From:	Duane Lahti
To:	DNR Racine Diversion Comments
Subject:	Racine (Foxconn) Water Diversion
Date:	Tuesday, March 20, 2018 9:57:32 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

As a retired biologist and lifetime resident of Wisconsin, I wish to go on record in opposition to the application for diversion of Lake Michigan water for the City of Racine. I was closely involved when the Great Lakes Compact was approved after a series of many meetings and public hearings over several years. The Compact is a sacred document signed by eight states and the provinces of Canada that border the Great Lakes. It was designed as a conservation document to protect the Great Lakes from water diversions and to provide LIMITED diversions of water for "public water supply purposes" to straddling communities who demonstrate a legitimate need. The not-so-thinly veiled request for this diversion is simply to provide a large water supply to the proposed Foxconn development, with the City of Racine being used as a proxy applicant to try to satisfy the legal requirements set forth in the compact.
If this diversion is approved, the Compact will be greatly weakened and will set a negative precedent for future similar diversions by other entities around the Great Lakes Basin. The Compact will become a broken shell of a document sitting on a shelf, with the work of thousands of scientists, natural resource professionals, tribal members, and members of the public gone to waste.

The next crisis will be the need for water and Wisconsin should be taking the lead in this conservation effort in the public interest, as we did in the past, rather than exploiting the resource for private gain, as we do now. In the interest of the protection of our Great Lakes water, this diversion must not be approved.
Thank you for your consideration.

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