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APRIL 11th, 2016

**DNR ENFORCEMENT OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT**

**Whereas**, in July 2011, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) deficient in enforcing **75** provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA). In particular, EPA took issue with DNR's ineffective and non-protective Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program. In its letter, EPA requested DNR's improper deviations from federal requirements "**be corrected quickly.**" *To date, DNR has failed to remedy many of these deficiencies.*

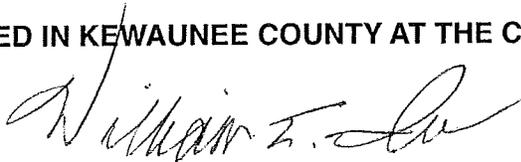
Wisconsin has abundant surface and ground water resources: lakes, rivers, tributaries, streams and ponds. These water resources are indispensable for recreation, drinking and economic activity. Due in large part to the *DNR's ineffective enforcement of CWA* provisions regulating pollution, many Wisconsin waterways suffer from serious and deadly environmental issues, including ***but not limited to:*** Phosphorus pollution and nitrate pollution and resulting Algal blooms; high levels of nitrate pollution in ground water and in wells providing drinking water to many citizens **and** overuse of ground water and destruction of surface water from overuse of high capacity wells.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in **Kewaunee County** on April 11, 2016, recommends that the Conservation Congress call upon the DNR to take **immediate remedial** action to address its 75 deficiencies in ***enforcing*** the **CWA** and call upon the State Legislature to further enable DNR to cure its CWA enforcement deficiencies **without further delay.**

Respectfully submitted,

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INTRODUCED IN KEWAUNEE COUNTY AT THE CONSERVATION CONGRESS.



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