



Wisconsin Conservation Congress
 Environmental Committee
 Meeting Minutes

WCC Meeting Minutes
 Form 8300-026 (R 09/16) Page 1 of 7

ORDER OF BUSINESS	9/21/2019	9:30 A.M.	Marathon County Library, Wausau
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I. ORGNIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by	Meeting called to order by Chair Mary Ellen O'Brien at 9:35 A.M.
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B. ROLL CALL

ATTENDEES	There are 20 members on the Environmental Committee; 14 people were present, representing a quorum. Members present: Chair Mary Ellen O'Brien, Co-chair Juliee de la terre, Secretary Cassandra Erickson, Douglas Kurtzweil, Claude Bovi, Duane Hoefs, Dave Blunk, Ronald Krueger Sr., Marc Schultz, Lester Ryder, Allan Balliet, Scott Pitta, Michael Grimm, and Barbara Dahlgren. DNR liaison Greg Pils attended the meeting on behalf of Tara Bergeson.
EXCUSED	The following members contacted the chair to let her know they would not be able to attend the meeting due to other commitments: Yvonne Mertig, Rick Koenig, Thomas Johnston, Jason Shelley, Mitch Baker, and Ryan Schuette. Member Thomas Johnston sent comments on all of the citizen resolutions and these were shared with the committee.
UNEXCUSED	None
GUESTS	The following guests signed in at the meeting: Dan Barth (Mosinee), Dave Behrond (Oconto Falls), Bruce Krawisz (Marshfield), Brian Bushnell (Schofield), Kathy Konle-Barth (Mosinee), Charlotte Nicholes (New Richmond), David "Joe" Bates (Odanah), Sally Lacy (Ashland), Al Gedicks (La Crosse), Bruce Keyzer (Sarona), and Tom Wilson (Viroqua).

C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR

DISCUSSION	None
ACTION	A motion was made by Lester Ryder and seconded by Dave Blunk to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

DISCUSSION	Julie de la terre read the mission statement into the record: The mission of the Environmental Committee of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress is to review citizen resolutions, rules, policies, regulations, and legislation affecting the air, land, and waters of the state of Wisconsin. The committee's purpose is to ensure that the ecosystems of Wisconsin are fully protected with every effort taken to support Wisconsin's native flora and fauna and educate the citizenry. The committee will work with DNR staff and the citizens of the state to effectively protect the health and integrity of Wisconsin's natural ecosystems, utilizing the best available knowledge, technical resources, and keeping a balance for all interested stakeholders.
ACTION	A motion was made by Scott Pitta and seconded by Marc Schultz to approve the mission statement. Motion carried.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

DISCUSSION	<p>Al Gedicks, La Crosse County, called on 9/4 to say he would attend the meeting and speak on the Back Forty Metallic Sulfide Mine resolution.</p> <p>Mike Gould, Lafayette County, called on 9/6 to say he could not attend the meeting but wanted to pass along some comments on his Resolution #330219 regarding a statewide buffer program along streams, rivers and lakes.</p> <p>Tom Wilson, Vernon County, called on 9/16 to say he would attend the meeting and speak on the Federal Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act resolution.</p> <p>Bruce Keyzer, Washburn County, called on 9/18 to say he would attend the meeting and speak on his resolution (#660219 – DNR Position on climate change) as well as Resolution #660419 – Restore local control for protecting lakes, rivers and wetlands, and Resolution #660519 – Evaluation and restriction of high capacity wells.</p> <p>William Thomas, Dane County – called to say he cannot attend the meeting to speak on his resolution (#131119 – Support Green New Deal), but wanted to make sure the committee will review and act on it and to encourage the committee to support it.</p> <p>Ned Gatzke, Monroe County, contacted committee member Alan Balliett to provide input on his resolution #420119, Responsible Mining for Clean Water.</p> <p>All guests were asked to introduce themselves after the meeting was called to order. A couple of people who did not register to speak prior to the meeting were also given an opportunity to provide brief comments on a particular resolution. In particular, a tribal representative who has been involved in the Back Forty sulfide mine issue made some brief comments about the potential impacts to tribal resources.</p> <p>Several guests expressed appreciation for being invited to the meeting and the opportunity to speak on their resolutions. It was also noted that the meeting was very informative in terms of learning about the WCC, how committee meetings are conducted, and the extent of statewide environmental issues and concerns being addressed.</p> <p>Information for meeting guests included WCC brochures, extra copies of the resolution packet being reviewed by the committee, and a WCC handout on the resolution process.</p>
ACTION	None

II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Citizen Resolutions

<p>1. Oppose Back Forty Proposed Metallic Sulfide Mine (020319, 130619, 310619, 320319, 320419, 380119, 380219, 630519) See Attachment 1 – representative resolution #130619 Guest speaker: Al Gedicks, La Crosse County</p>	
DISCUSSION	<p>Resolutions with same language from: David Bates, Ashland County; Patricia Hammel, Dane County; Lois Legmann, Winnebago County; Irv Balto, Vernon County; Al Gedicks, La Crosse County; Dale Burie, Marinette County; Robin and Elizabeth Bender, Marinette County; and Tom Wilson, Vernon County.</p> <p>Al Gedicks, author of La Crosse County resolution #320419 summarized concerns with the proposed mine: Water quality impacts to the Menominee River which is a boundary river between Wisconsin and Michigan and only 150 feet from the mine. There is also concern about impacts to Native American cultural and environmental resources. Mining, wetlands, NPDES, air quality, and dam safety permits have been issued by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy. The NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit is the only one that has not been contested. Others are in the process of contested case court hearings.</p> <p>DNR liaison Greg Pils noted that there has been coordination between Michigan and Wisconsin on the NPDES permit conditions and DNR has determined that water quality standards will be met if the conditions are implemented. A lawsuit on the proposed project has been filed by the Menominee Tribe.</p>

ACTION	<p>A motion to amend language in the last paragraph of this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Lester Ryder and seconded by Scot Pitta. Motion carried.</p> <p>“Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress oppose the Back Forty proposed sulfide mine and urge the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to inform the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) that the proposed project poses a significant threat to water quality in the Menominee River and Lake Michigan.”</p> <p>A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Lester Ryder and seconded by Scott Pitta. Motion carried.</p>
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<p>2. Responsible Mining for Clean Water (050219, 420119, 540419, 630419) See Attachment 2 – representative resolution #050219</p>	
DISCUSSION	<p>Resolutions with same language from: Cassandra Erickson, Brown County; Ned Gatzke, Monroe County; Pat Shaeffer, Green County; and Kevin Rodolfo, Vernon County.</p> <p>Ned Gatzke, Monroe County, author of resolution 420119, called committee member Alan Balliett to provide input and to send background/history on this resolution for the committee. Mr. Gatzke stated that the intent of this resolution is to initiate a process to establish a public policy regarding metallic mining in sulfide ore bodies, and that the policy should include a performance standard to provide evidence that proposed mining operations will prevent pollution of water resources.</p> <p>Greg Pils, DNR liaison, noted that new administrative rules are in progress to address the concern raised by Mr. Gatzke.</p>
ACTION	<p>A motion to amend language in the last paragraph of this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Douglas Kurtzweil and seconded by Marc Schultz. Motion carried:</p> <p>“Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress will work with the Department of Natural Resources, the state legislature, and the people of the state to implement a public policy regarding the mining of sulfide ore bodies that includes substantial evidenced that proposed mining methods and technologies have been applied successfully in existing and historic mining projects to prevent the degradation of the state’s valuable water resources.”</p> <p>A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Dave Bunk and seconded by Claude Bovi. Motion carried.</p>

<p>3. Citizens’ Rights Regarding Cell Tower Hazards and Placement (530119, 630219) See Attachment 3 –representative resolution #630219</p>	
DISCUSSION	<p>Resolutions with same language from: Dominic Stanek, Richland County and William Greendeer, Vernon County.</p> <p>Committee Co-chair, Juliee de la terre spoke on this resolution and provided several handouts to committee members regarding effects on human health and wildlife by electromagnetic radiation from cell towers, particularly with the new “5G” wireless technology that utilizes radio waves.</p>
ACTION	<p>A motion to amend language in this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Barbara Dahlgren and seconded by Lester Ryder. Motion carried:</p> <p>Amendment 1: Remove the words “an illegal law” from the second paragraph of the resolution so that it reads “Whereas the Wisconsin Legislature passed State Statute 66.0404 making it hard to oppose 5G towers by tucking it into the budget last year and allowing no public hearings on the law.”</p> <p>Amendment 2: “Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress advise the Natural Resources Board (NRB) to work with the Department of Natural Resources and the state legislature to pass legislation to protect the citizens and environment of Wisconsin by implementing a moratorium on 5G cell technology until proven safe.” The committee also amended the resolution to remove the phrase “an illegal law” from the second paragraph.</p> <p>A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Lester Ryder and seconded by Allan Balliet. Motion carried.</p>

4. Support Green New Deal – Arctic Warming Releasing Methane (131119) See Attachment 4	
DISCUSSION	The Green New Deal (House Resolution 109 and Senate Resolution 59) released in February, 2019, have a primary goal of transitioning to 100% renewable, zero-emission energy sources including investment in electric cars and high-speed rail systems. It also aims to implement the “social cost of carbon” that was part of the Obama administration’s plans for addressing climate change. Neither of these bills has advanced in the House or Senate. Resolution author, William Thomas, Dane County, was unable to attend meeting but called to encourage the committee to support this resolution.
ACTION	A motion was made by Ronald Krueger Sr. and seconded by Scott Pitta to reject this resolution because it did not meet key resolution criteria as stated in the spring hearing booklet: The concern was not clearly defined, there was no clear description of further action desired, and it did not present a practical, achievable, or reasonable solution. Motion carried.

5. Renewable Energy Generation in Wisconsin (300119) See Attachment 5	
DISCUSSION	This resolution states concern about climate change and focuses on the idea of promoting renewable energy by year 2050. Committee discussion indicated there was merit in providing the opportunity for broader public input on this issue at the spring hearing.
ACTION	A motion to amend language in this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Lester Ryder and seconded by Michael Grimm. Motion carried: “Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress work with the Department of Natural Resources to promote renewable energy conservation.” A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Lester Ryder and seconded by Douglas Kurtzweil. Motion carried.

6. Statewide Buffer Program Along Streams, Rivers, Lakes (330219) See Attachment 6	
DISCUSSION	The author of this resolution, Mike Gould from Lafayette County, called to say he could not be at the meeting, but wanted to let the committee know that the intent of this resolution was to get public feedback on the importance of buffers along streams and other waterways to protect water quality by reducing sediment and runoff. DNR liaison, Tara Bergeson, provided the following key points regarding this resolution: Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 151 – Runoff Management (2011), established a combination of tillage setbacks and upland practices including meeting a phosphorus index to improve water quality, but does not include buffers. NR 115 – Shoreland Zoning, has a 35’ buffer from the ordinary high water mark of waterways administered by counties. Wisconsin Act 55 (2015 state budget bill) prohibits counties from using a greater distance. Legislative action would be required for counties to regulate a more restrictive buffer and to require buffers in municipalities where county shoreland zoning does not apply.
ACTION	A motion was made by Scott Pitta and seconded by Dave Blunk to reject this resolution because it was not specific enough regarding the buffer program being proposed, and because information from the DNR liaison indicated current laws are in place to address runoff management and that contain some buffer criteria. Motion carried.

7. Statewide Moratorium on Construction and Expansion of Industrial Sized Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (540519) See Attachment 7	
DISCUSSION	<p>DNR liaison, Tara Bergeson, provided the following key points regarding this resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR is electronically recording all annual reports on CAFOS which are available to the public. • Recent hiring to fill 8 staff vacancies should help reduce backlog to desired 15%. • Legislation would be required for a moratorium.
ACTION	<p>A motion to amend language in this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Lester Ryder and seconded by Michael Grimm. Motion carried:</p> <p>“Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress recommend a state level moratorium on the building, placement, or expansion of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) within the state until sufficient resources are available to efficiently regulate and monitor CAFOs’ in compliance with applicable regulations.”</p> <p>A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Scott Pitta and seconded by Douglas Kurtzweil. Motion carried.</p>

8. DNR Position on Climate Change (660219) See Attachment 8 Guest Speaker: Bruce Keyzer, Washburn County	
DISCUSSION	<p>Resolution author, Bruce Keyzer, Washburn County, provided handout material to the committee from the Citizens’ Climate Lobby which is working to build support for congressional action to address climate change risks. Mr. Keyzer emphasized lack of leadership and information from DNR on climate change and its potential effects on communities and natural resources.</p> <p>DNR liaison, Tara Bergeson, provided the following key points regarding this resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR wholeheartedly supports importance of considering climate change effects on the natural resource base and DNR’s programs to manage the resources. Secretary Cole talks about these efforts as he travels the state. • DNR noted Governor’s Executive Order 83 that recognizes the effects of climate change on Wisconsin’s natural resources, public health, communities, tourism, and the economy. It creates an Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy charged with several goals that reduce carbon emissions and utilize clean energy. • DNR is a partner with the UW Nielson Institute for Environmental Studies in the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts. • DNR will continue sharing information with the public and its partners about changing environmental conditions and potential impacts to natural resources and the built environment. • DNR will use social media and its website to foster public awareness and understanding. Rollout of new, easily accessible climate webpages will be coming soon.
ACTION	<p>A motion to amend language in this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Michael Grimm and seconded by Lester Ryder. Motion carried:</p> <p>“Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress urge the Natural Resources Board to direct the Department of Natural Resources to continue and accelerate climate education and science.”</p> <p>A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Dave Blunk and seconded by Marc Schultz. Motion carried.</p>

<p>9. Restore Local Control to Protect Lakes, Rivers, and Wetlands (660419) See Attachment 9 Guest Speaker: Bruce Keyzer, Washburn County</p>	
DISCUSSION	<p>Bruce Keyzer, Washburn County, spoke in favor of advancing this resolution on behalf of the author, David Vold, who could not attend the meeting.</p> <p>DNR liaison, Tara Bergeson, provided the following key points regarding this resolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR's role in protecting water resources relative to this resolution stems from Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter NR 115- Wisconsin's Shoreland Management Program to protect lakes and streams. • Minimum standards developed in the 1960's, including setbacks were implemented by counties through establishment of shoreland zoning. Research over time has shown that the early minimum standards in NR 115 were not adequate, and many counties implemented stricter standards. • Wisconsin Act in the 2015 state budget bill created a statute (59.692(1d) prohibiting counties from enacting stricter shoreland standards than NR 115. Specifically mentioned was the 35' wide protective vegetative buffer landward of the ordinary high water mark of a waterbody. This width is not adequate and many counties wanted to increase it. • Bottom line: A legislative act would be required to [again] allow use of more restrictive standards.
ACTION	<p>A motion to amend language in this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Michael Grimm and seconded by Dave Blunk. Motion carried:</p> <p>"Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress urge the state legislature to allow local municipalities to enact ordinances that can be more stringent than the current state standards to protect our lakes, rivers, and wetlands."</p> <p>A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Dave Blunk and seconded by Lester Ryder. Motion carried.</p>

<p>10. Evaluation and Restriction of High Capacity Wells in Wisconsin (660519) See Attachment 10</p>	
DISCUSSION	<p>Bruce Keyzer, Washburn County, spoke in favor of advancing this resolution on behalf of the author, Michael Tewalthomas, who could not attend the meeting.</p> <p>DNR liaison, provided a handout with the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR issues decisions on high capacity well applications based on a May 10, 2016 opinion from former Attorney General Brad Schimmel that states DNR does not have explicit authority to consider cumulative impacts or to impose monitoring requirements on high capacity well approvals. • DNR currently reviews high capacity wells if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposed well falls within a groundwater protection area (within 1,200 feet of a trout stream, Outstanding Resource Waters-ORW, or Exceptional Resource Waters-ERW). ○ May significantly impact a spring with a flow of at least one cubic foot per second. ○ May result in water loss of more than 95%. ○ May impair nearby municipal water supply wells, or ○ Proposed well's location, construction and pump installation may degrade safe drinking water, groundwater resource, or impact public safety. • Any approval will include conditions to ensure the well does not have significant adverse environmental impacts, and preparation of an environmental impact statement may be required. • The Wisconsin Supreme Court will be taking up the question of high capacity well authority and the resources considered as part of DNR's review as it related to high capacity well approvals. • DNR continues to work toward better inventory and assessment of water quantity (groundwater levels, base flow in streams, lake levels, and spring flow) throughout Wisconsin.

ACTION	<p>A motion to amend language in this resolution for clarification and format purposes as noted below was made by Michael Grimm and seconded by Scott Pitta. Motion carried:</p> <p>“Be it resolved that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress urge the Natural Resources Board (NRB) to direct the Department of Natural Resources to instate a moratorium on high capacity wells until a scientific investigation on the effects of high capacity wells on our lakes, streams, and groundwater is completed.”</p> <p>A motion to advance this resolution as amended was made by Scott Pitta and seconded by Lester Ryder. Motion carried.</p>
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<p>11. Support for and Passage of Federal Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (050319, 270319, 280119, 500219, 530319, 540319, 630119) See Attachment 11 – Representative resolution #270319 Guest Speaker: Tom Wilson, Vernon County</p>	
DISCUSSION	<p>Resolutions with same language from: Cassandra Erickson, Brown County; Susan Arnold, Jackson County; Alyson Schmeisser, Jefferson County; Jeff Vaughter, Portage County; Connie Champroise, Richland County; Helen Grogan, Rock County; and Tom Wilson, Vernon County.</p> <p>Tom Wilson, author of Vernon County Resolution #630119 spoke in support of advancing this resolution. Mr. Wilson provide handouts explaining/summarizing The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) introduced in January, 2019. It would create a carbon dividend trust fund for the American people by proposing a fee on carbon at the point of extraction to encourage clean energy technologies that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He also provided a handout listing various interests that support the Act.</p>
ACTION	<p>A motion was made by Dave Blunk and seconded by Ronald Krueger Sr. to reject this resolution because it was not specific enough with respect to key resolution criteria as stated in the spring hearing booklet: It did not clearly define the concern and the statewide impact to be addressed, did not suggest a solution, and did not describe further action desired. Motion carried.</p>

B. Department Information and Updates

DISCUSSION	<p>DNR liaison Greg Pils noted that additional guidance on climate change was forthcoming from DNR Secretary Preston Cole. Note: Subsequent to the meeting, Greg Pils sent Secretary Cole’s memo to the committee chair, co-chair and secretary. Chair Mary Ellen O’Brien circulated the memo to the entire committee. See Attachment 12.</p>
ACTION	None
PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE:	
DEADLINE:	

III. MEMBER MATTERS

DISCUSSION	<p>Due to the lateness of the meeting, brief roundtable comments were solicited from members. Input acknowledged the challenging issues brought before the committee, and recognized the importance of WCC’s focus on broader environmental concerns that relate directly and indirectly to resource protection and management. Several members expressed appreciation for being on the committee.</p>
ACTION	None

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED	<p>A motion to adjourn was made by Ronald Krueger Sr. and seconded by Michael Grim. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 2.38 P.M.</p>
SUBMITTED BY	Mary Ellen O’Brien, Chair. Secretary Cassandra Erickson provided a listing of members making motions and the vote outcome.
DATE	October 4, 2019

13(06)19

RESOLUTION: OPPOSE THE BACK FORTY PROPOSED METALLIC SULFIDE MINE

Whereas, Aquila Resources' Back Forty Project, a proposed open pit metallic sulfide mine would be located on the banks of the Menominee River, which empties into Lake Michigan and is one of the largest watersheds in Northern Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula and;

Whereas, the Menominee River provides a unique habitat for species of special concern such as lake sturgeon and freshwater mussels, which would be negatively impacted by discharges into the water and;

Whereas, the potential impacts of the mine include long term leaching of acid-producing wastes into the groundwater and the river and;

Whereas, the hazardous wastes generated by the mine would degrade water quality and present risks to human health and the environment in Wisconsin as well as Michigan and;

Whereas, potential economic losses including reduction in property values and loss of tourism revenue are not factored into the permitting review process and;

Whereas, the approval of this mine will result in the irreversible loss of significant cultural resources of the Menominee Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, including Native American gravesites and other areas of historical significance

RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress opposes the Back Forty proposed metallic sulfide mine and urges the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to inform Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality that the project poses a significant threat to water quality in the Menominee River and Lake Michigan.

Name: Patricia K. Hammel Address: 1424 Jenifer St Madison WI 53703

Telephone Number (608) 279-4136

Name of County in which introduced: Dane

Responsible Mining For Clean Water

WHEREAS, Wisconsin possesses high quality and quantity water resources that contribute high value to our quality of life and economy;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin also contains geologic areas with sulfide and heavy metal mineralogy that may be of interest for mining of metallic and nonmetallic minerals;

WHEREAS, mining in sulfide ore bodies produces waste rock that contains various forms of sulfur compounds and heavy metals that when exposed to the environment, create “acid of mine drainage” that pollutes surface and groundwater;

WHEREAS, the mining industry has failed to provide any evidence that mining in sulfide ore bodies can be accomplished without polluting water resources;

BE IT RESOLVED, to prevent the degradation of the states valuable water resources the conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Brown County on April 8, 2019 will work with the Natural Resources Board, the state legislator and the people of the state to establish a public policy regarding mining in sulfide ore bodies that includes substantial evidence that proposed mining methods and technologies have been applied successfully in existing and historic mining project to prevent the pollution of water resources.

Cassandra Erickson
1340 Merrill Street
De Pere, WI 54115
920-461-6705

63 02 19

Citizen Resolution #

Citizens Rights Regarding Cell Tower Hazards and Placement

Recently the federal government has teamed up with AT&T to proliferate 5G Cell tower construction all over the United States. 5G technology has not been evaluated by the federal government for over 40 years. 5G uses short bursts of microwaves which has been shown in many independent peer reviewed scientific studies to affect people, wildlife and plants. In fact the US Army Research office published hundreds of studies in 1977 about the harmful effects of 5G electromagnetic frequencies and this is not being discussed.

Whereas the Wisconsin Legislature passed an illegal law (State Staute 66.0404) making it hard to oppose 5G towers by tucking it into the budget last year and allowing no public hearings on the law

Whereas there is no legal requirement due to this law to tell anyone when a cell tower is being proposed

Whereas the people of Wisconsin are not being adequately informed about the hazards of 5G techonlogy

Whereas anywhere a tower is built the property values will decline up to 20%

Whereas many health hazards to people and environment have been proven in hundreds of studies

Whereas many counties and regions have paid for fiber optic cable in the ground which is safer, more secure, faster, can handle more data and is not subject to data theft

Whereas local communications coops will be affected economically and may lead to a take over by internationally owned communications companies which will have no responsibilty to the communities they serve and will likely increase service fees

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting held in Vernon County on April 8, 2019 recommends that the Conservation Congress direct the DNR to demand the legislature pass legislation to protect the citizens and environment of Wisconsin by requireing cell companies to prove that 5G cell technology is safe and allow for community input whenever a cell tower is being proposed

Submitted by *William Greendier*

address *51470 Dell Rd.*

Vernon County

phone *608-632-5571*

Introduced in: Vernon County

ATTACHMENT 3

Citizen Resolution #

13 (11) 19

(For Hearing Officer completion)

Support the Green New Deal – The Arctic Warming is Releasing Gigatonnes of Methane That Can Warm the Planet Rapidly

The warming of the Arctic is many times faster than general warming across the planet, threatening sudden changes in temperature and our ability as a species – the ability of all species to survive. Permafrost melting is releasing half mile spews of methane gas which is much more potent than CO2.

In the past, the earth has warmed 5 degrees in just 13 years under similar runaway greenhouse conditions. World food supplies are threatened already as farm lands flood or turn into deserts or wild fires. Oceans are predicted to be fish-less in 29 years (2048) under the current trajectory of fossil fuel use. Animal agriculture is 18% to 51% cause of climate warming.

Inactivity on these issues the past 30 years leaves us helpless before the power of nature. In a couple of million years, life will resurge but likely not with us part of it.

This is an unprecedented time in human history that requires all of the innovation and compassion of our species to save the life of our planet. We cannot live alone as a species on a dead earth.

The suggested solution is the Conservation Congress and public working with the state legislature to educate and move the public to a plant-based diet and support the Green New Deal and its equivalent here in Wisconsin. Work to move the economy to wind, solar, and electric vehicles rapidly. Our scientists have given us 12 years to turn this around, not just to begin turning it around.

Name: WILLIAM H THOMAS
Address: 3230 TALLYHO LANE
City, State, Zip code: MADISON, WI 53705
Telephone number: 608-231-3991
Email: thomawsh@gmail.com
Name of county in which introduced: DANE

Signature: William H. Thomas

Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

300119

RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION IN WISCONSIN

The burning of fossil fuels (coal, natural gas, and gasoline) generates carbon dioxide, which when accumulated in the atmosphere, forms a blanket which retains the heat from the sun. Because of this accumulation, according to the EPA, the earth is warming and Wisconsin's climate is changing.

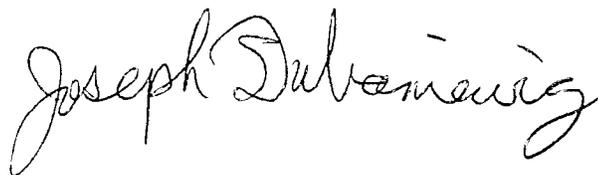
As the atmosphere warms, evaporation and humidity increases, and heavy rainstorms are becoming more frequent. Also, because of the warmer climate, ice cover on the Great Lakes is forming later or melting sooner.

Since Wisconsin doesn't have oil fields, coal mines or fracking facilities, it cannot generate its own fossil-fuel based electricity by itself. The state must import all of its fuel to make electricity. If Wisconsin would invest in home-grown renewable energy systems, like wind turbines or solar farms (with battery storage units as proposed in Paris, Kenosha County), the state would generate its own industry with its own workers and its own facilities thereby expanding its tax base significantly.

I would like to see individual cities and the state commit to 100% renewable energy by 2050. Instead of burning fossil fuels for energy and creating climate change, Wisconsin should be harvesting our energy needs from nature.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Conservation Congress direct the Department of Natural Resources to work with the state legislature to promote renewable energy production, starting with Kenosha County, and expanding to the rest of Wisconsin.

Joe Dubaniewicz
142 23rd Ave
Kenosha, WI 53140
Kenosha County
847-322-3416
JOEDUBAN@YAHOO.com



Citizen Resolution # 330219

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Statewide buffer program along streams, rivers, lakes

Each year the Conservation Congress accepts written resolutions from the public, in each county throughout the state regarding natural resource issues of statewide concern. These resolutions are introduced by the public in attendance during the Conservation Congress county meeting that is held annually in conjunction with the DNR Spring Fish and Wildlife Hearings in April.

In order for a resolution to be accepted for further consideration by the Conservation Congress and for public input at the annual Conservation Congress county meeting, all resolutions introduced must meet the following requirements:

1. The concern must be of statewide impact.
2. The concern must be practical, achievable and reasonable.
3. The resolution must be typed.
4. The resolution must have a clear title and specifically define the concern.
5. Current state statutes and laws must be considered, with reasonable cause for change being presented.
6. The resolution must clearly suggest a solution to the concern and a description of further action desired.
7. Resolutions must be 250 words or less exclusive of the title and author contact information. (This guidance is not included in the word count.)

Runoff within watersheds leads to increased sediment loading, phosphorus, and pollution. Many waterbodies are impaired each year in Wisconsin due to excessive non-point runoff. Currently, Wisconsin does not have a program requiring established buffers along our rivers, lakes, and streams. Buffers help reduce pollution, sediment runoff, and phosphorus loading while helping improve wildlife and fish habitat.

A statewide buffer program would help improve wildlife and fish habitat while reducing non-point runoff into our rivers, lakes, and streams. Would you support the Conservation Congress working with state legislatures to develop a program requiring buffers along all our rivers, lakes, and streams?

Mike Gould
18021 County Hwy. D
Darlington, WI 53530
County: Lafayette
(608) 482-0324

Signature: *Mike Gould*

54-0.5-19

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A STATEWIDE MORATORIUM ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIAL-SIZED CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATIONS IN WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) administers the Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Program, which regulates the discharges of pollutants to surface and groundwater from concentrated animal feeding operations, industrial wastewater treatment facilities and municipal wastewater treatment plants.

WHEREAS, only 36 of 1,900 required self-monitoring annual reports submitted by concentrated animal feeding operations were electronically recorded by the DNR and the remaining 98% of the required annual reports were not electronically recorded and, therefore, not available to DNR staff responsible for monitoring compliance and enforcing regulations; and

WHEREAS, the result of industrial agricultural contributions of fertilizer and manure runoff into surface water and groundwater shows increasing levels of phosphorous, nitrates, and bacteria in the water supply leading to degraded water quality; and

WHEREAS, all CAFOs that are operating under expired WPDES general and/or individual permits are operating without a permit that reflects the most current laws and standards implemented at the federal and state level to protect water quality.

THEREFORE, the Conservation Congress at its annual meeting in Rock County on April 8th, 2019 recommends a state-level moratorium on the building, placement, or expansion of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) within the State of Wisconsin.

Peg Sheaffer

16228 W. Skinner Rd.

Brodhead, WI 53520

Peg Sheaffer
608 247 9684

ATTACHMENT 7

Citizen Resolution #

66-02-19

(For Hearing Officer completion)



DNR Position On Climate Change

WHEREAS: The first line of the Wisconsin DNR's mission statement reads:

"To protect and enhance our natural resources: our air, land and water; our wildlife, fish and forests and the ecosystems that sustain all life."

Today, climate change presents one of the greatest threats to achieving this mission. Recent climate science studies such as the Oct 2018 International Panel on Climate Change, commonly referred to as the IPCC report and the 4th National Climate Assessment released by the NOAA in November 2018. Both offer compelling evidence that action to address climate change is urgent. Over the last several years Wisconsin has suffered an unprecedented number of climate related severe weather disasters in addition to the more subtle effects of a warming planet on our natural resources. During the same period the Wisconsin DNR has been silent on the subject of climate change. In spite of overwhelming data and research on our climate crisis, the silence continues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Washburn County Conservation Congress on April 8, 2019 recommends that The DNR break its silence and take a public position on climate change that reflects the most recent climate scientific studies.

Bruce Keyzer
N4078 Deep Lake Rd
Sarona, WI 54870
815968080
Washburn

Signature: *Bruce Keyzer*

Resolutions introduced at each Spring Hearing are public documents under Wisconsin's Open Records law [ss. 19.31-19.39, Wis. Stats.] and will be posted online for the public to review. Any personally identifiable information will be available to the public but will only be used by the Department for administrative purposes.

Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your local WCC delegates with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.

ATTACHMENT 8

66-04-19

Restore local control by allowing counties to develop ordinances to protect our lakes, rivers, and wetlands.

A buffer is a vegetative strip of land containing grass, shrubs or trees located adjacent to a lake, stream, or wetland.

A buffer improves water quality by filtering runoff and reducing sediment and nutrient contamination to water bodies.

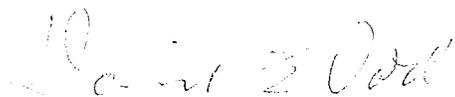
A buffer provides food and habitat for many forms of wildlife.

Maintaining water quality and improving wildlife is important to local residents, tourists and sportsmen.

The state legislature has weakened zoning ordinances by removing local control and limiting a county's ability to develop regulations that are unique to its environmental concerns.

Therefore, the legislature must act to restore local control by allowing counties to develop ordinances to protect our lakes, rivers, and wetlands.

David E. Vold, N4821 Tozer Lake Rd, Spooner, WI. 54801,
Washburn County, 715-635-2034



Citizen Resolution Number 66-05-19

Evaluation and restriction of High Capacity Wells in the State of Wisconsin

Whereas, Groundwater and surface water supplies are connected and they are therefore essential to keeping Wisconsin's lakes streams and wetlands healthy.

Whereas, the State of Wisconsin continues to issue high capacity well permits, and these high capacity wells are increasing numbers and have already shown to have an effect on our water supply in many locations in our state.

Whereas, many of our high capacity wells are lowering or drying up our lakes and streams.

Whereas, high capacity wells are lowing or drying up family wells.

Whereas, many of these high capacity wells are not a necessity.

Whereas, we recognize that land where these high capacity wells are located are owned by individuals but the water belongs to all of the citizens.

Whereas, water is one of Wisconsin's most precious resources; we must protect it for future generations.

Be it Resolved, the Conservation Congress at its 2019 annual meeting held in Spooner, Wisconsin, request that NRB oppose the issuance of any more permits for high capacity wells until the WDNR completes an immediate scientific investigation on the effects of high capacity wells on our lakes, streams and ground water.

E. Michael Tewalthomas
W4794 County Highway A
Spooner, Wisconsin 54801
Washburn County
715-635-3338

Signature 

Support for and Passage of the Federal Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act

Global climate change is real and already a serious threat to Wisconsin's economy, fisheries, farming, winter sports, wildlife, forests, and other natural resources.

Congress could most quickly respond to this threat by requiring fossil fuel companies to pay a fee for the carbon their fuels emit when burned.

3,333 American economists, 4 former Federal Reserve Chairs, 27 Nobel Laureate Economists, 15 former chairs of the Council of Economic Advisers and 2 former Secretaries of the Treasury agree that such a fee is "...the most cost-effective lever to reduce carbon emissions at the scale and speed that is necessary."

Equal payment to all American citizens would benefit our most-vulnerable citizens most, but two-thirds of Americans would receive more in "carbon dividends" than they would pay in increased energy prices.

A gradually rising carbon fee would promote technological innovation, economic growth and long-term investment in clean energy.

Border adjustments on goods going into and out of the U.S. would enhance the competitiveness of American firms and encourage other nations to adopt carbon dividends.

A bipartisan bill, The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (H.R. 763) addresses all of these concerns. It is endorsed by Trout Unlimited, Protect Our Winters, National Ski Areas Association, Winter Wildlands Alliance and Aldo Leopold Audubon Society, among many others.

Do you encourage our members of Congress to support and pass H.R. 763, The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019?

Name of Author/Representative/Presenter: SUSAN ARNOLD
 Name of Organization (if any) _____
 Address: N13050 EAST TOWN LINE RD,
 City, State, Zip Code: FAIRCHILD WI 54741
 Name of the County Introduced In: JACKSON COUNTY
 Telephone Number (including area code): 715-334-2002
 Email (optional) _____

DATE: September 23, 2019

TO: All DNR Staff

FROM: Preston D. Cole, Secretary

SUBJECT: The DNR's Role in Addressing Climate Change and Clean Energy

Climate change is one of the defining issues of our time. From shifting weather patterns, increases in average temperature, higher frequency and intensity of rainfall to heavier snowfalls, the impacts of climate change directly impact Wisconsin.

In August, Gov. Tony Evers signed Executive Order #38 to address the issue of clean energy in Wisconsin. Gov. Evers directed the Department of Administration to create an Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy. This new office will coordinate with the Department of Natural Resources and others to develop and implement a clean energy plan for Wisconsin.

The department also remains committed to the Wisconsin Initiative on Climate Change Impacts (WICCI) which brings DNR experts and other agencies together with the knowledge and research of academia to assist decision makers across the state. To help guide our participation in this effort, I have designated DNR Policy Advisor Pam Porter as WICCI co-chair. Staff across the agency including DNR Environmental Analysis and Sustainability Services Section Chief Dreux Watermolen will continue to be instrumental as members of WICCI's working groups and its Science Advisory Board.

As we carry out our work, we will keep staff and the public informed and engaged with our climate initiatives. To aid in these efforts, I have asked DNR Communications Director Sarah Hoye to use our department's website and social media presence to foster public understanding of Wisconsin's changing climate. The roll out of new, easily accessible climate webpages will be coming soon.

Change is inevitable. The DNR is entrusted to protect the people's resources and as a result we need to recognize the factors that drive change and must plan accordingly. At the heart of our mission is bringing together diverse perspectives and relying on science to inform decision making.

Additionally, the department's mission also requires us to ensure the right of all people to use and enjoy Wisconsin's natural resources, so we must also recognize that people of color and low-income communities are often the hardest hit by the effects of climate change and act to remedy such injustices.

Staff are encouraged to continue looking for ways to incorporate sustainable approaches into their core work and continue sharing objective information with the public. Staff are also encouraged to bring forward their ideas and know they have our commitment to support them in finding ways that increase climate action. Our approach to sustainability should heavily emphasize the quality of our natural resources and health of the environment, but not to the exclusion or disregard of the public's ability to adapt. Our model must recognize the overarching importance of the environment to fulfill society's needs as well as foster a strong economy.

Thoughtful adaptation strategies can help us proactively plan for risks, adapt to changes and protect the health of the state. Addressing climate change through adaptation and mitigation, alongside our business and community partners, will help us ensure a sustainable future. We are stronger together.