diversion of Lake Michigan water, from the great lakes drainage basin.

If the request were based on fact and true need then I might understand.

a) The WU claims that our natural aquifer levels continue to drop, yet they have actually been increasing since 2000.

b) The WU claims that there are no greater opportunities for conservation; "do not what they have been smoking".. There have been no WU education or rebate initiatives on installation of residential demand based water softeners, high efficency clothes washing machines and other water saving appliances,

c) There is no local enforcement to prevent local storm water run-off. Residents do as they see fit.

d) Diversion request gal/day = 16.7 million gallons & Current daily demand is 10.1 million gal.

I perceive and pray that the DNR is staffed by scientists, not a bunch of political hacks. If that is the case them I believe logic will prevail.

We, the City of Waukesha residents do not need this diversion.
The great lakes drainage basin needs to be left intact.

Thank you.
Respectfully,
mark pass
404 westminster drive
waukesha, wi 53186
414 702-5180

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Mary Ellen Paulson <mpaulson@racinedominicans.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 9:42 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Affirmation

This is a request to the DNR to follow through with their approval of Waukesha's request. Checking the fact, listening to the Milwaukee presentation and with personal interests, I conclude that this request is in line with that fantastic WATER COMPACT which was affirmed by the League of Women Voters (I'm a member) and the Racine Dominicans (I am one). Thank you!

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: JoAnn Pedersen <ask-y@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 9:58 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha's application for Lake Michigan water

Dear DNR people

I request that the DNR not approve Waukesha Water Utility's Application for Great Lakes water. The Great Lakes Water Compact sets specific requirements for diversion of water. These conditions have not been met. As an example, the Application includes land in other municipalities not now in the Waukesha Water Utility service territory. Such land hasn't adopted water conservation measures, which the Compact requires prior to submitting an Application.

Thank you for your consideration.

JoAnn Pedersen
Pewaukee, WI 53072

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: pehoski@att.net
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 9:17 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha's Application for Lake Michigan water

Waukesha's application for Lake Michigan water, discussed in 3 DNR public hearings August 17 and 18, 2015, should not be approved. Of the many objections raised at the public hearing in Waukesha August 17, I focus on only one; specifically, the weaknesses in Waukesha's conservation measures, and the DNR's inadequate, less than thorough analysis of this area.

The DNR's Draft Technical review pp 52-54 takes the Waukesha Water Utility and SEWRPC's analyses as fact, without considering where more stringent conservation measures and modifications to area development planning could dramatically reduce the daily water requirements for the city.

p 53 states "The Applicant (City of Waukesha) estimated that national and state plumbing code changes would yield the largest source of conservation and efficiency savings, predicting that these reductions would come primarily from ongoing installation and replacement of fixtures such as toilets and showerheads." This is a short-sighted approach that does not require that users make any deliberate, conscious changes to their use of an increasingly threatened resource, but to instead rely on external, technological fixes.

Similarly, the review takes for granted whatever growth local government approves, regardless of its impact on increased water usage. Much more can be done in limiting large commercial and rental development.

As a citizen in the city of Waukesha who pays for the water I use by volume, I have an obvious financial interest in conservation. The only impact I have felt from Waukesha's supposed conservation measures is the 2 day per week sprinkling restriction, and that is only because I have a vegetable garden and some summers there is not enough rain to keep my rain barrels full. Few water utility customers will be similarly affected. If the water utility imposed usage restrictions or rate increases that got more citizens' and businesses' attention, and increased awareness of this problem caused lifestyle changes, the 97-104 gallons per capita per day (GPCD) use (pp 49-50) could be reduced in the direction of my own approximately 25-30% of that amount.

Of the many possible reasons this application may be denied by compact members, the shallow analysis provided for conservation measures is an obvious, large target.

John Pehoski
621 Lincoln Ave
Waukesha WI 53186

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Louise Petering <l.petering14@att.net>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 9:07 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Cc: Louise Petering
Subject: Citizen Statement regarding Waukesha Diversion

To the DNR:

Throw out Waukesha's application for diversion of Lake Michigan water.

Provisions of the "Compact" render Waukesha's ineligibile to apply for a diversion of Great Lakes water to satisfy its desire - and its neighbors' desires - for Lake Michigan water.

Waukesha has not met "Compact" requirements because it …

- has a viable, safe, sustainable, less costly alternative water supply to meets <u>its needs</u>
- has not implemented a set of conservation measures <u>before</u> applying for a diversion
- has proposed a return of waters that mixes Great Lakes water with out-of-basin water
- does not meet the strict definition of a "community in need"

You in the DNR are the front line of defense to further threats to the Great Lakes, Wisconsin's economic lodestone. Throw out Waukesha's application for a diversion.

Louise Petering
7229 N. Santa Monica Blvd.
Fox Point, WI 53217
414-351-3617

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Dorie Petersen <dppnotchr@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 8:38 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Diversion

Sirs,
I respectfully ask the Wisconsin DNR to OPPOSE the city of Waukesha's request to divert water from Lake Michigan for their community. I believe it will set a president that will lead to disaster down the road - especially since this is NOT a last resort situation for Waukesha, but merely a preference.
Thank you,
Doreen E. Petersen
Racine, WI

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Lucia Petrie <luciapetrie@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2015 11:46 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha water diversion

To: Ashley Hoekstra
From: Lucia Petrie, 4201 N Downer Ave, Milwaukee WI 53211

Ms. Hoekstra:

Please note my concern about water diversion from Lake Michigan to Waukesha County. As I have read, outside experts and independent studies have confirmed that:
1) the request includes areas of Waukesha that have sufficient water
2) there are cheaper alternatives - such as cleaning the water of radium and other contaminants.
3) use of best available technology will solve the problem
4) there will be increasing pressure for water diversion with the situation worsening in California and the West. We need to be very cautious with setting precedents.

thank you.

Lucia Petrie

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Joe Piatt <jpiatt@carrollu.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 8:56 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Public Hearing Comments - Waukesha LM Application
Attachments: Public Hearing Comments to DNR jjp August 28.docx

Dear Ms. Ashley Hoekstra (WI-DNR),
Please accept these written comments regarding Waukesha's application for Lake Michigan water.
Regards,
Joe Piatt

Joseph J. Piatt, Ph.D., M.S.C.E.
Associate Professor, Chemistry and Environmental Science
Carroll University
100 North East Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53186

(W) 262-524-7156
(Fax) 262-574-2636
email: jpiatt@carrollu.edu
website: www.carrollu.edu

August 18, 2015

To: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

From: Joseph Piatt, 727 East Roberta Avenue, Waukesha, WI 53186

RE: Public Hearing

Background. I am a faculty member at Carroll University in Waukesha, WI with an expertise in soil and water resources; specifically in environmental chemistry, environmental engineering, and groundwater hydrogeology. I received my BS degrees in chemistry and mathematics from Marquette University (1989), MS in environmental engineering from the University of Minnesota (1993), and my PhD in soil and water sciences from The University of Arizona (1997). I also happen to be a citizen of the City of Waukesha and serve as President of the Waukesha Water Utility Commission.

Although I spoke at the public hearing on August 17 in support of the application, that was at the request of our President to represent Carroll University as an institution. I would also like to add comments as a private citizen.

Summary of Lake Michigan Benefits. My assessment is that the Lake Michigan (LM) water source solution is long term, reliable, and elegantly simple. In terms of delivering potable water, I believe simpler is better. Simpler should not be misconstrued as the "easy" solution. Simpler means the LM option is totally accountable and predictable from both a quantity and quality perspective for the flow west to Waukesha and the return east to the Root River. A multi-well groundwater system accessing deep and shallow aquifers requiring above ground advanced treatment technologies is much more complex and uncertain than pumping and returning treated water via pipes for 14 miles each way with existing treatment plants in Oak Creek (water) and Waukesha (wastewater). The engineering simplicity is benefit enough, but most important is the fact that the LM option has essentially no environmental impacts on wetlands and other surface water features. It also is more energy efficient and produces less waste than non-diversion options (with radium and RO treatment). It also is significant that Waukesha residents and businesses will no longer need to soften water, resulting in savings of energy and eliminating recharge water laden with sodium

(Na^+) and chloride (Cl^-) to waters – which are also contaminants of concern to regulators.

Additional Comments.

Service Area. Arguments aside about how the service area was determined, for those critical of the service area, it needs to be understood that any expansion of the proposed service area would trigger a regional review. So getting LM water is not an open invitation to grow at will, not to mention that much of service area is already developed.

Final comments.

Lake Michigan is the only reasonable, safe, predictable, and sustainable water source. Thank you for your consideration.

August 23rd, 2015

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Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
MADISON, WI 53707
DNRWaukeshaDiversionApp@wisconsin.gov

Dear Ms. Hoekstra,

I am resident of the Great Lakes basin and I am deeply concerned about current risks to our unique Great Lakes environment.

The city of Waukesha's proposal to use Lake Michigan water has the potential to set a dangerous precedent. If permitted, Waukesha would be the first community to act against the Great Lakes Compact, ratified in 2008.

Waukesha's claims do not meet the high standard needed to consider the proposal. There are alternatives. 40 other Wisconsin communities successfully treat for radon. Waukesha's other concern is demand. In recent years we've seen ground water rebound and the supply is keeping up.

— over —

I urge you and the Department of Natural Resources to deny the City of Waukesha's proposal and avoid setting a precedent that would put the entire Great Lakes at Risk.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Plisch
9 Wakeman St.
Madison, WI 53705

Dear DNR,

As a resident of the Great Lakes region, I support the protection of the Great Lakes as a vital natural resource and a national treasure. The Great Lakes provide the foundation of our identity as a region. The City of Waukesha's request for Great Lakes water threatens that identity. I urge the DNR to deny Waukesha's application to divert Great Lakes water for the following reasons:

- Waukesha's application does not pass legal muster under the federally ratified Great Lakes Compact.
- Waukesha has a safe, sustainable and treatable water supply available to its residents that does not require using water from the Great Lakes.
- Investing in existing infrastructure is the cheapest, fastest and safest option for Waukesha to meet radium and public health standards by 2018.

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AUG 28 2015
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Sincerely,

PRINT NAME LYNN PRESTON SIGNATURE Lynn Preston

ADDRESS W290 S6509 Holiday CITY Waukesha

ZIP 53189 PHONE 262-968-5391 EMAIL preston.lynn@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: It seems that if 40 other communities can treat their water for radium, and if the aquifer supplying Waukesha's water is rebounding, that Waukesha can meet its need for clean water without using Lake Michigan water. Please consider the non-diversion proposal is your decision.

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Kathy Privatt <kdudley@new.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:59 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Say no

I have just read about the study done by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation concerning Waukesha'so request to divert water from Lake Michigan. I am quite confident in the science behind that study and since the Waukesha water utility has said that it would like the decision to be based on sound science, I would urge you to consider all the studies and to deny the request as it is unnecessary and a bad precedent to set.

Kathy Privatt
Appleton, WI

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Lisa Scott Ptacek <lisascottptacek@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 7:53 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: OPPOSE the Waukesha Diversion Request

Att: Ashley Hoekstra

Dear Ms Hoekstra,

I am writing to oppose the city of Waukesha's request to divert water from Lake Michigan, and urge you to deny their application.

The intent of the Great Lakes Compact was to protect and safeguard the Great Lakes basin for generations to come. Please let's not be the first state to weaken this ambitious collective goal.

As the demand for fresh water increases locally and globally, it is imperative that we set thoughtful and sustainable standards to protect the Great Lakes basin with stringent guidelines. Requests for a diversion must be granted *only* when all other reasonable options are exhausted, and only after the petitioning community can show compliance with strict conservation measures.

There are several problematic aspects of their current proposal, but most troubling is Waukesha's demonstrated disinterest in employing every means available to reduce their consumption of water. This must be a measurable, unequivocal first step before any request is considered. In addition, the amount granted should be the the least amount necessary to meet current needs, and not encourage greater use by providing for future (and in this case, faulty) projections.

There are cities around the nation who have been forced to limit their growth because they became landlocked. Likewise, Waukesha should recognize their limits on growth not because of available land, but because they do not have the water supply to support unlimited growth.

I also have grave concerns about the return of the treated water.

The return route to Lake Michigan will affect the water levels and natural environment of the Root River. The Waukesha proposal does not offer remediation to the residents along the river nor to the city of Racine should the flow create erosion, flooding, or damage to the riparian environment. The residents of Racine will end up paying this cost. At this time of year, the returned water will account for 80-90% of the water in the river. This is not the optimum environment for the fish, insects, invertebrates and amphibians that make Root River their home.

The city of Waukesha is the first in line of many communities who wish to tap into the Great Lakes basin as a water source, and this decision will set precedent for future requests. I urge you to not to approve the diversion request.

Sincerely,

Lisa Scott Ptacek
3654 North Bay Dr.
Racine, WI 53402

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Michael Reese <benchworks@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2015 8:04 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Diversion Application

Dear Ms. Hoekstra and the DNR,

I am writing today to publicly request that Wakesha's appeal for water diversion from the Great Lakes be denied. This first request of the CIC should be taken very seriously and as a native Milwaukeen, I would like to ensure the security and safety of our coastline for generations to come.
As a citizen and taxpayer and homeowner in Milwaukee, we work very hard to sustain our lake(s) and the leaders in Waukesha should pursue alternatives to bring water to their citizens. After all, many of the homes that have been built are now standing on wetlands and with larger footprints that necessitate higher volumes of water usage. The situation they find themselves in is their own doing, they can always move to Milwaukee and help this city prosper.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Reese
461 E. Morgan Ave.
Milwaukee WI 53207
414-313-5860

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Donna Rehbeck <drehbeck@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 6:16 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Water Diversion

As a concerned citizen, I ask that Waukesha 's request to divert water from Lake Michigan be denied. There is no guarantee that the water return process will work as planned. Additionally, Waukesha is requesting more water than it currently needs. Finally, if one community is approved, it will be difficult to turn down other requests throughout the Great Lakes.

Donna Rehbeck
10150 West Plum Tree Circle
#102
Hales Corners, WI. 53130

Name	Linda Reid
Email Address	lindahreidwork@gmail.com
Address	904 East Pearson St Unit 403 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202 United States of America
Comment to the Wisconsin DNR	I am strongly opposed to the diversion of Great Lakes water to the city of Waukesha. Waukesha has not implemented water conservation measures as required by federal law and so is not a community in need. It has overstated its future needs and diverting water would add to pollution in its return flow to Lake Michigan. This decision will set a precedent for this region and so it is vitally important that the DNR get this right.

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AUG 28 2015
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Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Angela Reifenberg <areifenberg@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 6:30 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Comments on Waukesha's Diversion

Dear Ms. Hoekstra,

I am writing to comment on the Waukesha Water Utility's Application for the diversion of Lake Michigan water. Specifically, I would like to address the public's opportunity for participating and commenting as part of the review process. Clearly, this is a complex and emotional situation. As such, the public should be given as many opportunities to learn and comment on the project as is reasonable, and unfortunately this has not happened.

The Waukesha Water Utility failed to comply with State law regarding open meetings as it met with City officials in 2007 and 2008 to discuss the Lake Michigan diversion. Instead, they went into closed session and took actions behind closed doors. The reason for closed session was cited as a discussion of a "strategy relative to our long term water options, as well as radium compliance, with legal counsel". Waukesha Water Utility Commission Meeting Minutes, 1-2 (June 21, 2007) I believe these items should be privy to the public, they are public health after all. Per State statute closed door meetings should be reserved for bargaining and competitive items or items personal in nature. At these early dates, what was it about the long term water strategy that the Utility did not want to share with the public? What part of these conversations could have been around pricing or bargaining? The Water Utility had yet to finalize where the water would be coming from, or returning to, much less the cost of each trip. It seems the public was unnecessarily left out of these conversations.

On May 1, 2010 the initial diversion application was submitted by the Waukesha Water Utility. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources then spent years working with the Utility to gather more information and develop a more complete application. In July of 2011 the public was invited to comment on the process as it stood so far. In December of 2011 the Utility submitted a second application, and in October 2013, it submitted a third application. After this third application the public was invited to comment again. This would have been good, except the application was thousands of pages in length, and the public had approximately one month to review the application and submit comments. It took the Water Utility two years to gather the supplemental material, and the public had once month to review and comment on it, and not even one month, if you attended the early meeting. I realize this is in compliance with State Code, but for a project of this scope and depth, more time seems appropriate.

Now that the Technical Review, Draft Decision, and Draft Environmental Impact Statement have been released the public is provided two months to comment. I appreciate this extended time period, but am disappointed that only one meeting is being held in each of the three affected counties (Milwaukee, Waukesha, Racine). And as a Milwaukee County resident I cannot even attend the meeting held in my community as it is being held during the day. I would have expected there to be more of an outreach for hearings and oral comments. In explaining the extended comment period, the WDNR states this is a big project with lots of complexity. Well then, why not offer more than one meeting per County in order to gather oral public comments.

In summary, my concerns surrounding the Diversion Application submitted by the Waukesha Water Utility surround their lack of transparency and public input from the beginning. It started with the Utility retiring to closed door sessions when those did not seem necessary and it has continued surrounding public hearings and public comments. It appears the diversion is a foregone conclusion rather than something in which the public is a full participant.

Thank you,

Angela Reifenberg
2814 N. 78th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Rose Reinders <artrose3@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 6:26 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: FW: Waukesha Diversion

August 27, 2015

DNR Waukesha Diversion
Waukesha WI

Dear Sirs:
The Great Lakes Compact also requires the City of Waukesha to show that there is no alternative, including water conservation efforts, to taking Great Lakes water. The City of Waukesha's application does not meet any of these conditions in the following ways: First, the City of Waukesha has requested an excessive amount of water and included a number of communities in its proposal in order to justify the request. Additionally, a combination of local water supplies and water conservation efforts would provide enough water for the City--there is no reason to approve a diversion from the Great Lakes for this purpose. Finally, the proposal to return the water through the Root River poses a number of concerns, including elevated levels of phosphorous--so much so that it could violate the Clean Water Act.

While I do think it is important to ensure the City of Waukesha has a reliable, clean and safe drinking supply - the City has an alternative to the Great Lakes that it needs to use first. For these reasons, I do not believe the application meets the requirements in the Great Lakes Compact and urge you to deny the diversion request. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my comments about the request.

Sincerely,

Rose and Art Reinders
3909 S Woodhill Ct
New Berlin, WI 53151-6199
UNITED STATES
artrose3@hotmail.com

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Reinelde Lea <wrenelea@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 10:12 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Citizen Comment on Waukesha's Request

Gentlemen:

Having lived near Lake Michigan most of my 68 years--in Milwaukee, Sheboygan and now in Door County, I feel a kinship with this beautiful lake, which provides us with its beauty, its recreational possibilities, a source of food and, of course, water. Lake Michigan and its sister lakes in the Great Lakes system are the envy of the world and there are a number of entities that would like some of the fresh water it provides. That is why the Great Lakes Compact is so important and why its integrity must be maintained.

As a child, I remember my parents occasionally purchasing Waukesha artesian water. It seemed plentiful--plentiful enough to be sold by the thousands of gallons at a low price. What has happened to that water? Is it gone? Is Waukesha in such dire straits that it needs to weaken the Great Lakes Compact by requesting an exception and setting a precedent?

Water is a precious resource and the people of Waukesha need water just as much as the people anywhere else. However, before tampering with an international document such as the Great Lakes Compact, Waukesha should be required to show that it has exhausted its resources, has begun water conservation measures, has not inflated its numbers and been made to comply with all the points listed in the Compact BEFORE requesting diversion. Once an exception is made, there will be many more lining up with their own requests. This is a very grave matter. Please proceed with caution!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Reinelde C. Lea

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: John Rennpferd <john_rennpferd@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2015 12:33 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: City of Waukesha's Diversion Application Written Comments

Ashley,

I am very concerned about the Waukesha water diversion. This diversion is bad for the Great Lakes watershed. Waukesha is unable to return the diverted water resources back to the Great Lakes watershed. The volume of water requested by Waukesha is suspect, and likely to face a lawsuit.

The Waukesha diversion plan involves returning water to the watershed via the Root River. The large dumping of treated water is going to affect the seasonal water levels of the Root River, which in turn will affect the seasonal behavior of wildlife. The dumped water is going to affect the turbidity of the Root River, which will have a direct affect on sensitive fish species. The dumped water is going to affect the temperature of the Root River, which will have negative affects on wildlife. The cleaning agents used to treat the water are going to react with the organic matter in the Root River. The return method of the Waukesha diversion plan is going to have a negative environmental impact on the Root River.

The volume of water requested by Waukesha violates the Great Lakes Compact, and it is illegal. The Great Lakes Compact is absolutely clear that water diversion is for current use only, not for future use. Waukesha is requesting an amount of water diversion equal to 140% of their current usage. Diversion recipients are only allowed 10% variance. If this plan is approved, Waukesha, and any parties that support their plan will be drawn into a lawsuit. If Waukesha wants to waste its limited resources in a lawsuit, that is on them; however, the state of Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin DNR have far more important issues to deal with. The Waukesha water diversion is going to waste limited resources. Specifically the Waukesha water diversion is going to waste the limited resources of the Wisconsin DNR.

The Waukesha water diversion is bad for the environment. The Waukesha water diversion is bad for Wisconsin. Consider the negative impact that this will have on the Root River, and consider how the probable lawsuit is going waste state, and Wisconsin DNR resources.

Sincerely,

John R. Rennpferd
1828 Marquette Ave
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

8-18-2015

Dear Ashley,

I write in appreciation of the dedication and diligence demonstrated by the WIDNR and its Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater. A huge and challenging responsibility!

Each action taken in response to citizen requests, requires attention to complex factors which point a professional to the best and wisest decisions.

We must all hold ourselves to very high standards when we take responsibility to hold one another accountable for the well-being of our communities and the community of life in the environment + ecosystems embracing our lives. The choices we make have such stunning long-term consequences. Decisions that require responsibility shown by all sharers of our resources are the wisest and most compassionate for those who will depend on these resources in future generations. Let us ask the generations of today to be proud they can face the education opportunity to preserve our resources not only for now but for the future. It is tough love, but necessary.

Best Wishes!

Celebrate!

You are part of the solution!

(The long-term one!)

Marcia Riquelme

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
DNRWaukeshaDiversionApp@wisconsin.gov

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 24 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

8-18-2015

Re: Deny Diversion of Water from Lake Michigan application by Waukesha

Dear Ms. Hoekstra,

Yes, this is a "form letter" but I watched the first hearing on Wisconsin Eye - Encouraged all I know to do the sense. I have followed the history of the application process for the diversion. Concluding

The Great Lakes Compact was signed in order to protect one of our country's most important resources - the Great Lakes. The Compact ensures that all Great Lakes states and provinces work together to manage and protect the Lakes. One of the requirements of the Great Lakes Compact is that water not be diverted unless there is a need that meets very strong requirements. The City of Waukesha's application does not show this critical need.

The Great Lakes Compact also requires the City of Waukesha to show that there is no alternative, including water conservation efforts, to taking Great Lakes water. The City of Waukesha's application does not meet any of these conditions in the following ways: First, the City of Waukesha has requested an excessive amount of water and included a number of other communities in its proposal in order to justify the request. Additionally, a combination of local water supplies and water conservation efforts would provide enough water for the City--there is no reason to approve a diversion from the Great Lakes for this purpose. Finally, the proposal to return the water through the Root River poses a number of concerns, including elevated levels of phosphorous--so much so that it could violate the Clean Water Act.

While I do think it is important to ensure the City of Waukesha has a reliable, clean and safe drinking supply, the City DOES have an alternative to the Great Lakes that it needs to use first. For these reasons, I do not believe the application meets the requirements in the Great Lakes Compact and urge you to deny the diversion request. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my comments about the request.

So, for many reasons, this letter expresses my views.

Waukesha is not conserving in its water usage; continues to expand + promotes expansion when it should be honest about its limits. Waukesha has not made an honest effort in conservation. The lesson to it + other towns — be more respectful of the water already used.

Thank you for your time,
[Your Name] Marcia J. Riquelme
[Your Address] 3953 Finch Trail
[City, State ZIP] DeForest, WI 53532
[Your Email]
mom.pazyarte@gmail.com

August 27th, 2015

DNR Water Bureau Representative,

I recently attended the public hearing at Carrol University, on the proposed Lake Michigan water diversion request for the city of Waukesha. As a resident of Mukwonago for the past 10 years, I am well aware of the persistent radium level problem, and am hopeful that a responsible solution can be found.

However, I am very troubled by conclusions made by the DNR, Waukesha Water Utility, and CH2MHill on this matter. I do not think that the diversion application is either the most environmentally or fiscally responsible solution to the City of Waukesha's water problem. I fundamentally disagree with many of the assumptions that were made in the problem definition, and question the scientific process used to reach the study's conclusions. Listening to the official presentation given at the public hearing, I am also very concerned that the data presented was incomplete and misleading. I think that the public deserves to be given a more honest and accurate assessment of the problem.

I am also aware that a professional engineering firm, GZA GeoEnvironmental, published a report that refuted many of the findings of the DNR. Its independent report concludes that water treatment (non-diversion) is the best solution. GZA also states that the Waukesha Water district's water supply is in much better condition than is being portrayed in the DNR report. In addition, many other studies have been conducted which refute the findings of the DNR application.

Some of the major flaws in the DNR study findings and diversion application include:

- Claim that Waukesha is in urgent need for more water
    - Data shows that deep aquifer levels are actually rising
    - Projections show that even if Waukesha fully builds out 2050 service area, it will have plenty of water to meet the need
- Assumption of 40% increase in the size of the service area.
    - The compact does not allow for unreasonable inflation of a water district's service area
    - Provides benefits to land developers in newly expanded area, at expense of residential users
- Assumes that per capita water usage increases, at a significant rate, beginning in 2015
    - Historical data since shows a steady decrease in per capita water usage in the area
    - Data also shows a trend of decreasing water pumpage rate since 1990, despite a steadily increasing population trend
    - Flawed assumption that proposed expanded district will be fully built out and with maximum water consumption (no conservation)
- States that no viable alternatives were found
    - proposal to drill several new shallow wells near environmentally sensitive sites (like the Vernon Marsh, Mukwonago River watershed) was obviously not a reasonable option; other viable area wells for mixing were not considered
- Claim that Waukesha is making concerted efforts in Conservation & Efficiency Measures
    - Current water conservation rules (sprinkling restrictions) apply only to residential users
    - Realized savings from fixture efficiency improvements is meager, with huge potential (well below program goals for toilet replacement). Estimated 1 million gallons per day from toilet use alone

    - Stated goal of 10% reduction in average daily demand is very conservative; many communities across the U.S. have achieved significantly higher water savings
    - No plan to promote or implement grey water systems for non-potable uses
    - No plan to differentiate water service by need (i.e. residential vs. industrial uses)
- Claim that return of diverted water to basin will have no negative impacts on Root River and/or Lake Michigan
    - Increased flow will affect aquatic ecosystems
    - Higher baseline river water levels reduces ability to handle floodwaters during heavy rains
- Request for diversion that costs double that of water treatment is Waukesha's best choice?
    - Long-term effect triples the average water user's bill
    - Assumption that diversion can continue indefinitely at the same cost, or at all, is flawed (must consider future applications of communities in severe drought/need)

I believe that the City of Waukesha does not comply with the basic requirements of the Great Lakes Compact for a water diversion exception. Specifically,

- The city DOES have multiple, reasonable water supply alternatives, including conservation of existing supplies, but is not seriously considering or implementing either
- Population projections and water demand forecasts for the city's service supply area are NOT consistent with historical data
- Current deep and shallow aquifer groundwater sources ARE sustainable, based on present levels and historical trends for water use (past 25 years)
- A diversion will NOT result in a healthy water supply that is most protective of the environment in both Waukesha and the affected return flow areas.

Lastly, the proposed diversion solution is the most expensive water solution of all options considered, and is not fiscally responsible choice for the community's tax and rate payers. The likelihood of approval by all 8 Great Lakes states and 2 Canadian provinces is highly unlikely. Significant administrative and legal expense is being incurred by the City in this process, which may lead to nothing. In the meantime, money is not being spent building the infrastructure for a more sustainable and responsible water treatment solution.

Please reevaluate the current proposal, looking at all available options, and using sound scientific and economic principles, to work out a solid plan for the most reasonable non-diversion solution(s) for the City of Waukesha.

Regards,

Tim Roebke
1224 River Park Circle East
Mukwonago, WI 53149

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Tim Roebke <roebketim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 11:04 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Public Comment letter on Waukesha Water Diversion application
Attachments: Letter to DNR_Waukesha Diversion Request_Roebke.docx

Please accept the attached Word document as my public comment statement on the proposed Waukesha Water Diversion application.

Regards,

Tim Roebke1224 River Park Circle East
Mukwonago, WI 53149

4 Boston Ct.
Madison WI 53711
August 23, 2015

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water & Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison WI
53707-7921

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 26 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

Dear Ms. Hoekstra & Department of Natural Resources.

As a resident of one of the states in the Great Lakes Basin I write you as I am alarmed by Waukesha's proposal to take water from the Great Lakes as a solution to it's water problems.

I strongly urge DNR to deny Waukesha's application. There are other viable solutions to the problem. One, suggested by the Compact Implementation Coalition, recommends Waukesha invest in its existing infrastructure, adding radium treatment, improving efficiency in the delivery system, and implement conservation measures.

If Waukesha gets water now, other communities will follow in seeking water. It is important to look at alternative solution.

Please deny Waukesha's application for a ~~state~~ diversion of Lake Michigan and avoid

setting a dangerous precedent for the communities of the Great Lakes basin.

Sincerely yours,
Cynthia Rose

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Mary Ruckh <mruckh@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 4:02 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Do not approve the Diversion plan...pleae

After reading materials published about this problem, I urge you to deny the Lake Michigan diversion plan to solve Waukesha's water problem.
Please encourage them to seek other solutions that have been identified for them that do not require Lake Michigan water diversion. Conservation measures must be implemented and treatment plans to address the radium problem adopted.

Thank you.
Mary Tordella Ruckh

17640 Prince George Court
Brookfield, WI 53045
262-785-0489

Sent from my iPad

Stephanie Rudnicki
3723 S. Chicago Ave. Apt. #9
South Milwaukee, WI 53217
August 17, 2015

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 18 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Ashley Hoekstra:

I am writing to oppose Waukesha's application under the Great Lakes Compact to divert water away from Lake Michigan for four reasons. Waukesha has failed to implement real water conservation measures, they are asking for more water than they currently need, Waukesha has not adequately investigated alternatives and their return plan is not in compliance with Compact requirements.

Both the Great Lakes Compact and Wisconsin Law require cities to conserve their water before seeking access to the Great Lakes. Despite these requirements, Waukesha has known of its potential water issues since at least 2003, and has still failed to fully implement a water conservation plan. Therefore, Waukesha does not meet the requirements under Wisconsin law or the Great Lakes Compact to withdraw water from Lake Michigan.

Waukesha currently only needs about 6.5 to 7 million gallons of water each day, however, Waukesha's application is for 10.1 million gallons of water each day. This supply increase would be used to expand Waukesha's Water Utility to areas that already have safe access to water. For this reason, Waukesha's application fails to meet the requirements of the Great Lakes Compact and should not be granted.

Again, both Wisconsin Law and the Compact require cities to investigate alternative before diverting water from Lake Michigan, and again, despite knowing about a coming water problem since at least 2003, Waukesha has not adequately investigated such alternatives. Therefore, granting Waukesha's application would violate the Compact and Wisconsin Law.

Finally, the Great Lakes Compact requires that the water returned to the Great Lakes basin be, as much as possible, from the Great Lakes Basin. This rule prevents draw down of other water resources and prevents potential contamination. Right now however, Waukesha's plan indicates that over one-third of the water returned to Lake Michigan will be from the Mississippi River Basin. Relatedly, Waukesha's plan does not adequately address further degradation to the Root River that may be caused by using it as the water return path.

For the above reasons, I urge the Wisconsin DNR to reject Waukesha's application.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Rudnicki

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Thomas Rutkowski <natom@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 12:35 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Water Diversion

Hello,

I oppose the request for Waukesha's water diversion and the plan to return treated waste water to the Root River. Waukesha has not pursued other options to supply their projected needs such as reverse osmosis filtration. Their request isuxh greater than their need. Racine does not need their leftovers.

Tom Rutkowski
2615 North Main St
Racine, Wisconsin. 53402

Sent from my iPhone

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 28 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

4847 N. Idlewild Ave.
bay, Wi 53217

Whitefish
August 25, 2015

Dear Ms. Hoekstra and the DNR;

I recently attended the hearing held in Milwaukee concerning the plan to pipe water from Lake Michigan into Waukesha County and was unable to stay long enough to testify on the issue.

This plan disregards the boundaries of nature in favor of the political ones as a justification to take water from the Lake Michigan watershed. I see it as a complex problem with many places where things can go wrong. It is proposed that 10 million gallons a day will be piped into Waukesha County, yet the current usage is only 6.6 million gallons. I see this as a pure license to expansion and sprawl in not only the city of Waukesha but also all of Waukesha County.

The wastewater is supposed to be treated and sent back via the Root River into Lake Michigan. If the method for treatment is so pristine, why doesn't Waukesha treat and reuse its own wastewater? Since there is a negligible presence of science in the current DNR, who will test this water and assure the public of its lack of contaminants? I also do not see how traces of radon from the existing water sources will not find their way into the water returned to the Lake Michigan watershed. There is little regard shown for the citizens of Wisconsin who live along the Root River and will have to deal with the possibility of flooding and of contaminants in their direct environment.

This plan is setting a perilous precedent for the redistribution and use of water that defies natural boundaries. I advise against the pursuit of this plan and hope that you will consider other options for the citizens of Waukesha County.

Thank you

Victoria Samolyk

Ms. Victoria Samolyk
4847 N Idlewild Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53217-5958

MILWAUKEE WI 530

26 AUG 2015 PM 3 L

ASHLEY HOEKSTRA
DNR BUREAU OF DRINKING WATER
GROUNDWAT
BOX 7921
MADISON, WI.
53707-7921

53707792121

Name	Nancy Sander
Email Address	xstlady52@yahoo.com
Address	3951 Bentley Rd Custer, Wisconsin 54423 United States of America
Comment to the Wisconsin DNR	As a former resident of Waukesha, and a long-time member and supporter of Clean Wisconsin, I advise AGAINST the Waukesha Diversion application. Waukesha County has other less-expensive and more viable options for water supply. And the county and city of Waukesha on NOT in the watershed for Lake Michigan. Using Great Lakes water for this area is environmentally UNSOUND and would adversely impact overall water quality for Lake Michigan and the state of Wisconsin as a whole.

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 28 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 26 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Public Hearing on the City of Waukesha's Application for Diversion of Great Lakes Water
Comment Form

Hearing Location: Zilber Building - Milwaukee

Date of Hearing: 8/18/15

Name: Sr. Felicia Schlechter OSF

Address: 3201 S. Lake Drive Apt. 409 St. Francis, WI 53235

Who you represent: Justice, Peace and Integration Committee Sis of St. Francis of Assisi 3221 S. Lake Drive

Comments:

Since we arrived shortly after the Presentation by DNR began, I missed the name of the tall lady speaking. She was very impressive with her command of knowledge.

Thus, I was quite dismayed at how she dismissed the question (from one of our Sisters) on treating the radon in the water rather than asking for diversion. I was under the impression that questions were to be treated and answered fully and not dismissed out of hand. She really did not answer the question posed, unfortunately.

My own question is why 1.5 million gallons/day is seen as responsible if there is radon in the water? Has anyone studied the long-term effect of that much radon per day having on people and each eco-system?

If you are unable to submit your comment today please send comments to:

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

All public comments must be submitted by August 28th, 2015.

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: John Schultz <jrschultz2@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 1:36 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Lake Michhigan Diversion

August 24, 2015

Ashley Hoekstra:

The diversion of Lake Michigan water to Waukesha is a violation of the Great Lakes compact. The proposal does not rise to the level of need required by this agreement.

Waukesha is a water-rich community. Unfortunately it has not managed its resources correctly. Having access to a deep and large aquifer has encouraged excesses that created the current situation. However, the same strategy being proposed for returning wastewater back to Lake Michigan can be used to replenish the current underground source. Instead of flushing reprocessed wastewater down various river systems, which they now do and propose to do in the future, it can be returned to the deep aquifer. This would reduce the level of radiation and make the underground source sustainable.

The current proposal encourages continued unsustainable growth and mismanagement, flooding problems for those who live along the Root River, a roughly 20 percent loss due to leakage and spillage (gardens, lawns, car washing and seepage along the Root River). This is also a matter of economic injustice, a blatant attempt to try and shift the power base from Milwaukee by increasing industrial growth in Waukesha County.

The answer is no to the application for water from Lake Michigan to Waukesha. Environmental justice, stewardship, water conservation, river preservation, and urban sprawl are all reasons why this proposal should not stand.

John Schultz
West Bend, WI 53090

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: kschwenke@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 2:36 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Great Lakes Water Application

Dear Ladies/Gentlemen:

I urge you to reject Waukesha's application to obtain a water diversion under the Great Lakes Compact. I have lived in a Milwaukee county lake shore suburb for many years, partly due to the proximity to Lake Michigan's fresh water. I was however raised part of my life at the Waukesha/Washington county line. I still have many friends and relatives in both Washington and Waukesha counties. I feel that setting a precedent of diverting water for a region that failed to plan for future resource needs would be detrimental, and would open the door for communities all across the great lakes region to do the same thing. Since the 1950's Waukesha's residential and commercial real estate development has continued unabated, forcing the state to pay for ever more freeways to be developed, many of which travel through Milwaukee county, causing pollution, noise, etc. for many Milwaukee county residents. Those of us who have chosen to call Milwaukee county home have paid more for housing and taxes, and I have been reminded of that many times by those I know who live in Waukesha county. It is time for them to increase taxes, curb development, or do whatever is necessary to provide water to their residents and businesses, as they had always done throughout history.

Best Regards,

Karen Schwenke

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Andreacnm <andreascnm@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 11:31 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Water

I would like to go on record as opposing the diverting of Lake Michigan water to Waukesha.
Andrea Scott
72 Woodfield Court
Racine, WI 53402
Sent from my iPad

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Frances Scott <francesscott1921@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 3:20 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Opposed to Waukesha Diversion Application

Dear Ms. Hoekstra,

I'm writing to register my opposition to Waukesha's request to remove water from Lake Michigan.

We cannot allow anyone to take water from Lake Michigan unless there are absolutely no other alternatives to obtaining safe drinking water.
Waukesha has avoided taking the necessary steps to clean their own water supply for many, many years, and they must do so now. They have alternatives to taking water from Lake Michigan.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Frances Scott

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Glenn Sedgwick <gsedg1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2015 1:20 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Water Diversion

My late father was a retired mechanical engineer when the proposal had water flowing west of the divide, presumably to the Mississippi. He figured the depletion of Lake Michigan. The basis was water usage and release, and acre-feet of Lake Michigan. His calculations showed an annual drop of Lake Michigan water in the range of one one-thousandth of an inch annually. There was concern about precedent and further drop in lake level. May we all be spared if some city 20 miles from Sheboygan does the same thing. Forget the diversion project and its ridiculous expense. Disclaimer: my father and I lived in Waukesha 50 years ago. He is deceased and I live in West Allis. I am OK with .001 inch less water in my Lake Michigan water supply.

Glenn Sedgwick

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF WAUKESHA'S APPLICATION FOR DIVERSION OF GREAT LAKES WATER
COMMENT FORM

Hearing Location	UWM N. 10th Street, Milwaukee
Date of Hearing	August 18, 2015
Name	William Sell
Address	2827 S. Lenox St., Milwaukee, WI 53207
Whom you represent	I am a member of Milwaukee River Advocates, and a supporter of the Milwaukee Riverkeeper. I am speaking for myself.
Comments	on the proposed Water Diversion for Waukesha **http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wateruse/waukeshadiversionapp.html**

Dear DNR Officals and Staff,

I am a resident of Milwaukee in the neighborhood of Bay View, the eastern border of which is the park-embracing Lake Michigan shoreline. Our relationship with the Lake is intimate, and many neighbors volunteer to protect the lake and to clean its shores.

We invite people to come and enjoy the lake, and drink our water. But, because we drink from the Lake, we are protective of this exceptionally unique, second-largest fresh water source in the world.

A Personal Observation

I grew up near the Root River and am amazed that the water diversion engineers believe they can flush millions of gallons of water through this water way without ecological disruption. The "river" is a winding lazy creek, with dozens of S and U turns, each affecting the flow. If flooding occurs, the next phase of this project will require "engineering" of river banks. Governing rivers will be a generational problem, a world of engineering "fixes" - one after the other, each a fix of something overlooked - until we have that concrete channel "solution" that is now being torn out of the Kinnickinnic River on our south side. The "KK" without the cement is now showing signs of the return of flowing water and fish.

That being said, there is a need here to look at the total environment that serves to protect the lake. We need to examine the potential of regional collaborations that will benefit the entire region. Milwaukee wants access to Waukesha jobs; Waukesha wants access to Milwaukee's Waterworks. It's simple. No?

Into the Weeds, and the Stall

No. Waukesha and Milwaukee are, now, at loggerheads. Milwaukee did not reject the idea of diversion itself; but the "service area" in the proposal challenges Milwaukee's vital interests.

The "environment" in this discussion is not merely technical matters about water, flowage, fish, and drinking. To Milwaukeans the environment includes our neighborhoods about which we are highly concerned; to change this environment we need help from surrounding counties. In this regard, I submit that the obvious definition of "environment" at work in the DNR's response is inadequate to the unblinkered scope of the Waukesha diversion proposal. "Environment" means more than clean water; in a city, environment is the neighborhood as well as our air and water.

My concern is that in negotiating with the City of Milwaukee, Waukesha has rejected collaboration that would address Milwaukee's needs as well as Waukesha's. This juggernaut emerges periodically over the generations, but recently it began in the 1990s.

Milwaukee is right to reject the proposed water diversion that is designed to supply lake water both for the City of Waukesha and its service areas that are less populous but adequately served by wells into the future. The service areas do not need Lake Michigan water, unless of course the plan is to turn the land into manufacturing and commerce; and on that option Waukesha documentation is curiously silent. This is the elephant that was created by two major issues: (1) years of intransigence over regional transit and (2) 50 years of commercial development that took water for granted and ignored the environment that once included an abundant aquifer, but, continuing, an impenetrable shale below the shallow wells.

Milwaukee's Needs

Our City has space, vacant properties and buildings, an available workforce (many unemployed) and suitable transportation corridors to provide for commercial growth. This, alongside a burgeoning downtown, which drives our local economy and the economy of the whole State. We cannot solve the problems of poverty alone; and Waukesha needs to participate in the solution.

Sprawl, development distant from the central metropolitan area, is wasteful of precious land, raises the costs of regional exports, and worsens the economic prospects of the region.

Central city unemployment is tragically chronic, not something we can address later - well, can it wait? Maybe after Waukesha solves the water problems it created in the last 50 years? I have clear memory as a kid collecting bottle tops of Waukesha soda bottles that brandished the proud label 'Made with Waukesha Spring Water'. Where did that spring water go? And why?

If the shale is blocking rainfall from reaching the aquifer perhaps the concept of Waukesha as a commercial location of unlimited potential needs to be re-thought. The water was so very good 70 years ago, what has Waukesha done to find themselves claiming a water shortage?

That is a question we cannot avoid today, because their Application not only avoids the sorry history of Waukesha water but it does not address the problem in a way that is sustainable for Milwaukee. We could easily site more commerce on the farmlands west of our City. But this would mean more businesses distant from our available workforce, read: transporting thousands of low-wage workers 20 to 30 miles every day. If buses continue to rely on property tax revenue, county borders will prevent this kind of expansion. Building affordable housing in Waukesha is a non-starter.

Transit

Transit that is slow, transit that is supported temporarily by court order, transit that is funded on the local property tax, cannot be regional because of the border-collie, a (virtual) barking dog that will not allow Milwaukee to think outside the county lines to serve employment and employers.

A 90 minute commute (3 hour per day) is not a family-supporting commute. Without gainsaying anyone who *chooses* to drive 3 hours every day to commute, common sense would indicate that *forcing* anyone into that situation in order to work and support a family is delusional. And for those who work at "living wage" levels, a private automobile will consume 30 to 50 percent of income. For family finances this is unsustainable, driving parents to take part-time work, and leave their kids in the hands of neighbors or strangers. Milwaukee must take all necessary means to alleviate this problem, or our neighborhoods will become more blighted, and dangerous.

Milwaukee leads the nation in segregated housing, schools and jobs. We are witnessing the catastrophe that this is.

I submit to the DNR and the members of the Great Lakes Compact, that there is a racial component (intentional or not) to the determination to divert Lake Michigan water without reasonable Milwaukee access to employment and development; and the reason is historic. Case in point, is the memorable motorcycle trip with Governor Thompson 20 some years ago. He was advocating for a regionally financed baseball park for the Milwaukee Brewers. Famously, he said "Stick it to Milwaukee" when he was out-state and the politics of four counties around the stadium were toxic. Racine, our urban neighbor to the south, demurred from the governor and dumped its senator for his vote in favor.

Milwaukee Liabilities

Milwaukee has for generations, on and off, been cursed by out-state political attitudes, and it continues today at a screech. The attitudes of some suburbs are sparks that kindle the politics of hating cities and their children; they play with racial fears; they starve the central city from the larger economy of the State.

Toxicity emerged when in the '90s the federal government put $289 million on the table to build rapid transit between Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties. The Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission laid out a plan to spend that money but the Department of Transportation could not get a reliable partner in Waukesha County.

Toxicity emerged when the State passed a law requiring Milwaukee to use ineffective rural standards to monitor guns. Now guns abound in the city.

Toxicity emerged when two suburban lawmakers moved to take public education away from Milwaukee Public Schools without consulting (to the best of my knowledge) a single affected parent.

Toxicity emerged when the governor-elect repeatedly said he would not accept $810 million for jobs and developments to enhance rail service between Milwaukee and Madison. Our operating

central-city train factory closed. Unemployment in that neighborhood strains belief. The trains? They are for sale in Indiana.

Toxicity emerged with the manipulation of the length of imprisonments (Three Strikes, and No Parole). I had hoped the State would be embarrassed into finding itself the leading incarcerator of African American males. The impact of these imprisonments is the broken family, the kids not knowing their father, and a perpetual over-policed and hyperactive justice system. Today a zip code is known for its endemic recession and blight.

And it's all 'Milwaukee's fault,' of course.

Toxins such as these benefit politicians who deploy them, but they divide our state.

If this Application is turned back for another look at the larger environment, we could have regional cooperation that would benefit both cities. But the toxins are on the stage now, and the audience is willing to dance to their tune. All the above creates sparks for a political energy that builds a fence with water.

"Let us put our minds together, and see what life we will make for our children." ---Tatanka-Iyotanka (Sitting Bull) --- Hunkpapa Lakota chief

TO
ASHLEY HOEKSTRA
DNR BUREAU OF DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER
BOX 7921
MADISON, WI 532707 7921
DNRWAUKESHADIVERSIONAPP@WISCONSIN.GOV

SUBMITTED AUGUST 27, 2015

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Bill Sell <sunrise@bikethehoan.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 3:08 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Comment on the proposed Water Diversion for Waukesha
Attachments: Water Diversion for Waukesha.pdf

Dear DNR,

I wish to be on record with comments on the Waukesha Application for Diversion of Lake Michigan Water.

Please find attached: Water Diversion for Waukesha.pdf

Sincerely
William Sell
2827 S. Lenox St.
Milwaukee WI 53207

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: SHOEMAKER, LYNN H <shoemakl@uww.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:43 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha application for lake water.

Dear DNR:

It is unwise, even dangerous, to grant a permit for lake water to a city which has inflated its water needs figures, refused to take serious
conservation measures, refused to consider all feasible alternatives, refused to evaluate the consequences. Our water is vital. We should not
approve an application until all these conditions have been met.

Sincerely, Lynn Shoemaker

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Barb Shore <bshore2@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2015 4:09 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: We support the diversion

We live east of the subcontinental divide so have no skin in this game personally. However, providing safe drinking water to one of the largest local cities in our area, a city which has been around for over 150 years or just as long as the City of Milwaukee, is a public health issue.
Opponents certainly cannot expect a population of 70,000+ to abandon their homes and businesses and move to areas on the Lake Michigan coastline in order to have access to non-tainted water.
The cost of treating medical issues related to drinking radium tainted water alone could severely impact local health care costs, which are already astronomical.
The scientific evidence related to water safety and accessibility via groundwater reserves should be the only determinants prior to approval of the request. Emotional or politically based opinions should not be part of the decision.

Barbara Shore
Bshore2@wi.rr.com
14860 Woodland Place
Brookfield, WI 53005
(262) 783-7039

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: peter sigmann <peter@sigmann.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 7:54 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Comment

The diversion should not take place because

1. Other options exist for the city and especially for the wider intended area. They include treatment of ground water, limits on consumption and collection of rainwater.

2. The returned, cleaned sewage effluent will be large in volume and overwhelm the discharge river. The quality of of the effluent will be difficult to control on a daily basis. Lake Michigan should not be exposed to it.

Peter Sigmann
3732 Rocky Shore Drive
Sturgeon Bay WI 54235
invested in the health of Lake Michigan

RECEIVED-DNR

AUG 27 2015

DRINKING WATER & GW

P.O. Box 278
Somers WI 53171
25 August MMX
normsiler@yahoo.com

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Re: City of Waukesha Water Diversion application, seeking to divert Lake Michigan fresh water for its use beyond the Great Lakes Basin, as mutually defined by Compacts agreed upon by States and Canadian Provinces of the Five Great Lakes.

Please include this letter and two-page attachment as my contribution to the public comment sought by Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WisDNR) in the above matter currently undre consideration by WisDNR.

My interest is as a citizen living within the Great Lakes Basin on the Wisconsin shore of Lake Michigan. My water utility service draws on Lake Michigan also, as it and other lakeshore cities have since the 19th century. My attention seldom focuses on Lake Michigan water because its great volume of fresh water has been plentiful throughout my lifetime. But I also know the several Compacts enter into among the Great Lakes states and with affected Canadian provinces were important binding agreements necessary for future attempts to draw off some of its waters irrespective of needs within the Great Lakes Basin.

My initial reaction to learning of the City of Waukesha application was to wait and see how severely our neighbors in that city were adversely affected by the shortfall in available well water their application described. My primary basis for doubt was concern for the volume of water Waukesha would return by way of the Root River, because of sporadic episodes of flooding of residential properties near Spring Street, city of Racine. Capacity of Root River flow is limited there by channel width.

Recently I learned of the evaluation undertaken for the Compact Implementation Coalition, whose Wisconsin members engaged GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. for its expertise to review the various scenarios related to alternatives City of Waukesha might choose instead. I find as a layman those alternatives persuasive, factually and hypothetically, and therefore now adamantly oppose the City of Waukesha application.

I therefore urge WisDNR in absolute terms to reject the City of Waukesha water diversion application.

No sufficient basis exists for City of Waukesha to seek authority for so much more than its current needs nor has City of Waukesha shown reasonable effort(s) to resolve its present and anticipated water use needs within its more readily available sources

Respectfully

Norman Siler

Attach: Cover page and Executive Summary to GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. report issued 9 Jul 2015 to Clean Wisconsin and Milwaukee Riverkeeper acting on behalf of the Compact Implementation Coalition. Full report already submitted by them, and should be considered in full as basis for my opposition to the application.

Non-Diversion Alternative Using Existing Water Supply With Treatment City of Waukesha Water Supply

Waukesha, Wisconsin

July 9, 2015 Submitted to:

Clean Wisconsin and Milwaukee Riverkeeper

(on behalf of the Compact Implementation Coalition)

Prepared by:

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.

James F. Drought, P.H.

Senior Consultant

Jiangeng (Jim) Cai, P.E.

Principal Hydrogeologist

John C. Osborne, P.G.

Senior Principal District Office Manager

Compact Implementation Coalition's Non-Diversion Solution

Executive Summary

The Compact Implementation Coalition (CIC) collectively represents tens of thousands of Wisconsinites working to protect our Great Lakes. The CIC has a long history beginning with ensuring the adoption of a strong Great Lakes Compact and aiding the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the implementation of administrative rules.

For the last five years, the City of Waukesha's ongoing request to divert Great Lakes water has raised numerous concerns about Waukesha's respect for the Great Lakes Compact and for the overall health of the Great Lakes region. The need for multiple versions of the city's application, all lacking sufficient information and evidence to support its request, demonstrates Waukesha's lack of real effort in evaluating all reasonable alternatives before requesting water from the Great Lakes as required under the Great Lakes Compact. By its own words, Waukesha has made it clear that its intent to divert Great Lakes water out of the Great Lakes Basin is a preferred option; it is not born out of current need and it is not a last resort. Further, Waukesha has manufactured a "need" by pulling in portions of communities who do not need or want a new water supply, who have not demonstrated water conservation and who may never ask for water from the diversion.

Since Waukesha has not met the legal and technical requirements set forth in the Great Lakes Compact, the CIC felt it was in the best interest of the Great Lakes region to have two independent engineering firms conduct an independent analysis of Waukesha's alternative water supplies.

The CIC retained GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA) and Mead & Hunt, Inc. to evaluate the City of Waukesha's water supply alternatives included in its application. The CIC also asked GZA and Mead & Hunt to evaluate alternative water supplies based on Waukesha's existing water service supply area since the proposed expanded service area included in its application does not legally adhere to the Great Lakes Compact.

The consultants excluded the neighboring communities of the City of Pewaukee and towns of Delafield, Genesee and Waukesha from the analysis. GZA also averaged the City of Waukesha's actual historical water use data to forecast future demand rather than cherry picking the largest year of consumption as Waukesha did when forecasting future industrial need. GZA and Mead & Hunt used the same exact assumptions found in the City of Waukesha's application when considering cost, the extent to which conservation measures will be implemented in the future, population growth, and how much water the City of Waukesha is expected to use any given day.

The findings, formally compiled in the accompanying Non-Diversion Solution report, conclude that Waukesha can use its existing deep and shallow water wells to provide ample clean and healthy water to their residents now and in the future if they simply invest in additional water treatment infrastructure to ensure the water supply meets state and federal standards going forward.

The Non-Diversion Solution costs dramatically less than a diversion, avoids a regulatory morass and secures independence for Waukesha residents,

protects public health, and minimizes environmental impact.

The CIC is confident that the Non-Diversion Solution is a better way forward for the City of Waukesha, its residents, and the Great Lakes region as a whole.

###

The Compact Implementation Coalition, collectively representing tens of thousands of Wisconsinites, has a long history of working on the Great Lakes Compact. From ensuring the adoption and implementation of a strong Great Lakes Compact to aiding the Department in the promulgation of administrative rules to implement the Compact, it has consistently advocated for the strongest protections available for the Great Lakes, in keeping with the spirit and the letter of the Compact.

Members of the Coalition include: Clean Wisconsin

Midwest Environmental Advocates Milwaukee Riverkeeper National Wildlife Federation River Alliance of Wisconsin Waukesha County Environmental Action League Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

Peter McAvoy, of counsel

The coalition wishes to thank the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Joyce Foundation for their generous funding in support of this work.

The CIC is encouraging any concerned citizens to stay apprised of any further developments by visiting www.protectourgreatlakes.org

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: peter slaby <peterislabygrandcanyon@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 9:47 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: WAUKESHA WATER DIVERSION.....SLABY COMMENTS

Fri 28 August 2015 2147

To : Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources ,
From: Peter I. Slaby

WDNR ,

Please record me as a NO ! ! regarding Waukesha's application to divert Lake Michigan water .

AND

please record me as a NO ! ! to WDNR approving Waukesha's plan . I have reviewed my copies of the Draft Technical Review.....and.....Draft E . I . S . You have heard from lots of people.....and technical specialists about credible new data showing no need to tap into Lake Michigan . I , Peter Slaby , agree with people , I TRUST ! !

Waukesha's desire to expand the WATER SERVICE AREA outside the confines of the city , smacks of crass preparation for more URBAN SPRAWL . This cavalier desire to set a precedent must be stopped , in its tracks . For those who say " Well , It is only just a little bit.....who is really going to notice ? ". may I offer a comment from the French philosopher : Francois--Marie Arouet (B. 1694--D.1778) better known as VOLTAIRE :

" NO SNOWFLAKE IN AN AVALANCHE EVER FEELS RESPONSIBLE "

Lastly , ...all you Wisconsin D N R FOLKS better think seriously about your

professional reputations . The EMASCULATION of our once esteemed Wisconsin Depart--

ment of Natural Resources , that is currently continuing from that REPUBLICAN CABAL, IN POWER SINCE 2011, is rapidly eroding my trust in much of WDNR ' s actions .

" QUO VADIS ? ?.....WDNR.....

SINCERELY ,

Peter I. Slaby

peterislabygrandcanyon@yahoo.com

740 E. Linus Street #223

Milwaukee , Wisconsin 53207

414--342--1735 (landline)

8/25/15

DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 28 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

Attention

Ashley Noekstra

I am a resident of Waukesha and living much into the environment and been for a long time. When I was a kid we had to pump our water from a well outdoors and carry into the house for use.

People now take to much for granted, turn on the faucet and there's the water. I've been aware a long time about the water situation in Waukesha. We have water restrictions but they aren't enforced and it seems no one cares. I live in a downtown apartment and watering of the flowers is done everyday very early in the morning and late at nite against the rules. We must have beautiful flowers but no one cares about having drinking water and most of that water runs down into the street.

I don't think we will or should we be getting water from Lake Michigan - If by chance it should go thru then other cities located in the Great Lakes basin would want the water too.

The city of Waukesha say we have cancer causing radium in our drinking water but I'm here to tell you I'm 85 yrs old and have been drinking this water since 1957 and I don't have cancer.

We <u>should not</u> get water from Lake Michigan. A moratorium needs to be put on no more building out of city limits and put

a concentrated effort needs to be made to inform the people of the dire situation. You talk to people and they say "oh there's no water shortage" and also the rules that have been made need to be reenforced.

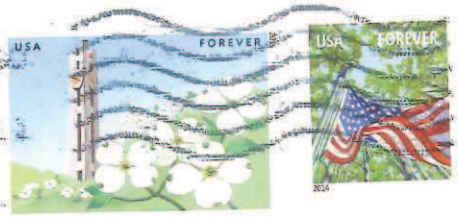
People take their water for granted and therefore they waste it. and fracking needs to be stopped because besides using gallons of water to get the oil out of the ground our water is being polluted and the plates underground are being moved and causing earthquakes.

Don't take your water for granted or we won't have any to drink. My daughter is a geologist so I am well informed.

No water from Lake Michigan

Ms. Shirley Snopek
110 Corrina Blvd Apt 379
Waukesha, WI 53186-3708

MILWAUKEE WI 532
26 AUG 2015 PM 1 L



Ashley Noekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI
53707-7921

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Jody <jbspencer@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 11:53 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Water supply

Please do not allow Waukesha to further burden Lake Michigan as a water source and tie into other supplies. Let them pursue other options and treat their own water supply.
Thank you

Bryon Spencer
1945 Saturn Ave
Racine WI 53404

Sent from my iPhone

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Jody <jdspencer436@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:40 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha water problems

Please do not allow Waukesha to further burden Lake Michigan as a water source. Let them pursue other options and treat their water supply.
Thank you

Joan Spencer
1945 Saturn Ave
Racine WI 53404

Sent from my iPhone

Dear DNR,

As a resident of the Great Lakes region, I support the protection of the Great Lakes as a vital natural resource and a national treasure. The Great Lakes provide the foundation of our identity as a region. The City of Waukesha's request for Great Lakes water threatens that identity. I urge the DNR to deny Waukesha's application to divert Great Lakes water for the following reasons:

- Waukesha's application does not pass legal muster under the federally ratified Great Lakes Compact.
- Waukesha has a safe, sustainable and treatable water supply available to its residents that does not require using water from the Great Lakes.
- Investing in existing infrastructure is the cheapest, fastest and safest option for Waukesha to meet radium and public health standards by 2018.

RECEIVED DNR
AUG 28 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

Sincerely,

PRINT NAME Ron Spitz SIGNATURE Ron J Spitz

ADDRESS 110 CORRINA Blvd CITY Waukesha

ZIP 53186 PHONE 262-501-3386 EMAIL rjspitz@wi.rr.com

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

(1) Request that you consider the entire "comprehensive analysis" by GZA Geo Environmental Inc. for the Compact Implementation Coalition.

(2) Revisit "aquifer sustainability" this needs further review since there appears to be some "rebounding" in a 4yr period.

(3) Reconsider + Evaluate ION Exchange / Reverse OSMOSIS for Wauhesha WATER.

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Robin Squier <amro016@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 10:08 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha's water

Do not let Lake Michigan water be diverted for Waukesha residents. It sets a dangerous precedent. Waukesha's radium problems should be addressed by Waukesha through treatment
http://urbanmilwaukee.com/pressrelease/a-great-lakes-diversion-is-not-necessary-for-waukesha/

Robin Squier
Milwaukee, WI
Sent from my iPhone

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Judy <ja_stadler@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 11:13 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: No to Waukesha water diversion plan

Dear Wisconsin DNR,

Waukesha should not be granted the right to draw water from Lake Michigan to expand their uncontrolled development. All citizens of the Great Lakes Basin are entering a period in which climate is changing rapidly and we must preserve all assets possible. Lake Michigan and Lake Superior are the greatest climate mitigating assets we have. Our children and grandchildren will need them. It is highly irresponsible to support rapidly expanding commercial and industrial development in an area removed from the lake shoreline, but that requires extraction of millions of gallons of precious fresh water from our lake. In the 1970s and early 1980s our family lived in Oklahoma. The eastern part of the state had ample rainfall at that time but the western counties had regular summer droughts. A group of western Oklahoma ranchers, farmers and oil and gas interests seriously proposed building a water pipeline from eastern Oklahoma rising nearly 2000 feet as it crossed hundreds of miles of the state to western Oklahoma. The primary use would have been to irrigate crops that should never be grown on dry land Oklahoma. The cost was estimated to be $2 billion at that time, over 30 years ago. Fortunately environmental groups and state scientists were able to make the case that this solution was not the right answer. The taxpayers of Oklahoma should be grateful. The state of California is locked into making bad water decisions in a time of drought, all because it made bad water deals many years ago, when the science was not so clear.

I hope scientists and people concerned about the entire Great Lakes basin are heard in this case. Say no to Waukesha diversion.

Thank you,

Judith Stadler
5629 Nutone St.
Fitchburg WI
608-276-0109

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Katherine Stahl <stahland@centurytel.net>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 11:12 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha diversion of Great Lakes Water

Dear DNR Staff:

I respectfully request that you deny Waukesha's application at this point. It is my understanding that Waukesha
1) has not sufficiently considered alternate water sources,
2) has not adequately pursued water conservation measures
3) and has not considered the impact of phosphorous pollution with their recharge plan.

It is important to maintain our stewardship of the Great Lakes Compact. I don't want an ill considered exception allow others to degrade the intent and the actual goals of the Compact.

Respectfully,
Katherine Stahl
N7607 1010 St.
Elk Mound, WI 54739

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Carol Stein <cstein@firstweber.com>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 2:16 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha WI, Application for Great Lakes

I would just like to say that we all know clean water is essential to quality of life and aside from health, effects many other aspects of our lives. Therefore I would hope that you, the DNR would seriously considered granting Waukesha's application to obtain Lake Michigan water.
Waukesha water currently has depleting ground water supplies and high radon levels which are at what the government considers to be unsafe. It seems like the DNR considers the use of Lake Michigan to be a reasonable solution to this problem.
The Lake Michigan/Great lakes is protected from abuse by the Great Lakes Compact which ONLY allows use by straddling counties. Waukesha will also be returning a large portion of the water used. I understand that by allowing Waukesha to use and return this water supply, the Root River flow would be improved which in turn will help fishery and recreational fishing economy.
It is my hope also that the DNR will make a sound & practical decision as they historically do. This is not about politics but it is about quality of life & good economics.
Sincerely,
Carol Stein
First Weber Group
262-385-1336
cstein@firstweber.com

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Anne Steinberg <asteinberg@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 4:38 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Comments opposing Waukesha Diversion Application

Dear DNR,

I am a resident of the Great Lakes region, having lived in Milwaukee for 26 years and in Chicago for 10 years before that. Before that I was born and lived in the southwestern US. This life experience makes me especially treasure the Great Lakes as a special national resource.

I ask the DNR to deny Waukesha's application to divert Great Lakes water. I believe that a more cost effective solution has been recently presented by the Coalition which shows that Waukesha can provide safe water for their residents without diversion.

- I believe that the DNR should only consider the city of Waukesha in the application process. There has been no evidence that surrounding areas meet the requirements for diversion – needing the water and having tried conservation first.
- From what I learned at the hearing and from other investigation, Waukesha has other options for providing safe drinking water. They could treat groundwater to remove radium. This could provide them with cleaner water than Lake Michigan. Let's put our water experts to work and let them help Waukesha do this.
- The DNR should revisit their analysis that wetlands would be harmed if Waukesha doesn't start to use Great Lakes water. New evidence shows that groundwater levels have risen in recent years. With more conservation and treating their water, Waukesha shouldn't have to drill more deep wells.
- I'm concerned about the possible negative impacts on the Root River, especially if during dry periods its flow is almost entirely Waukesha wastewater and to Lake Michigan. And there might also be unintended impacts on the Fox River and that watershed.

  There have been too many changes to the Great Lakes & Wisconsin rivers caused by projects that had unintended effects – just look at the dams that are now being removed, canals and Great Lakes shipping that have very much changed and harmed Lake Michigan. Why take a risk with this diversion project when there is an alternative of treating Waukesha's water for radium?
- The Great Lakes are an invaluable resource and the DNR should be extra careful about approving an inadequate diversion application and opening the gates to other ill-advised plans. In other words, set a precedent of caution.

In summary, the DNR should turn down Waukesha's application for diversion and instead encourage the City of Waukesha develop an alternative plan to supply water from their own area by investing in more affordable infrastructure to treat their water.

Sincerely,

Anne Steinberg
2034 N. Prospect Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Steve <woodcrest@twc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 12:31 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha County Request for Lake Michigan water

Waukesha County claims that is has a water problem yet it continues to build new subdivisions, large shopping centers, apartment complexes, and large business parks at break neck speed.

Waukesha County has no restrictions on water use.

Waukesha County "wants" a new water supply but it doesn't "need" it.

We should sell Lake Michigan water to Waukesha County, one 12 ounce bottle at a time.

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: stridernmike@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 7:16 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: lake diversion

I would like to register my objection to the plan to allow Waukesha to divert water from Lake Michigan. I am against this plan. I have followed the process and am well read on the subject. I do not accept the claims of the Waukesha planners and think there is a better, less wasteful way to deal with their water problems. The Compact Implementation Coalition has already suggested other less costly and damaging alternatives. I think it is an unacceptable plan and would set a dangerous precedent.

Alexander M. Jacobs
3438 North 49th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Great Lakes Water Division

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 26 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

8/23/2015

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water + Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Ms. Hoekstra & the DNR,

I am a resident of the great lakes basin &
I would urge you to DENY the
application for a water diversion - Waukesha's
proposal.

I urge you to deny Waukesha's application
for a diversion of Lake Michigan water
and avoid setting a dangerous precedent
for Wisconsin.

With Regards, Sara Strom Grnowski
608-628-4331

111 Acker Court
Verona, WI 53593

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: John Stuckert <jstuckert4@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 9:38 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Great Lakes water

Please stick to the wise rules of our forebarers and leave Great Lakes Water in its own water shed. We need to have limits and Waukesha (where I live) needs to make do.
How?
No watering lawns
Landscape with indigenous plants
Flush less/use low flow shower heads and update toilets to new standards Manage run off from roads better Pool tax Rain barrels...

Water is precious... Can't take it for granted and let this easy fix pass.

-John Stuckert
Pewaukee, Wis.

Sent from my iPhone

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Neal Styka <neal.styka@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 1:11 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: No Water Diversion Needed

To Whom it May Concern,

As a resident of the city of Waukesha and a civil engineer, I don't think that the city needs water from Lake Michigan. I don't think a compelling case that the city can't find more reasonable local water supply. A local water supply would disrupt less area in terms of building a pipeline as well as waste water being returned to local areas with need to pipe it to a waterway that is already compromised by pollution. In addition there is no way to be certain that water provided to Waukesha from outside the watershed would make it back. For instance lawn and garden watering, leaking pipes, surface evaporation as well as other things would mean the water is not returned to the Great Lakes watershed. Waukesha could also do much more in terms of reducing its water needs. Through implementing more "grey" and "blue" water infrastructure like using low water plantings, creating green and blue roofs, recycling grey water at some of the biggest water users in the city. Additionally I have seen many people watering their lawns and water running off their lawns and driveways into the street's catch basins. For these reasons I would seek that the DNR does not allow the proposal for Waukesha to get water from Lake Michigan to go forward.

Thank you,

Neal Styka
711 Lincoln AVE
Waukesha, WI 53186

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Nancy Sullivan <nancycarla@me.com>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2015 11:33 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Lake Michigan

I write this note expressing my disapproval of the DNR plan to divert Lake Michigan waters to Waukesha. The Great Lakes Compact was designed to keep things like this from happening, and now it appears likely that it WILL happen. Waukesha has known for decades that it sat on bad water, yet the city continued to issue building permits allowing for sprawling growth, and now Lake Michigan is being tapped for water. Nothing in the city's past decision making has proven to me that Waukesha has conserved water usage, treated water, recycled water, nothing. Why is draining the lake the best option?
I vote against Waukesha using the lake as the answer to their problem.
Civilizations have gone extinct because of bad water, perhaps Waukesha should too.

Nancy C. Sullivan
Racine, Wisconsin

Sent from my iPad

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Amy Taivalkoski <ataivalkoski@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 3:53 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Water DIversion.

As a resident of Waukesha county, I am opposed to the Waukesha water diversion plan. I understand Waukesha's desire to get an ample supply of water lined up for the future, but Waukesha is just one town in the scope of this country. What we do is precedent setting and from where I sit, we are not facing our water shortage issue with the long-term thinking that it deserves. Diversion is taking the easy way out, easy that is except for the burden that will be placed on Waukesha tax payers for decades to come. Easy except for the flash flooding and pollution that will be added to the root river.

Besides serious conservation efforts, why not take a more sustainable route land be a model for others to follow. http://milwaukeeriverkeeper.org/non-diversion-solution-provides-waukesha-with-abundant-supply-of-safe-clean-drinking-water/

Thanks for your consideration,

Amy Taivalkoski
W231N7458 E Stoneridge Ct
Sussex, WI 53089

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Caryl Terrell <carylterrell@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 4:33 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Public Comment for the DNR revies of the Waukesha Diversion Application

August 28, 2015

Ashley Hoekstra

DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater

Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707-7921

DNRWaukeshaDiversionApp@wisconsin.gov

Dear Ms Hoekstra:

I am commenting on the Waukesha Diversion Application and DNR's June 2015 Draft Environmental Impact Statement because of my lifelong fascination with our Great Inland Seas – the Great Lakes- and support for the Great Lakes Compact.

I urge the DNR to disapprove the Diversion Application from the City of Waukesha for several reasons:

- The Compact Implementation Coalition's July 9, 2015, memo details new information not previously considered by the Department which must be evaluated in the final EIS and Technical Review. The solution proposed by the Coalition constitutes a "reasonable water supply alternative" under the definition in Wisconsin's Statutes (at Wis. Stats. §281.346 (4)(e)1.d.). Because of the fact of the existence of this reasonable water supply alternative, the Department must deny Waukesha's diversion proposal.

- Waukesha has not shown that they meet the high bar set by the Great Lakes Compact to even ask for Great Lakes water. The City has discredited local water supplies to build the case for tapping into Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes system.

- Waukesha has created a false need for water by including a proposed expanded water supply service area in its application (an increase of 40 percent) and has inflated future water demand estimates by cherry picking data to make reasonable alternatives seem unreasonable—all for the sake of industrial and residential expansion outside the city limits.

- Communities in the "expanded" service area have not demonstrated a need for water and have not enacted any conservation measures (per Compact requirements).

- Waukesha can sustainably meet its current and future water needs for its existing water supply service area by treating existing deep groundwater wells for radium and other contaminants, while continuing to use its existing shallow wells. For example, recent data shows that water demand has decreased significantly, and that decline in water pumping by Waukesha and surrounding communities has led to a significant rebound in the deep aquifer.

It is important that DNR its decision been science-based especially since this is the first and therefore precedent setting decision under the Great Lakes Compact. The science points clearly to disapproving this Lake Michigan Water Diversion Application by the City of Waukesha.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Respectfully,

Caryl Terrell

19 Red Maple Trail

Madison WI 53717

608.833.8828

Caryl Terrell
19 Red Maple Trail
Madison WI 53717
608.833.8828 home; 608.213.4648 mobile
NEW EMAIL caryterrell@gmail.com

P.O. Box 510373
New Berlin WI 53151
Email: iems@aol.com
Telephone: 512 214-3043

June 29, 2015

Ms Ashley Hoekstra
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
P O Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921

Dear Ms Hoekstra:

COMMENTS ON THE CITY OF WAUKESHA WATER DIVERSION (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND TECHNICAL REVIEW)

Thank you for providing this opportunity to provide feedback to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) on the environmental and technical reviews of the proposal by the City of Waukesha (Waukesha County) to access water from the Great Lakes (Lake Michigan).

I have reviewed the documents posted on the WDNR website and would like to offer the following comments (http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wateruse/waukeshadiversionapp.html). Specifically, there are two weaknesses with this review; namely, (1) there seems to be a predisposition to the City of Waukesha having no alternative but to be allowed to utilize water from Lake Michigan, and (2) there is likely to be a significant impact on the Fox-Illinois River which has not been considered.

With regard to the second of these concerns, I would like to suggest that the failure to address the impacts on the Fox-Illinois River is a serious shortcoming of these reports. The statement that such impact assessment is not required under the Great Lake Compact is disingenuous at best and a major oversight likely to affect stakeholders in both Wisconsin and Illinois. In this regard, while the WDNR does not have a duty specifically to the citizens of Illinois, the Department clearly has a duty to protect the interests and environment of the people of the State of Wisconsin, whether or not this is specifically required in terms of the Great Lake Compact. Consequently, neglecting the impacts on the Fox-Illinois River because such consideration is not required by the Great Lakes Compact is a major shortcoming that invalidates the findings of the reports. By adopting this stance, the Department is neglecting its responsibilities under Chapter NR 1 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code* and other State *Statutes* and regulations.

With regard to the impacts on the Fox-Illinois River, I am aware that serious concerns have been expressed both by the Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission and the Illinois Fox Waterway Agency. The former expressed concerns about the likely reductions in flow in the Fox River that could seriously impact recreational water use by humans and aquatic habitat available to all of the species that exist along the mainstem of the River (and, to a lesser extent, its tributaries). These include several species of fishes and other aquatic organisms listed as threatened, endangered or of special concern by the State of Wisconsin. The latter agency shares the same concerns regarding the recreational opportunities offered by the River but also raises concerns regarding availability of water for human use,

given that many downstream communities depend upon surface water in the Fox-Illinois River for domestic water supply.

It is noted that the current flow in the Fox-Illinois River is in part comprised of treated wastewater effluent discharged by the City of Waukesha in the upper middle reaches of the River. Given that the water that forms the major source of this discharge is drawn from both the surficial and deep aquifers underlying the River watershed, it can be considered to be water destined for the Fox River. Diverting this effluent to Lake Michigan via the Root River could seriously diminish the river flows. In this regard, the statement that drafting of the aquifers will diminish under the proposed accession of Great Lakes water is not wholly correct, since the Great Lakes Compact requires the return of a volume equal to or greater than that abstracted from Lake Michigan. Consequently, some measure of the water being returned will still have to be drawn from the region's aquifers in order to replace water lost from the conveyance system or consumed within the City.

With regard to the first of the concerns, some of the assumptions associated with the technical and environmental assessments reflect the apparent predisposition to accept the contention that the City of Waukesha requires water from Lake Michigan. I note several concerns below.

- Costs exclude the costs of water softeners that are borne by individuals: The rationale suggests that these costs are likely to continue even after a diversion occurs, given that the outlying areas of the City and its environs will continue to rely on individual wells, and that, across the proposed service area, it is anticipated that use of water softeners will not only continue but increase due to new construction. Based upon this assumption, access to Great Lakes water will not affect the increasing trends in chloride concentrations in surface waters and surficial groundwater.

- Modelling does not consider impacts on the Fox River: To provide for the required volumes of return flow, the City will have to continue to pump groundwater (or use Fox River water) to make up losses from the conveyance system and consumptive use. The modelling also does bot evaluate the loss of flow in the Fox River system due to the diversion of the wastewater, historically discharged to the Fox River, to Lake Michigan. In this regard, impacts on the downstream communities along the Fox River are ignored. While such consideration may not be required by the Great Lake Compact, the WDNR has a duty to the citizens of the State of Wisconsin (and others, under Chapter IX of the *Wisconsin Constitution*) to consider these impacts.

- Impacts on the Genesee Lakes and the other lakes in Western Waukesha County are likely to be due to local development surrounding these lakes and not related to the City of Waukesha: Inclusion of these waterbodies in the evaluation is a "red herring" as the communities surrounding these lakes are more closely related to actions being implemented by the Cities of Delafield and Pewaukee than by the actions of the City of Waukesha; wastewater from these communities is conveyed, for the most part, to the Delafield-Hartland Pollution Control Commission and discharged to the Rock River basin rather than the Fox River. These communities outside of the City of Waukesha jurisdiction are likely to view the acquisition of Great Lakes water by the City of Waukesha as an opportunity to increase their own pumping from the local aquifers. This suggests that any reduction in pumping by the City of Waukesha may be offset by pumping by other communities.

- The foregoing suggests that the boundaries of the City of Waukesha service area have been "gerrymandered" to meet the requirements of the Great Lakes Compact rather than reflecting the actual current and proposed future conditions in the City. The suggestion that the City of Waukesha will extend water supply services along the major highways to the west and southwest of the City fails to take into account the topography of these areas that makes distribution to these areas problematical. It could be suggested that the reason why such service has not been extended to these areas to date has been the fact that it is not economical to pump the water (and/or wastewater) to (and from) these areas.

- The role of conservation savings have been drastically under-estimated: The demographic statistics included in the analyses suggest a doubling of the City of Waukesha population. While this could be challenged on the basis of the forecasts alone, it is problematic also because it fails to recognize that most recent changes in the City of Waukesha population have occurred as a result of large-lot subdivision development based upon individual well and septic systems (onsite wastewater treatment systems). This is unlikely to change as a result of the topography of the areas within which the development has taken place, and the fact that much of this development lies outside of the City of Waukesha boundary. Likewise, the much touted conservation program does not take into account the actual circumstances within the City; specifically the toilet rebate program is applicable to owner occupied single family homes, ignoring the very large percentage of the City's population that reside in multi-family dwellings which are not covered under this program. Considerable water savings could potentially be had if these multi-family dwellings were retrofitted with low flow toilets, faucets and shower heads. Further, rather than eliminating lawn watering, which could result in additional water savings, there only have been limitations placed on such watering.

- The loss of industries from the City and the shift toward service industries rather than manufacturing as a factor in the stated reduction in water use has not been considered: This lack of consideration would result in a much greater impact on "water conservation" that is unrelated to the conservation measures of the City of Waukesha.

- With regard to cost estimates, it is not clear whether the cost of return flow conveyances has been considered, or whether the costs only include pumping to the City from the Great Lakes shoreland. It also seems as if the cost analysis does not consider the operation and maintenance costs. An assumption that these would be similar across the board does not reflect the need for pumping both ways across the mid-continental divide. The evaluation also seems to suggest that the length of the pipelines and the need for pumping installations is based upon straight-lines rather than on the actual routes that such conveyances would have to follow. In addition, the costs associated with the higher levels of wastewater treatment, using chemical technologies, do not seem to be fully considered. The likely benefits to be achieved with respect to chloride reductions are over-estimated, especially given the statement elsewhere in the assessments that suggest that the use of water softeners in likely to increase in proportion to the volume of water used.

- Finally, it is strongly suggested that a more realistic consideration be given to the potential areas that could be supplied with potable water by the City of Waukesha. Just because wastewater from septic pumpage is conveyed to the City of Waukesha wastewater treatment plant does not justify extending the water supply service area into these areas, which may not be

"economically" served by piped potable supplies. The coincidence of the water supply and sewerage districts is an artefact and not necessarily a reasonable and practical reflection of reality. By reflecting the likely practical conditions affecting water supply and wastewater management, the potential numbers likely to be served could be substantially reduced, increasing the per capita costs and making the accession of Great Lakes water prohibitively expensive compared with other (enhanced conservation and alternative supply) options.

Consequently, it is my contention that the analyses should be more comprehensive, including consideration of the impacts to the Mississippi River basin, especially, but not exclusively, with the State of Wisconsin, and not just limited to the consideration of factors required under the Great Lakes Compact. It also is recommended that the basic assumptions underlying the analyses be more critically examined to ensure that these are realistic. Under such more objective consideration, it is likely that the Great Lakes option will be considerably more expensive than the introduction of stricter conservation measures, use of alternative surface water supplies in conjunction with groundwater sources, and a more realistic service area.

Lastly, I would note that I was a customer of the Waukesha Water Utility from 1992 through 2013.

Thank you for the opportunity to share these concerns.

Best regards,

Jeffrey A. Thornton PhD PH

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: IEMS@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2015 4:09 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Comments on Waukesha Diversion EIA and Technical Analysis
Attachments: Waukesha Water Comment.pdf

Dear Ms Hoekstra,
Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the two Analyses of the City of Waukesha Great Lakes water application. My comments are attached as an Adobe pdf document. Please let me know if you need any clarification or would like me to forward the document as hard copy.
Best regards,
Jeffrey A. Thornton PhD PH
International Environmental Management Services Ltd
P O Box 510373
New Berlin WI 53151-0373
Tel: (512) 214-3043

8/25/2015

DNR Bureau of Drinking Water
and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, Wi 53707-7921

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 28 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

Dear Ms. Hoekstra:

According to my newsletter from the John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club - comments on the diversion of Lake Michigan water to Waukesha are due by August 28th.

Common Sense dictates that a diversion of our water to Waukesha is an incomprehensibly bad idea. You are the Department of Natural Resources - aren't you sworn to protect them? How long do you think our fresh water is going to last if you divert it to people and companies outside the basin?

I am appalled that this diversion is even open for discussion.

It's bad enough that there is a major land grab going on in Milwaukee and several Wisconsin communities, we do not need elected officials surrendering our source of fresh water.

Please protect our state and it's natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

Marie Toussaint
3540 N. Maryland Ave #5
Shorewood, WI 53211

GREENPEACE
Ms. Marie Toussaint
3540 N. Maryland Ave.
Apt. 5
Milwaukee, WI 53211

MILWAUKEE WI 530
26 AUG 2015 PM 5 L

Ms Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water
and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, Wi 53707-7921

53707792121

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Tamara Towns-Pozorski <tetowns@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 11:20 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Support decision to allow Waukesha to use Lake Michigan water

I am writing to you to tell you of my support in favor of letting Waukesha use Lake Michigan water.
Clean water is a basic utility and governmental service that homeowners rely on for their quality of life. Just as spotty electrical service, bad roads, or underperforming schools negatively impact a property's value, so too will a poor water supply to the homes and businesses in Waukesha.The limited alternatives to diverting Lake Michigan water to Waukesha would be cost prohibitive and cause further economic hardship to property owners in Waukesha.

For these and many other reasons, I think that you should allow Waukesha to use Lake Michigan water.
Thank you,
Tamara Towns-Pozorski

6110 N. Sunny Point Rd.
Glendale, WI 53209
August 16, 2015

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 18 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Attn: Ashley Hoekstra

I have followed the discussion surrounding the request by the City of Waukesha to purchase Lake Michigan water from the City of Oak Creek and return treated water to Lake Michigan in Racine via the Root River.
While not a technician nor an environmental engineer, I have several concerns regarding the DNR Technical Review and EIS.

1. Technicians and environmental engineers cannot change the fact that the City of Waukesha remains located in the Mississippi River Basin. A city in this location should obtain its water from the Mississippi River Basin and return the water to the basin.
2. The City of Waukesha has not only proposed obtaining Lake Michigan water for itself, but also for an area called "an extended service area" which reportedly includes portions of the Town of Delafield, Town of Waukesha and Pewaukee. A city can annex town land. How much future development is there going to be in annexed areas? How much of a demand for additional water will annexation create? How long will it be before Waukesha is back asking for permission to purchase more Lake Michigan water? There are too many unknowns, difficult even for experts to ascertain. The City of Waukesha has known about its current water problem for many years, yet it has continued to issue permits for land development.
3. The Root River has been in the news in the past due to flooding occurring along its flowage. The people of the City of Racine and Racine County could experience additional flooding caused by Waukesha's return water. The amount of flooding that will result from returning Waukesha water remains an unknown; Racine County should not be expected to bear this burden.

Fort Worth, Texas obtains its water from reservoirs/lakes created from the Trinity River. The Fox River, the Rock River and many lakes are available to Waukesha to obtain its needed water.

There should be no precedent set for areas outside the Lake Michigan basin to obtain Lake Michigan water.

Sincerely,

Diane Vair

203 N Comanche Lane
Waukesha, WI 53188
262 524 0335
heresjohnie@wi.rr.com

John & Darlene Trotter

August 20, 2015

DNR Bureau of Drinking Water & Ground Water
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
Atten: Ashley Hoekstra, via email

Dear Ms. Hoekstra:

Thanks for the chance to weigh in on the Waukesha Water issue. We are John & Darlene Trotter, 203 N Comanche Ln, Waukesha, WI, 53188. Both of us are avid fans of the Lake Michigan water withdrawal project.

We are very concerned about the Waukesha Water quality trouble that is here today. This proposed change will allow Waukesha to thrive as a functioning WI city and we applaud the fix proposed by the Waukesha Water Utility and Dan Duchniak. Serious issues of sustainability over time makes using Lake Michigan water an effective option and we are in favor of that option.

The option of disallowing Waukesha to use Lake water is misguided. There is a lot of misleading and wrong information about the Waukesha solution. Waukesha's small zero sum withdrawal (water in, used, treated, water back) is a non issue when compared to the ongoing enormous water diversion (water in, water down the Mississippi, water gone) Chicago continues to do. The size of the lake volume, approximately 1180 cubic miles is unimaginable. So Waukesha's little bit will do nothing to effect any deterioration of lake resources.

Waukesha is a very old WI village, town and city that has been good stewards of water and the 70000 people whose livelihood and good health is at risk must be preserved. As has been clearly documented the radon laced ground water supply used for years is fast becoming unusable.

Please expedite our request and help us remove this threat to our cities existence. Thanks for letting us comment

.

Sincerely
John & Darlene Trotter
Waukesha

cc Dan Duchniak, Joan Francoeur
Waukesha Water Utility &
City Council Alderperson

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: John Trotter <heresjohnie@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 12:24 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Cc: dduchniak@waukesha-water.com; jfrancoeur@ci.waukesha.wi.us
Subject: Waukesha Water Project Comments
Attachments: Waukesha DNR letter in favor of lake Mich water 8-15-2015.doc

Hello: Ms. Ashley Hoekstra, DNR, Dan Duchniak Waukesha Water & Joan Francoeur Alderperson: Attached is a note from my wife and I supporting the Waukesha Water Diversion Project. Please add to the list of supporting constituents. Many thanks.

John Trotter
203 N Comanche Lane
Waukesha, WI 53188

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Charlie Tucker <crtucker2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 6:45 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Water Diversion Application

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Ashley Hoekstra,

I am a former resident of Wisconsin and often visit the state for recreation and family reasons. I strongly urge WIDNR not to approve the City of Waukesha's application to divert water from the Great Lakes. The precedent that approval will set is a terrible idea for WI and other Great Lake states. Water will be a much more valuable commodity later in this century, and it is much too early to be giving it away. Please do not approve Waukesha's application. Responsible development and reductions in use are better ways to manage our natural resources than simply taking more from finite resources.

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Charlie Tucker
PO Box 100
Roosevelt MN 56673

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: c_vassar4@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 3:37 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Root river water plan

Hello. My name is Cassie Vassar. I live on waterview circle off of spring street in Racine wi. I am writing in to express my concerns about the new water plan for root river, which nearly runs through my backyard. My home is in the flood plain of the root river, although we are in an area of low threat, this plan will increase our risk of flood drastically. Not only will our home be affected, I have concerns for our water and wildlife because of these new pollutants. The root river is a large part of our area and we need to maintain it. For most of us it is a part of our backyard and an avid spot for fishing. It is likely that this plan of increased chemical water flow will also break down our river banks, cause damage to homes and simply ruin a great aspect of our city. I vote against this proposal to allow the city of Waukesha to dump their wastewater into our river!

Sincerely,
Concerned citizen Cassie Vassar
Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE device

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Veon, Michael <Michael.Veon@aurora.org>
Sent: Friday, June 26, 2015 5:08 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Draft EIS and technical review for Waukesha Diverting water from Lake Michigan

To me diverting Lake Michigan water to Waukesha is no different than diverting it to Texas. This isn't that crazy of a statement either. We have natural gas and oil pipelines from Texas all the way to the northern most states and From Alaska and Canada to the Lower 48. Smaller pipelines and distribution networks via rail and trucks spider across the entire country.

If we make concessions for Waukesha we set a precedent for a very slippery slope to allow the same thing to happen with Great Lakes water that has already happened with oil and natural gas. Do not let Waukesha be the catalyst to destroy the Great Lakes.

Sent from my iPhone

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Mark Waeltz <markisupnorth@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 9:43 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha Water Diversion

Dear friends at DNR.
I am opposed to the proposal from Waukesha to divert water from Lake Michigan. They have failed to try to solve this on their own.
Sincerely,
Mark Waeltz

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Robin Waeltz <robinwaeltz@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 7:58 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Vote no for Waukesha Diversion

To whom it may concern.
I oppose granting Waukesha this drastic, illegal, and devastating request to take water from our great Lake Michigan.
They have not demonstrated that they have tried any other viable alternative.
We cannot start a process that will jeopardize our great fresh water source!
Sincerely,
Robin Waeltz

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Wendy Walcott <ewalcott@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 27, 2015 10:49 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Cc: abby@milwaukeeriverkeeper.org; Nathan Smallwood; Milwaukee Riverkeeper
Subject: Public Comment on Diversion of Lake Michigan Water to Waukesha County

Public Comment on the Executive Summary of the Technical Review

Summary: Diversion is the lazy way out

1. I see no requirement to stop pumping the deep or surface aquifers when conversion to Lake Micihigan surface water is completed ("buildout"). Why is this issue not addressed? In fact there seems to be an assumption that pumping will continue. This is wrong. All water is interconnected. If water is to be taken from the surface of Lake Michigan, even if it is returned, the aquifers must slowly re-charge. They supplied Lake Michigan over geological time. They should again.

2. The state of receiving water should not allow the addition of dirty returning water. Returning water should be clean, period. Do not allow lower standards for discharge to currently dirty receiving water.

3. There is no definition of "allowance for consumptive use." How much water is "consumed" rather than "used?" Does this mean that a corporation bottling Lake Michigan water can keep it? No return needed? This looks like a big loophole.

4. There should be an absolute limit on gallons per day going forward, not a limit that can be increased in future according to "reasonable" needs. Set it at !0.1 million gallons average for ever. The language is ambiguous.

To ensure that the Applicant has implemented its conservation plan and can maintain the ability to serve its entire projected water supply service area, the department would authorize up to 10.1 MGD if the Applicant could demonstrate its need for the increased demand after fully implementing its proposed water conservation plan.

5. OTHER SOLUTIONS.

In general, diversion is the lazy way out. Ultimately, even the Great Lakes region will have to learn to use the abundant rainfall we are given to better advantage. We waste most of it through careless use and imperfect infrastructure. We must learn to re-use water on site. Commercial and industrial customers must should never use potable water unless they are drinking it. Local re-use should also be encouraged in homes. Waukesha needs to clean its own water and re-use it.

We need to reduce and recycle. We need to share with the land, for our own good.

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Alice Waldo <awaldo123@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 2:16 PM
To: Pfeiffer, Shaili M - DNR
Subject: WATER DIVERSION

AS A CITIZEN OF WISCONSIN I OPPOSE ANY DIVERSION OF LAKE MICHIGAN.

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Laurel Walker <laurelwalker@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2015 2:23 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: In support of Waukesha's application for Great Lakes water

I am fully in support of Waukesha's application for Lake Michigan water.

The city has done its homework at no small expense to study the options and best solution for its radium contaminated drinking water supply. The state has done its due diligence in demanding thoroughness of that study. Now it is time to act affirmatively.

As a resident of the city, I have personally contributed to water conservation efforts, well beyond what the average state resident has done. The city's conservation efforts are remarkable. I have incorporated a rain barrel into my gardening regimen. I do not sprinkle, with rare permitted exceptions. I have new water-saving toilets and faucets in my house. And I am willing to pay the necessary higher cost that these proposed water supply improvements will demand.

Contrary to what opponents contend, Waukesha is not making a land grab and trying to feed the water thirst of its expanding territory. It has planned for future, sensible growth as has been required of it by local and state authorities. A sane plan for water service is part and parcel of that land use planning.

Clearly the need to go ever deeper for current water that is more saturated with undesirable matter is not a solution. Use of shallow wells -- the so-called Plan B -- poses untenable risks for our neighbors and the environment.

Based on the incredible record of study, use of Lake Michigan water and the accompanying plan to return the used water -- cleaner than ever -- is the only right solution.

Please give it your stamp of approval with a strong recommendation to the Great Lakes states governors that they approve it as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to enter these written comments into the record on the DNR's environmental assessment of Waukesha's application for water under the Great Lakes Compact.

Laurel Walker
614 Cheyenne Dr.
Waukesha, Wi 53188

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Jay Warner <jay.warner3@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 11:41 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Comments to the City of Waukesha Proposed Great Lakes Diversion
Attachments: ltr_to_DNR.pdf; ATT00001.htm

My comments on the Waukesha Great Lakes Diversion are attached.

Jay Warner

Ashley Hoekstra Thursday, August 27, 2015
WDNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Madison, WI 53707-7921

Dear Ms. Hoekstra;

Waukesha proposes to use Lake Michigan water in place of failing well water, which by terms of the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact (Compact) requires that most of the withdrawn Lake Michigan water be returned to the Lake. Returning that water through the Root River subjects Racine residents to all the hazards of living by a waste water outflow, while reducing the capital cost of the obtaining and returning the water by only 10%. A return flow directly to Lake Michigan would eliminate concerns by Racine's residents and relieve Waukesha from future changes in cleanliness requirements for waste water outflows.

Annually the Root River has a wide variation in water flow rate. In spring, the added flow from Waukesha, 16.1 million gallons maximum daily output, is a small part of a typical spring near-flood flow (Reference 1). But in late July, August and into September, the current flow rate is far less. The Waukesha Proposal Draft EIS states that at these times the returned water will "constitute 80 to 90 percent of the river flow" (2). This proposal will turn the Root River into a waste water outflow for months of the year, especially months when the River is most heavily used for recreation by residents.

The outflow will of course be treated, and meet the State requirements for water returned to rivers & streams. The Draft EIS states that this outflow will add chlorine, which will probably degrade the river for fish. The Root already has elevated chlorine concentration for a natural stream. The return water will add chlorine, increasing the "toxicity risk" (3). In late summer, effectively Root River water will have the same concentration of chlorine as Waukesha's outflow.

We know today that some pharmaceuticals, particularly hormone substitutes, pass through water treatment plants essentially unchanged, and return to the environment. Research in the last decade shows links between these pharmaceuticals and sexual distortions in fish (4) and amphibians, with possible links to cancerous growths on fish. Research exploring links to undesirable human development is proceeding more slowly. In a public forum, a DNR representative stated that the DNR is not authorized to monitor pharmaceutical concentrations in the outflow. There are no limits on pharmaceutical concentrations, nor means to remove them from the waste water outflow at present. The City of Waukesha is asking Racine to live by a waste water channel with known pharmaceuticals of suspected negative impact, and asking us and our children to fish, paddle and play on it. What will be the impact on the Root River's national reputation for superior fishing when strange growths are found on the fish, is another discussion.

Discharging the treated waste water directly to Lake Michigan would eliminate these concerns by diluting the outflow into the Lake.

The Waukesha proposal will obviously add water flow during very low flow periods, which can benefit fish. Unfortunately, the waste water outflow has low dissolved oxygen unless treatment process parameters are restricted (5). The added phosphorous that it also has will likely increase algal growth, reducing dissolved oxygen further (5). The added water flow is thus likely to degrade the fish habitat, negatively impacting the Root River Steelhead Facility operations.

With these unavoidable negative impacts, one must ask why Waukesha proposed this water return route. In earlier analyses, Waukesha considered the Root River return and a Direct to Lake Michigan return flow in financial detail. (6,7) The capital cost of transporting Lake Michigan water to Waukesha and back to the Lake with the Direct Lake Michigan return was $227.6 million. The Root River return option was $21.2 million lower, a 9.3% reduction. Most of the cost savings is due to a shorter return pipe. The operating & maintenance cost of the Direct return option was $7.8 million annually, $0.2 million less than the Root River return option.

It would be reasonable to surmise that Waukesha prefers the Root River return option because of the lower capital cost.

The proposal to return Lake Michigan water via the Root River would save the City of Waukesha some $21 million, or less than 10% of the capital cost of obtaining and returning the water. The present value of the pre-use and post-use treatment plants are part of the capitol cost of Waukesha's water supply system. When these values are included, the saving through the Root River return is a smaller portion of the proposed water supply system. For this cost reduction, the Root would become a waste water outflow, especially in the late summer. The added chlorine would degrade the Root for fish, the Root River Steelhead Facility and sport fishing. Today we don't clearly know the effects of sharply increased pharmaceuticals on fish. The effects of pharmaceuticals on our children, who participate in extensive recreation on the Root River, can only be suspected.

The EIS report makes frequent reference to steps for environmental protection of wetlands and other areas around Waukesha, but that environmental concern pales in comparison to the environmental damage imposed on the Root River, with its fishing, boating and other activities. One can hardly avoid the inference that turning the Root River into a waste water channel is worth $21 million to Waukesha.

Waukesha should return water directly to Lake Michigan. This choice will avoid damage to the Root River basin, as well as any litigation over possible damage. This choice of return route will let Waukesha comply with the Great Lakes Compact. With a direct return to Lake Michigan, the Root River will not become a waste water outflow, and will continue to be usable for Wisconsin residents and visitors.

References:

(1) The City of Waukesha Proposed Great Lakes Diversion, Draft Environmental Impact Statement (referenced as Draft EIS), Pg. 165. Accessed 8/25/15 from http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterUse/documents/waukesha/draftWaukeshaEIS.pdf.

(2) Draft EIS, pg. 165.

(3) Draft EIS, pg. 167

(4) Woodling, J. D, EM Lopez, TA Maldonado, DO Norris and AM Vajda. Intersex and other reproductive disruption of fish in wastewater effluent dominated Colorado streams, Comp. Biochem. Physiol.. Part C 144. 2006. pp. 10 – 15.

(5) Draft EIS, pg. 167

(6) "Alternative 2A - Lake Michigan Supply with Return Direct to Lake Michigan Near Milwaukee and Oak Creek," Revised 2/19/2015. Accessed 8/26/2015 from http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterUse/documents/waukesha/2015-02-19Alt2AOCsupplyDirectLMreturnCosts.pdf)

(7) "Summary Cost Estimates: Waukesha Supply and Return Alternatives," Revised 1/15/2014, Accessed 8/26/2015 from http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/waterUse/documents/waukesha/2014-01-15AppendixEVolume2CostEstimatesRevised.pdf

Sincerely yours,

Jay Warner
4444 N. Green Bay Road
Racine, WI 53404

jay.warner3@sbcglobal.net

123 Harrogate Drive
Waukesha, WI 53188

August 15, 2015

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
DNRWaukeshaDiversionApp@wisconsin.gov

Ms. Hoekstra,

We submit this comment in support of the City of Waukesha's application for Lake Michigan water. Based upon the City's Application and detailed scientific evidence and extensive modeling studies, we believe that Lake Michigan water is the only reasonable water supply alternative for the City, because it the most protective of public health, the least likely to have adverse environmental impacts, the most reliable, and the most sustainable long-term water source.

I (Mary)have testified during the Common Council hearings in support of this application. as my husband and I live and work in Waukesha. We fully support the city's application and also laud the DNR for its careful review of this complex application. Time consuming, I know, but time well spent as the completed application shows.

We have read much about this application, both pro and con, and believe the science in the application has been challenged and proven as the only viable option for Waukesha and the water area that it encompasses.

This is a critical economic development issue and when the application is approved under the Great Lakes Compact, it will be a great day for Waukesha business and the citizens who live here! It is also an investment in the future generations who will have access to a safe, reliable water supply.

Again, thank you and the DNR staff for all you have done to make this application a fully vetted reality.

Regards,

Mary Baer & John Kramp

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: weedmantandj@aol.com
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 1:22 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: please deny the Waukesha water diversion

August 20, 2015
Lake Michigan water should not be diverted to address Waukesha's water needs. Please deny this application. There are so many reasons why.

First, faulty figuring has allowed Waukesha's application to include areas in Waukesha that do not require or want to be part of a Waukesha water plan**.** By creating this "expanded service area" managers have created an inflated sense of need. Objections to this "miscalculation" have been made abundantly clear at a recent public hearing.

Second, Waukesha has not yet addressed conservation of water resources in any meaningful way. There is a plan but no enactment. Conservation efforts could make a huge difference in the future for Waukesha residents. In a time when people are beginning to understand water as a critical resource, how much better would it be that citizens begin to appreciate and respect water and learn not to be so frivolous in it use. This is true not just for Waukesha!

Third, Waukesha has alternative water resources which have not been adequately explored. An engineering study of one potential alternative has indicated savings of $154,000,000 over the lake diversion plan. Why should citizens be saddled with the infrastructure required to bring them Lake Michigan water and properly dispose of it at an estimated cost of $6000 per family?

Fourth, diverting water from this fresh water resource would establish a most dangerous precedent. A precedent of this type could open the Great Lakes to a plunder of immense scope/scale. What other cities could likewise make a claim? Many.

Fifth, the integrity of the environment must be protected. The historic Great Lakes Compact established that "The lakes are a treasure, not a commodity." This fresh water is necessary for animals of all sorts—from the fish that inhabit the waters to the migrating or seasonal animals. Human recreational needs—from fishing to water skiing etc.—could be harmed by on-going efforts to divert the water. The change in basic hydrology, etc. could negatively impact all creatures.

Sixth, if communities are allowed to go outside of their bounds to tap resources, citizens will never practice/learn real conservation. "Living within your means" does not apply only to finances; it applies to any limited resource. Communities need to establish guidelines that limit development to sustainable levels. Within the bounds of the community, how many homes can be supported by existing resources? How many businesses can be allowed before the character of the community changes and before the local resources give out.

For these reasons, please reject Waukesha's application to divert Lake Michigan water.

Sincerely,
Jean and Thomas Weedman
W343 S978 Red Brae Drive

Mukwonago, WI 53149

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Luan Wells <lwells8@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 11:02 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Public comment

To Whom It May Concern;

I attended the past informational & public hearing meetings in Racine, as well as a number of educational opportunities about our Great Lakes and Waukesha's problem.
I am concerned about flooding in Racine if Waukesha sends their treated water down the Root River. We have experienced this enough times in the past to know that this
is VERY likely to happen. Waukesha must assume some responsibility when that occurs. If there are preventive changes that should be made, again Waukesha and/or the
state should bear this expense.
What about the Fox River and the communities lining it? What are the repercussions for them when Waukesha is no longer sending their treated water down the Fox?
There are many unknowns presently re; pharmaceuticals in our water. Sending that much more into our lake does not deem well.
Last, I do not believe that Waukesha has adhered to the requirements of the Great Lakes Compact to make this application.

Sincerely, Luan S. Wells
111-11th St. #1CES
Racine, WI 53403

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Liz Wessel <lizmwessel@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 10:18 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Cc: Liz Wessel
Subject: Water diversion - Waukesha proposal
Attachments: Wessel diversion letter.docx

August 27th, 2015

Ashley Hoekstra

DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater

Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707-7921

DNRWaukeshaDiversionApp@wisconsin.gov

Dear Ashley Hoelstra and the Department of Natural Resources,

I live in Madison and enjoy exploring different areas of Wisconsin. I value the Great Lakes for recreation and as a world class ecosystem with unique habitats like Isle Royale.

I recognize that as the largest freshwater resource by volume other than the polar ice caps the Great Lakes are a precious resource not just for Wisconsinites but the region and the world. This mandates that we should carefully and critically consider any proposal to further tap our Great Lakes water.

Waukesha's proposal to divert water will set precedent. This is the first application to divert water from our Great Lakes since the Great Lakes Compact was ratified in 2008. This decision will either uphold the intention and purpose of the Compact or open the door to additional proposals for water withdrawal from outside the Great Lakes Basin.

This application does not demonstrate need of the last resort. In its application, Waukesha uses both water quantity and quality as the basis for its need for a diversion.

- its groundwater is contaminated by radium which has been exacerbated by further draw down of its groundwater

- and it is proposing to double the size of its water service area, manufacturing a future need for water.

Waukesha can reduce radium in its groundwater through available technology. Forty other communities in Wisconsin have opted to treat their water for radium rather than abandoning their existing water supply and diverting water from another source.

And in recent years, Waukesha's deep water supply has experienced relief with levels rebounding. With sound water management and strong conservation measures, Waukesha's water supply will be adequate for its needs. The Compact clearly indicates that diversions should not be allowed to address the future need of an expanded service area putting Waukesha's application on questionable grounds.

I strongly urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny this application for a water diversion. What concerns me the most is the question of meeting future need. By accepting Waukesha's proposal we enable communities across the region to request diversions on speculation of future population growth and development.

These are our Great Lakes. We are the stewards and this means we need to look out for the long term health of this great and irreplaceable resource. We have only just begun to value water quantity as much as we value water quality. Now is the time to challenge ourselves and our communities to find more creative ways to manage and conserve the water resources we have.

I urge you to deny Waukesha's application for a diversion of Lake Michigan water.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input into this very important issue.

Elizabeth Wessel

546 Woodside Terrace

Madison, WI 53711

lizmwessel@gmail.com

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Liz Wessel
608.204.2717 home office
lizmwessel@gmail.com

August 27th, 2015

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
DNRWaukeshaDiversionApp@wisconsin.gov

Dear Ashley Hoelstra and the Department of Natural Resources,

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I recognize that as the largest freshwater resource by volume other than the polar ice caps the Great Lakes are a precious resource not just for Wisconsinites but the region and the world. This mandates that we should carefully and critically consider any proposal to further tap our Great Lakes water.

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I strongly urge the Department of Natural Resources to deny this application for a water diversion. What concerns me the most is the question of meeting future need. By accepting Waukesha's proposal we enable communities across the region to request diversions on speculation of future population growth and development.

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I urge you to deny Waukesha's application for a diversion of Lake Michigan water.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input into this very important issue.

Liz Wessel
546 Woodside Terrace
Madison, WI 53711
lizmwessel@gmail.com

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of joewiesner@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2015 11:41 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Reject Waukesha's Diversion Application

Dear Ms. Hoekstra:

I am writing to urge you to keep the Great Lakes Compact strong and reject the Waukesha diversion plan.

The long term health of the lakes is by no means guaranteed. Waukesha has not met the requirements to justify the diversion it wants.

1. Waukesha's water needs estimate is inflated 2. Waukesha has done little in terms of conservation and has the ability to do more - and at a lower cost than any other alternative.
3. Waukesha's plan to return water to the basin puts the Root River watershed at risk. It has enough problems already.

Please reject the Waukesha diversion plan.

Sincerely,

Joseph Wiesner
2005 N. Commerce St
Milwaukee, WI 53212-3472

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Jackie Wille <jswille@earthlink.net>
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2015 7:47 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Concerned about allowing Waukesha to use Great Lakes water

Hello - As a WI resident, I am concerned about making an exception to allow use of water from the Great Lakes to Waukesha. This seems to set an alarming precedent. I believe the experts in water are saying that this diversion is not necessary and that other methods have not been exhausted.

Thanks for listening to my concerns.

Jackie Wille

8680 N Kildeer Ct

Brown Deer, WI 53209

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: John & Karen Wilson <jokawi@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2015 10:51 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: citizen comment

To all who evaluate the Waukesha proposal:

As senior citizens with life-long commitment to the protection of our shared environment, we want to register our objections to the Waukesha proposal. Because approval would set a precedent, great care must be taken to err on the side of protection. I

Particularly because the city is outside of the basin, strict interpretation is vitally necessary. The amount of the water requested, lack of meaningful consideration of alternatives, and the return of water to the basin via river, all ring alarm bells for the integrity of the Compact. Future growth and development in the community is not a proper reason to weaken our best chance to protect the Great Lakes.

Do not let the historic Compact be subverted in its first test. To do so would risk the ability of the Great Lakes to retain and regain health in these uncertain years of climate change and population increase.

Sincerely,

Karen and John Wilson
PO Box 347
Egg Harbor, WI 54209

Tom Wilson
707 Railroad Avenue
Viroqua, WI 54665
Phone 715 829 3512
resenergy@mwt.net
August 27 2015

Testimony Regarding Draft Technical Review City of Waukesha's Proposed Diversion of Great Lakes Water for Public Supply Issued June 25, 2015

I first learned if the significance of this issue in 1999 while in Seattle, Washington for the World Trade Organization's meeting in that city. While the police were rioting in the streets, I had the opportunity to take part in an international symposium on water use and diversion. What became clear to me at that gathering was that under WTO and NAFTA rules, the *only* way Wisconsin can protect itself against wholesale export of our natural water resources to anywhere in the world—sold to the highest bidder—is through a strong compact among the states and provinces of Canada restricting such diversions *without exception and with strict enforcement of all its provisions.*

The local implications of this realization became particularly clear soon thereafter during the proposed licensing of major water diversion project proposed by the Perrier Group of America at the headwaters of the Mecan River. The most detailed analysis of the implications of such diversion were outlined in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Environmental Analysis And Decision On The Need For An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Great Spring Waters of America, Inc. a.k.a. Perrier Group of America in August of 2000

What became obvious was a compelling need for enabling legislation that would allow Wisconsin to protect its water resources into the 21st Century through support and ratification and enforcement of the Great Lakes Compact.

I would like to focus particularly on findings described by the DNR in Sections 22, and 24 of their Environmental Analysis on the Perrier case: Significance of Cumulative Effects and Significance of Precedent as issued by the DNR back in 2000.

Section 22 rightfully addressed the concerns relating to the precedent-setting nature of this project with regard to potential future wholesale export of waters from our aquifer. However, the DNR analysis dismissed this concern on the basis of the nature of the water export and lumping their sole authority to examine the issue under the terms of the Great Lakes Charter "…developed mainly to address direct large-scale water withdrawals and diversions, such as via pipelines, outside the Great Lakes basin."[i] This dismissal fails to recognize the reality of the recent decisions exercised under the guidelines of the World Trade Organization (WTO) with regard to Process and Production Methods (PPMs). "Trade restrictions based on PPMs are in most cases contrary to WTO rules, unless such restrictions are necessary to enforce product performance characteristics."[ii] and a general rejection of the Precautionary Principle under which "where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation…Even a

narrow interpretation of the precautionary principle could threaten the very functioning of the multilateral trade system."[iii] [iv]

Once trade is established water becomes a readily traded commodity, these two tenants of world trade policy leave the door wide open to future mass export of our water resources by any means. The Process and Production Methods essentially says it doesn't matter whether the water is being exported in pint bottles, supertankers or pipelines; it is still water and if you allow one company to export it is one form you can't restrict another from choosing a different means of packaging or transport. And the rejection of the Precautionary Principle demands absolute proof that irreversible damage will occur despite the overwhelming wishes of the local populace or their government.

At present, there are probably more questions than answers under world trade regulations. These ambiguities should not preclude the DNR from considering their ramifications as part of this permitting process lest we find ourselves unable to act in the future because of lack of foresight in the pursuit of short-term profits for outside private firms. Just as we now find ourselves unable to restrict the influx of municipal wastes from Minnesota's and Illinois to our overburdened waste facilities or are forced to accept unwanted polluting power plants designed to meet out-of state energy demand, so too we could soon find ourselves unable to restrain those who would choose to build a pipeline or run super tankers to export our pristine water resources to distant states or even foreign countries.

In section 24 of the environmental assessment, the DNR presumed that the approval of this project would not supercede its authority to deny future water extraction projects. "A decision on this project would not commit the Department in making future decisions for similar projects at other locations."[v] This may be true within the confines of *State* law but here again, the DNR had failed to consider the historic record of how the World Trade Organization and other supra-national tribunals have decided similar matters. To these organizations, precedent is supreme because any divergence from a previously enacted policy is deemed an unfair restraint of trade. The International Joint Commission to the Governments of Canada and the United States agrees when it explains, "The Commission believes it is unlikely that water in its natural state (e.g., in a lake, river, or aquifer) is included within the scope of any of these trade agreements since it is not a product or good. When water is "captured" and enters into commerce, it may, however, attract obligations under the GATT, the FTA, and the NAFTA."[vi] And "The NAFTA trade obligations with respect to goods…(make) it more difficult to "turn off the tap" once trade in water has been established."[vii]

Lest the legislature or the DNR assume that their own position is defensible within its own internal policies of protection of the environment and "Any such proposals would be considered on their own merits and issues according to applicable regulatory rules/processes," the historic track record of the WTO tribunals is that whenever a decision has been reached where environmental concerns conflict with free access to trade opportunities—in excess of 30 such decisions—the environment has lost *every* time[viii] superceding state, national or even transnational agreements (such as the Great Lakes Compact).[ix]

Once wholesale water export is defined as a commodity available for international trade, there is little or nothing the DNR or anyone else can do to help stem the flow. It is no less than the World Bank seeking privatization of water utilities that is pressing this approach to resource allocation.[x] "Under NAFTA and the WTO agreements, a government cannot reduce or restrict the export of a resource to another signatory country once the export flow has been established…if the export of water were to commence between NAFTA countries, the tap couldn't be turned off, even if new evidence found that massive movements of water were harmful to the environment."[xi]

As long as we do not begin selling off this vital resource, it is safe under present international trade structures; "NAFTA creates no rights to the natural water resources of any party; that *unless water, in any form, has entered into commerce and has become a good or product*, it is not covered by the provisions of any trade agreement."[xii] However, "Sales of water that are allowed could not be restricted to the domestic market"[xiii]

The DNR carried its obligations for the Perrier project as far as its obligations under the Great Lakes Compact but it has failed to consider the larger global implications of this decision. There is no indication in the text of their analysis or in the list of experts consulted that the DNR has considered the international legal implications of this project.

We *do* live in a global economy and water resources are clearly a global issues. The Middle East is in turmoil over control of the Golan Heights source of fresh water for Israel and Palestine. Saddam Hussein's attempted annihilation of the Kurdish people was less a racial war than a war to control the headwaters of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Water resource wars have been fought for decades in America's Western states and are ongoing as cattle ranchers fight Los Angeles developers and mining interests over access to this precious resource. *It is technically and economically feasible to meet these water needs from Wisconsin's aquifers!* And several proposals have been put forth to accomplish that very end.[xiv] "Water is the commodity of the next century, and those who posses it and control it could be in a position to control the world's economy."[xv] The time is *now* to define whether we consider our pure water a resource we wish to preserve for our own people or whether we are willing to define it as a commodity for others to sell to the rest of the world.

We've never fought the battle over water rights here in Wisconsin because we believed we had an unlimited resource. Even this DNR analysis claims "From a global perspective water is a renewable resource."[xvi] The question is not whether the world will run out of water—there are plenty of oceans to tap—the concern is that *fresh, potable* water is *not* a renewable resource and as long as we continue on the path we are heading in this decision, it is a steadily depleting resource (we shouldn't have to remind the DNR of this fact). Only about one percent of the water in the Great Lakes is renewed by rain each year.[xvii] The very fact that Perrier's customers need our resource attests to the fact that people in other parts of the country and the world have already either used up or befouled their own "renewable" resource of potable water. It is to the credit of the DNR, Wisconsin's responsible agricultural and manufacturing community and everyone one of its concerned citizens that we have been able to preserve this precious resource for our own use. Let us not turn our backs on that legacy simply for the benefit of a few foreign stockholders of a multinational corporation or the short term profit of a handful of landowners or real estate developers who might make a few thousand bucks off of this deal.

Wisconsin regulates its water usage through a "…form of Public Trust Doctrine, that maintains that the state holds navigable waters and certain other water resources as an aspect of sovereignty…Allocation rules in this case can be based on historical facts (such as prior rights), on equal shares in available water volumes, on individual requirements, or even based on political pressure."[xviii]

In fact, beyond this vague concept Wisconsin does not have a comprehensive water rights policy in place and with the exception of a direct threat of depleting a municipal water supply, this lack of comprehensive policy simply opens up our resource to any individual who wants to buy a couple of acres of land and sink a well. We all know that the aquifer being tapped does not respect that legal surface boundary of the property line. The fact that the legislature has not as yet dealt with this issue in a comprehensive manner

should not excuse the DNR from considering the environmental implications of water mining in the absence of such regulations. As the International Joint Commission admonishes, "If governments in Canada and the United States want to avoid falling within the investment provisions of the NAFTA, they should avoid creating undue expectations by clearly articulating their water-management policies in a fully transparent manner, by acting in a manner that is entirely consistent with their stated policy."[xix]

The DNR at that time recognized the limitations of its analysis when in Section 22 it stated, "…it can be expected that there will be an increasing future demand on available water resources. This will also increase the chance of future conflicts over water use. For the Department to properly and fully address and prevent serious water resource or use problems in the future, the Department believes changes are needed to clarify and expand the Departments'(sic) regulatory authority."[xx] As primary watchdog to Wisconsin's environment, the DNR has been sounding the alarm to this potential threat. The DNR's analysis on issues like this go far beyond the narrow state-mandated regulatory authority under present regulations. It should focus on the Department's primary mandate by analyzing the broad environmental impacts and protecting Wisconsin's resources by looking at the whole picture including the environmental threat of international trade precedent.

Section 24 b. requires the DNR to "Describe any conflicts the proposal has with plans or policy of local, state or federal agencies that provide for the protection of the environment. [and] Explain the significance."[xxi] Since State and Federal policy is now dictated by the new political/economic realities of world trade rules and sanctions, such a global regulatory analysis is essential to really understand the significance of this permit. What the DNR allows here will set the precedent for what the WTO will insist on in future claims to Wisconsin's water resources. Just as the DNR must, by extension, consider its authority, obligations and the implications of its local decisions under the umbrella of State, Federal, interstate commerce and Great Lakes Compact agreements, so too must it *here* consider the decisions it makes under the *realpolitik* of international law, US international treaty obligations and the omniscient hand of the World Trade Organization.

There are far wiser voices than I who can speak to the technical water access alternatives the City of Waukesha has available.[xxii] Clearly there are many more measures that can be implemented to reduce the present usage of Waukesha's present population. And should it come to that, perhaps an inadequate water supply should be a legitimate limit of growth within the community. If the land cannot adequately provide for this most basic need, perhaps, the suburban sprawl that so typifies this area should be curtailed. There is no guarantee that unlimited growth is best for all communities…just as many communities in the American southwest are discovering. If we allow Waukesha to tap into resources outside its watershed, the imbalanced political and financial balance that favors unlimited exploitation of our resources will have a free hand to demand their share of our waters as well.

Thus the mantle of responsibility falls on you, the enforcers of Wisconsin's environmental obligations under international agreement, to take the lead in defending both the letter and spirit of the Great Lakes Compact. To do any less is an abrogation of our environmental oversight responsibilities, give away your power over any future decisions on diversion of these resources and essentially admit we are willing to be the pawns of the unscrupulous developers and the international trading community that is willing to sell our most precious resource to the lowest bidder.

Sources:

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[i] ***Environmental Analysis And Decision On The Need For An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Great Spring Waters of America, Inc. a.k.a. Perrier Group of America***, WiDNR Section 21 b, July 2000.
[ii] ***WTO Rules and the Trade and Environmental Interface: an ICME Assessment***, International Council on Metals and the Environment, September 1999, p. 5.
[iii] Op cit. p. 6.
[iv] This is in direct contradiction to a key premise noted in "An Ecosystem Agenda for Water Use Management in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River." Great Lakes United, the Canadian Environmental Law Association, the National Wildlife Federation, the Lake Michigan Federation, and Quebec's Strategies St. Laurent.
[v] WiDNR Section 24, July 2000.
[vi] Section 8 - Legal and Policy Considerations--The International Legal Context from the ***Final Report Protection of The Waters of The Great Lakes*** of the International Joint Commission to the Governments of Canada and the United States, February 22, 2000. (The relevant sections of this report is appended to this document)
[vii] Ibid.
[viii] Admission by WTO Chair Michael Moore on public access television, December 1, 1999.
[ix] "…in all the cases before the WTO involving issues of protecting environmental or natural resource interests, the WTO had ruled against those interests." International Joint Commission, February 22, 2000.
[x] Dinar, Rosegrant, and Meinzen-Dick, ***Water Allocation Mechanisms-Principles and Examples***, World Bank, Agriculture and Natural Resources Department "This paper addresses some of the basic principles of treating water as an economic good and of allocating it among sectors. It also offers examples of how some countries could put economic principles in the allocation of water into effect. The paper outlines the economic principles of scarce resource allocation."
[xi] ***Water, Water Everywhere To Be Sold To The Highest Bidder***, Ruth Caplan, Alliance for Democracy, 1999.
[xii] International Joint Commission, February 22, 2000.
[xiii] Ibid.
[xiv] Elsewhere veteran oil men including T. Boone Pickens are accumulating groundwater rights to tens of thousands of acres in the Texas Panhandle so they can market them to cities in need of additional water sources. "Who says oil and water don't mix?" ***The Wall Street Journal***, January 19, 2000.
[xv] Tom Osborne quoted in the ***Washington Post***, August 22, 1999, op cit.
[xvi] WiDNR Section 22. Significance of Cumulative Effects, July 2000.
[xvii] National Wildlife Federation, November 1999
[xviii] Dinar, Rosegrant, and Meinzen-Dick
[xix] International Joint Commission, February 22, 2000.
[xx] WiDNR Section 22. Significance of Cumulative Effects, July 2000.
[xxi] WiDNR Section 24 Significance of Precedent, July 2000.
[xxii] ***Non-Diversion Alternative Using Existing Water Supply With Treatment City of Waukesha Water Supply***, GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc, July 9, 2015

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Bill <bilworks2@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 7:09 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Waukesha diversion

DNR advisory,

I would ask that the application for water diversion from Lake Michigan be denied to Waukesha. This is the tipping point that we have seen time and again from our government. Once the mold is made, you know, and anyone who has a brain knows, that the precedent is set. Our Great Lakes HAVE to be protected from water pirates. Once one is given the right to start the drain off, there will be no stopping it. Do the right thing for Wisconsin and the rest of the states who do respect and live by the pact. If the City and County of Waukesha have expanded beyond their means to supply water, it is a situation that should have been addressed long before now. And yet as this is being written, Waukesha continues to expand up scale residences with sprinkler systems to care for manicured lawns. It has to stop with Wisconsin doing what is right for the state, not a privileged few.

William Wolfgram
301 South Second Street
Waterford WI

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Kathleen Wroblewski <kathleenwroblewski@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 9:04 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: No water for Waukesha

I am a volunteer who has worked in several capacities for the Alliance for the Great Lakes. I believe that water should not be diverted to Waukesha. I believe that they have not shown a plan for the use of less water. In addition, this sets a precedence that once started will be difficult to undo.

Kathleen Wroblewski
2857 S. 69 St
Milwaukee, WI 53219

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: wuest@jvlnet.com
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2015 7:39 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: Great Lakes

Please DO NOT allow Waukesha to divert water from Lake Michigan. To allow it would be to begin the inevitable destruction of the fresh water resource. Fresh water is a finite resource and we need to belatedly begin conservation, not continue exploitation.

This is that dreaded slippery slope. Please do not start the slide.

Gene and Mimi Wuest
Reedsburg, WI

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Mera Yi <merayi85@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2015 5:22 PM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App

Dear Ms. Hoekstra,

The Great Lakes, in particular, Lake Michigan has endured many different types of threats, such as: water diversions to Chicago, the recharging of the Ogallala Aquifer, the coal slurry pipeline, and water pollution. These problems created an awareness that regional control of our precious water was at stake and the need of assurance of availability for future use and economic growth. This is why the Great Lakes Compact was created.

Waukesha has repeatedly shown poor reasonable cases on their application. How is this new proposal any different? It is a clear direct violation of the Compact and if Waukesha is allowed the diversion, it will be seen throughout many other straddling communities and cities along basin boundaries and ultimately destroy the integrity of the Compact.

The US has a well-known culture of wasting resources. Why be the first example of something we are trying to save? We don't want to be the prime target of blame in history books if the worst ever happens.

Please consider the Pleasant Prairie case. Once a small, almost non-existent village is now a booming city because of the water that was diverted. If this happens to Waukesha, you are giving the free key of a growing city and an excuse to all others with water diversion applications on-hand that are waiting to see what happens.

Thank you,
Mera

Mera Yi
1019 Hunter Dr Unit 67
Racine, WI 53406

To whom it may concern,

My name is Edward Zapala and I am a resident of Madison Wisconsin. I am concerned about Waukesha's application to divert water from Lake Michigan. Though I am sympathetic to a community attempting to have adequate water for it's citizens, I am skeptical that diversion is the way to do it. I urge consideration of non-diversion options. This would protect our Great Lakes.

RECEIVED-DNR
AUG 26 2015
DRINKING WATER & GW

Sincerely,

Edward Zapala 8/23/15

2021 E. Dayton St.
Madison, WI 53704

Hoekstra, Ashley N - DNR

From: Lynn Zones <lynnzobel@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 4:57 AM
To: DNR Waukesha Diversion App
Subject: No to Waukesha's application

I am strongly against the Waukesha application for diverting water from Lake Michigan! The proposed water return via root river is unacceptable and offers no remedy for erosion and flooding that may occur. On every level this proposal would not be good for the lake's Eco environment!! STOP THIS APPLICATION IN ITS TRACKS NOW!!!

A concerned citizen,
Lynn Zobel

Sent from my iPhone