

Citizen Resolution # 130520

(For Hearing Officer completion)



DNR must deny water permits for the Dairyland Energy Cooperative's Nemadji Trail Energy Center

Resolution: Fracked gas causes significant environmental damage and pollution throughout the entire process. It is extremely water-intensive; it generally requires 8 million gallons of fracking fluid (water, sand, and brine) during extraction and up to 400 million gallons of water during refining. The dirty water leftover from these processes is largely unregulated and often ends up in groundwater and streams. The sand used in this process is mined in Wisconsin. Fracked gas releases carbon dioxide and methane into the environment.

The proposed fracked gas power plant in Superior, WI, puts the surrounding community and their access to clean water at risk. The area's water sources cannot support the daily needs of the proposed plant. It will require 5 new wells, may dry up the existing aquifer, and risks lowering the groundwater levels. Construction of the plant will destroy local wetlands, which have deep cultural importance to the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. Because fracked gas is not regulated under the Clean Water Drinking Act's Underground Injection Control Program, the plant's wastewater may find its way into drinking water sources. Finally, the methane and carbon dioxide emitted by the plant will add to the impacts of climate change in Wisconsin. The detrimental effects of NTEC will be widespread.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the DNR should consider these risks and deny water permits for the Nemadji Trail Energy Center to operate their wells.

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