

From: [Sally Miles Heuer](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Just say NO to Kohler land grab & proposed golf course.
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 12:54:42 PM

As a taxpaying resident of Wisconsin I say the DNR does NOT have my permission to give away MY state park land for private profit.

This whole proposal stinks No new golf course, no rape of sensitive lands. No no no.
Sally Heuer
New Berlin WI. 53151
262-768-8731

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE DROID

From: [Louise Petering](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Andrae Park EIS
Date: Monday, August 01, 2016 5:12:18 PM

Golf is a sport in decline; do not cede or sell acreage from the Kohler Andrae State Park to Mr. Kohler.

My family has enjoyed Kohler Andrae park ever since we "discovered" it in the early 1970s. It is a jewel and all of it must remain a gift to the people of Wisconsin, not wealthy patrons of the sport of golf.

The proposed "gifting" of public land by the DNR to Mr. Herbert Kohler for the purpose of "developing" a golf course does not serve the purpose for which the land was donated to the public years ago by his forebears. Every square inch of the park is priceless. Golfer or not, the proposed "taking" of approximately 19 acres of land is the impoverished idea of a person with little sense of what belongs to him and what belongs to the people of Wisconsin.

Louise Petering
7229 N. Santa Monica Blvd.
Fox Point, WI 53217

From: [James C. Congdon](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Andre Land Sale to Kohler Company
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 12:50:16 AM

I am strongly opposed to the sale and development of Kohler Andre State Park Lands to the Kohler Company for a golf course. The Draft EIA is inadequate and does not sufficiently identify and address the significant impacts the proposed development will have on the habitats contained in the affected land. It is unacceptable to sell lands purchased with LAWCON funds for protection and public use to private parties for private use and profit.

James Congdon (retired WDNR biologist and Watershed Supervisor)
N7991 Schwarze Road
Horicon, WI 53032

From: [James Maurer](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Andre State Park
Date: Thursday, July 21, 2016 2:00:39 PM

July 21, 2016

Dear Mr. Schiefelbein,

I am writing to express my extreme opposition to the WDNR transferring any portion of Kohler-Andre State Park to Mr. Kohler or anyone else for that matter. The Wisconsin State Park System was set up for the enjoyment of the public and the preservation of the natural environment which includes the flora and fauna that reside in their diverse ecosystems.

This is a well used and loved State Park and should not be parceled off so that a wealthy and privileged private individual can make a profit. Selling this land will not benefit the average citizen of Wisconsin and is in direct opposition to the WDNR's responsibility to work in the best interest of the public as a whole.

If Mr. Kohler wishes to wipe out thousands of years of Native American historical artifacts on his own property and there's no laws against it that's one thing but enabling him to facilitate this ethnic cleansing of a peoples ancient history in the name of Wisconsin is unacceptable.

I am sure by now you are well aware what the many negative impacts of constructing a golf course on this environmentally sensitive site are so I won't repeat them in this letter. But the hydrology dictates where the pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers used to preserve the green of the non native turf used will end up: in the ground water and in Lake Michigan.

It would be refreshing to see the WDNR take a stand for the people of Wisconsin and deny any divestment of Kohler Andre State Park.

Sincerely
James Maurer
3707 west Kilbourn Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53208-3112
414-933-455
coolstuf45@sbcglobal.net

From: iseestarsallthetime@gmail.com on behalf of [j.a.m.i.e](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Co.'s proposal to build an 18-hole golf course on company-owned land just north of Kohler-Andrae State Park
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 10:12:48 AM

Dear all-

You absolutely cannot allow Kohler to purchase State Park land for private, for-profit use. That is abhorrent. You cannot approve the sale of this land.

I am not opposed to the golf-course necessarily, but I am absolutely opposed to selling off our public protected resources, and obviously, there must be a rock solid plan to insure that this course will not negatively affect the ecosystem and public water supply of the surrounding area.

Sincerely,
Jamie Baird
Milwaukee, WI

From: [darlene.jakusz](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Company the use of public State lands for their private profit
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:14:18 AM

It is truly a shame and disgrace that our beautiful state of Wisconsin has been taken over by bought and paid for politicians that are paying back big money and business for putting them in office!!! Once these lands are destroyed for the small percent of the rich, they are gone for ever, not to be restored!!! The people of Wisconsin, who own these public lands, are being duped and taken advantage of by the criminal repugnant politicians that are now running down the great state!!!! It is truly sickening!!!!

James & Darlene Jakusz

From: [Weber Todd](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Cc: [Weber Todd](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course - Documents for Public Record
Date: Friday, July 22, 2016 10:45:56 AM
Attachments: [EIS Public Hearing HoekstraKohler Comments.docx](#)
[DEIS FACT SHEET - FINAL.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Schiefelbein,

I am submitting two documents for the public record in regards to the proposed Kohler golf course.

- Public Comments from Jay Hoekstra, Kohler Co., at July 20 DNR Hearing
- Kohler Co. Proposed Golf Course Fact Sheet

My regards,

Todd Weber
Communications Director-PR
Kohler Co.

JAY HOEKSTRA, KOHLER CO.
COMMENTS FOR DNR HEARING ON DRAFT EIS
July 20, 2016

Good evening. My name is Jay Hoekstra. I am Kohler Co.'s team leader for the proposed Town of Wilson golf course. I am the only member of the project team who will speak tonight.

For 143 years, Kohler Co. has believed that sound business decisions and a strong environmental commitment go hand-in-hand. Our goal with this project is to have a world-class destination that creates hundreds of jobs and provides multimillion-dollar economic benefits for the region. We plan to do that in an environmentally responsible manner that serves the community, provides new opportunities for discovery, and preserves and opens private land to the public for generations to come.

We appreciate the careful scrutiny the DNR is giving to our proposal and believe the draft Environmental Impact Statement shows we can meet the applicable standards. The principles of avoiding, minimizing or mitigating potential environmental impacts have guided our planning. Our minimalist design embraces the land's natural contours and preserves the major dune structures, respecting the site's natural character.

The extensive draft EIS details how wetland will be preserved. It covers how invasive species now choking good plant life will be removed, and how we'll add more native plants and grasses to preserve and enhance naturally occurring ecosystems. The draft EIS outlines Kohler Co.'s strong commitment to responsible pesticide and fertilizer use. Our Sheboygan County golf courses have been in full compliance with their permits for 30 years, and none has ever had an environmental citation. That commitment extends to this project – the draft EIS confirms our thoughtful approach will prevent runoff into Lake Michigan and the Black River.

The draft EIS also shows no anticipated impacts to neighboring wells or regional wetland. As a precaution we will establish a well-protection program for Town of Wilson residents.

Being a good neighbor is important to us. We're pleased that this project will enhance the diversity of existing environs and create public access to the site. Additionally, we intend to grant a permanent, legally designated lakeshore easement for Timberlake homeowners once the golf course is built. And, as the draft EIS notes, our plans use an entry that avoids neighboring homes. We believe enhancing this route also improves public access to John Michael Kohler and Terry Andrae State Parks.

We have always planned to leave the burial mounds on a small part of the site completely undisturbed. Recent archaeological findings offer opportunities for new learning as the project moves forward. We will work cooperatively with both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and with the various Native American Tribes – in a spirit of respect, discovery and education. The draft EIS confirms the site is zoned appropriately for a golf course.

Our company has owned this land for more than 75 years, and has been part of this community for more than four generations. To work for Kohler Co., this project has to work for the environment, and it has to work for the community. We appreciate the passion people have shown for our property, and we've heard from many people who support and are excited about our plans. We are fully committed to working through the established permitting and approval processes. We look forward to ongoing public dialogue.

Thank you.

PROPOSED BLACK RIVER GOLF COURSE Fact Sheet

July 2016

Kohler Co. has introduced plans to create a championship [18-hole, public golf course](#) on land the company has owned in the Town of Wilson for more than 75 years. Building on its long history of quality, innovation and sustainability, Kohler Co. has approached the project with public feedback inspiring a minimalist design that embraces the land's natural contours. The goal is to turn private property into a world-class public destination that creates access, jobs and other economic benefits in an environmentally responsible manner for generations to come.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recently issued its [draft Environmental Impact Statement \(EIS\)](#) on the golf course proposal, an extensive science- and engineering-based study that is part of the agency's normal project permitting process. The draft EIS reviews the balanced approach Kohler Co. has taken to respect the land and surrounding areas, protect the environment, boost the local economy and more.

The DNR's draft EIS addresses all major aspects of the proposed project.

- **Watershed, groundwater and neighboring wells.** The draft EIS confirms that a proper well system and irrigation pond would not negatively impact the water table or groundwater. As a precaution, however, Kohler will establish and fund a special insurance program to rectify potential well issues for neighbors, similar to the successful program used at Whistling Straits with the Town of Mosel.
- **Pesticides, fertilizers and runoff.** The draft EIS notes that there will be no fertilizer or pesticide runoff into the Black River or Lake Michigan. The course will use grasses and plants requiring minimal fertilization and establish an integrated pest management program to minimize chemical pesticide use.
- **Invasive species, native plants and grasses.** Plans include removing invasive species and planting native species and trees to enhance natural habitat, increase wildlife diversity and help transform parts of the site now classified as "degraded." The plan minimizes impact to special habitat or species of concern, with minimal impact to the migratory bird population.
- **Burial mounds and archaeology.** Burial mounds located on a small portion of the site will remain undisturbed. Recent archaeology reports offer the opportunity for discovery, deeper learning and working together in a spirit of respect and collaboration. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is overseeing this aspect of the project, including consulting with Tribes that may wish to be involved in this effort.

- **A good neighbor.** The DNR's draft EIS finds no long-term negative impact to area property values, traffic, noise, air quality, flood plain, surface water, groundwater and wells.
- **Existing zoning.** The draft EIS confirms that a golf course is an acceptable use for the land under current zoning. A Conditional Use Permit will be required from the Town of Wilson.
- **Permanent legal easement for Timberlake homeowners.** Upon project approval, Kohler will grant homeowners in the neighboring Timberlake subdivision a permanent, legal easement to access the Lake Michigan shoreline.
- **Wetland.** Impacts will be limited to fewer than 5 acres of wetland. Kohler Co. will also pursue the State's mitigation program to preserve additional wetland.
- **Public access to Kohler-Andrae State Park.** The draft EIS highlights plans for the golf course and state park to share an expanded entry road at the south end of the property, steering traffic away from neighboring homes to the north. Kohler Co. has proposed adding a roundabout to improve circulation and make access to Kohler-Andrae State Park easier. The draft EIS confirms that no public trails would be affected by the project.
- **Green building standards.** The draft EIS indicates that environmentally sensitive design standards will be used to achieve eligibility for Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) green building certification.
- **New full-time jobs.** When fully operational, the proposed golf course project will create the equivalent of about 227 new, full-time jobs. In addition, the construction and building of the course and related facilities will create an additional 95 jobs during construction.
- **Multimillion-dollar boost for the Town of Wilson and the region.** The draft EIS includes information from an outside consulting firm that the golf course's total annual estimated economic impact would be \$20.6 million in Sheboygan County, with about \$9.7 million of that amount in the Town of Wilson. The study said that an 11-county area would realize a total estimated economic impact for operations and golf tourism of about \$25.1 million per year.

From: [Joe Hullin](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course Environmental Impact Statement
Date: Thursday, August 25, 2016 9:37:21 PM

Mr. Jay Schiefelbein & the Wisconsin DNR,

I am writing to add my voice of concern over the Environmental Impact Statement that was drafted for the proposed Kohler golf course. I can no better articulate this concern than my wife already has, so I've included her letter, in full, below. Thank you for your consideration.

Joe Hullin
Sheboygan, WI

Dear Mr. Scheifelbein and the stewards of our Wisconsin public lands and water,

I appreciated the opportunity to voice my concerns with the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Kohler golf course at the meeting in Sheboygan Falls on July 20, 2016, and to submit my comments in writing as well. I went to the meeting not planning to speak, but as the meeting progressed, I felt compelled to speak for the citizens who were not there that night and who have NO chance to provide comments on the Environmental Impact Statement. I'm speaking for our children. My 5-year-old son cannot read an Environmental Impact Statement. My five-year-old son does not pay property taxes or income taxes. So—like clean air and clean water—he doesn't sign anyone's paychecks. But, it is still HIS land that is in question here. It's HIS, it's MINE, it's Herb Kohler's, it's yours, and all the citizens of Wisconsin, whether they support or oppose the project. It is OUR public land. The DNR works for all of us, "To protect and enhance our resources."*

Section 6 of the draft Environmental Impact Statement states that approval of this project would set NO precedent. If it is true that there exists a precedent for handing over to an individual or company, for the profit of that individual or company, state park land—in any amount—4 acres or 20—I believe details of this precedent need to be outlined in the Environmental Impact Statement. If this precedent exists, the DNR needs to set a NEW precedent in order to fulfill its mission statement. State park land will not be under any less pressure from developers in the future. We need to protect the people's land NOW so there is precedent to keep protecting our children's land in the future.

At the meeting on July 20, I became increasingly distressed being continually reminded of the incompleteness of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, depriving the citizenry of our right to make informed comments. I expect you will include the information I have requested as well as information others requested in their spoken and written comments, when you publish a complete, science-backed Environmental Impact Statement. I also expect that public comment will be considered when the real Environmental Impact Statement is made available subsequent to Kohler Co. submitting the necessary applications.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to fulfilling the laudable mission of the DNR.

Angela Hullin

**I have used the full phrase "Environmental Impact Statement," rather than the acronym EIS, throughout my comments to make clear that we all understand that Economic Impacts, which may or may not come to fruition as a result of this project, and which may or may not be beneficial to the citizens long-term, are separate from the mission of the DNR and the purposes of their Environmental Impact Statement.*

From: [Mike Lanser](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course in Town of Wilson
Date: Friday, July 22, 2016 1:29:18 PM

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Kohler Golf Course in the Town of Wilson. The Kohler Company has put together a plan that is environmentally friendly, creates jobs, and adds to the Town's tax base. It is the right thing to do for the Town of Wilson and Sheboygan County. The Kohler Company is a responsible organization and has taken into account input from the community. My wife and I have lived in the Town near Kohler Andrae Park for over 29 years. The golf course will enhance the recreation and tourism opportunities in our area. Please accept this letter as unconditional support for the golf course.

Michael A. Lanser
1413 Terry Andrae Terrace
Town of Wilson
Sheboygan, WI 53081

From: [Meghan Soukup](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course Project comment
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 4:09:01 PM

I am opposed to this project because:

We can build another golf course anywhere, but once the rare coastal dune habitat is gone, it's never coming back. The forested property is a major migratory stopover site for birds.

More reasons

- Destroying rare wetlands, animal habitats and migratory bird stopover sanctuaries
- Impacts and risks of building a septic system where water table is very high
- Impacts on residents' wells from pumping millions of gallons of water for irrigation
- Groundwater contamination impacts
- Impacts of spreading huge quantities of herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers on Lake Michigan, the Black River and Town of Wilson wells, plants and wildlife
- Impact of high-capacity wells on a fractured rock aquifer

From: [Jillian Ananda](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course Proposal
Date: Thursday, June 30, 2016 12:05:13 PM

Dear Jay Schiefelbein and/or anyone else it may concern,
Please don't let Kohler Co build their proposed golf course in the area along Lake Michigan and the Black River Forest. There must be other far more suitable areas they could choose than one that would alter precious resources with such natural beauty, which should belong to no one and yet be shared by all including future generations. It is far more valuable in the long run to protect the natural spaces that are becoming rarer and rarer. Wisconsin has already been so changed just in the short space of my life. It would break my heart to see dunes, forests, and wetlands turned into a golf course, of all things. Please use good conscience while considering this. Honor and remember John Muir and Aldo Leopold and all of the other great naturalists who made it their work to help protect these spaces because they saw just how important and special they are.

Thank you.

Jillian

((.*♥*.*))*.((♥)).*((*♥*.*))

"Sing like no one is listening,
love like you've never been hurt, dance like nobody's watching, and live like it's heaven on earth." --Mark Twain

"Blessed is the Child of Light who doth build on Earth the Kingdom of Heaven for he shall dwell in both worlds..." --Essene Gospel of Peace

From: [Debbie Cardinal](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler golf course proposal
Date: Thursday, October 01, 2015 6:11:57 AM

We desperately need to leave our wild resources for animals and plants who struggle with greedy humans too often. Wisconsin does not need another golf course -- particularly not in that spot.

Deborah Cardinal
1521 Adams St
Madison 53711

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Pamela Caserta](#)
To: [Schiefelbein, Jeremiah J - DNR](#)
Subject: Kohler golf course proposal
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 12:04:36 PM

Dear Jay Schiefelbein,

I am vehemently opposed to the Kohler golf course proposed in the Black River Forest. The environmental impact will be too significant in an area that is already rich in golf courses. One of my greatest concerns is how the golf course will impact Lake Michigan. The Lake already displays high levels of algae around Sheboygan in the summer time and nitrates from synthetic lawn care management on the golf course will harm the lake and its ecosystems further.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Kind regards,
Pam

From: [Scott Pitta](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler golf course proposal
Date: Monday, May 09, 2016 6:46:01 AM

I am excited about the potential archaeology discoveries at the golf course site !! What new things will we learn about the Woodland culture ? Will there be finds there that tell us who they traded with ? What trade routes were different due to the Lake Michigan that are different from Woodland villages along the Mississippi ??

What fish species did they eat in comparison to today ? How did the lakeshore influence their art ? Will our understanding of language expand by any finds we make ??

I could write a snarky email filled with unpleasantries, but I am sure those have already come your way.

The cultural contribution made from a multiseason archaeological dig would be far more beneficial than the pleasure, however gratifying, of playing a round of golf. Golf courses abound, but Woodland culture sites on a great lake are quite rare.

Please conserve the entire area by denying the permit to build a golf course.

Scott Pitta
Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Adams County

From: [Stephanie B.](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course Proposal
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 6:11:28 PM

Dear DNR,

As a long time resident of Sheboygan county I vehemently oppose the building of a golf course in the proposed black river forest area. I believe the EIS done by the

Kohler company and the DNR is extremely one sided and obviously slanted towards Kohler's ultimate goals of destroying this natural habitat for profit. This golf course will destroy our ecosystem, pollute our Great Lake and Black River with toxic runoff and affect local wells from the over 30 million gallons of water the course will use yearly. The deforestation of 150 acres will destroy animal habitat and disrupt a major migratory corridor along the lakeshore. The adverse impact this golf course will have on our environment greatly outweighs any jobs or profits it will create. Also the proposed entry is through State land which should not be given away lightly. This is the people's land to use, not big corporations land to turn for greed. Please stop Kohler from filling, defiling and destroying our beautiful land.

Thank you,

Stephanie A Brandl

From: [Richard Nikolai](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course Proposal/Kohler Andre State Park
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 12:07:54 PM
Attachments: [CommentsForKohlerProposal&KoehlerAndreSP_Dick Nikolai_7-27-16.pdf](#)

Jay,
Please note the attachment in opposition to the project as it was submitted.
Additionally keep me informed as to where this project will be after all
comments are taken and a decision is made on acceptance or rejection. Many
thanks.
Dick Nikolai

Dick Nikolai
3 Eastfield Court
Appleton, WI 54915
July 28, 2016

Jay Schiefelbein
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
2984 Shawano Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54313
DNRKohlerproposal@wisconsin.gov

Dear Jay,

By this note, I am voicing my opinion to reject a proposal to have the State of Wisconsin trade, give away or any other conceivable way to remove ownership of the State land that is under Kohler-Andre State Park to Kohler or the proposal as what is proposed as alternatives. One of the reasons why I have two annual State Park Stickers is to be able to view and enjoy what is owned by all people rather than a corporation or a select few for some recreation (golf) that we have an oversupply in the state of Wisconsin. Any part of the current state park is for all generations to come to enjoy the unique environments that are currently in the state. Land is not being made more of in any capacity. Here in my part of the state we cherish High Cliff State Park for its scenery and vistas that it provides along with the forest and open prairie meadows. In particular, the wildlife is what I view most when I visit Kohler-Andre State Park along with its vistas including the dunes. If recreation is to honor tourism then we need to consider first our state tourism of our parks and the reason why state parks were created in the first place.

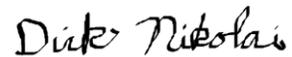
For the Koehler project along Lake Michigan to develop a golf course it must consider all the wetlands that are contained as well as the shoreline from Lake Michigan. Since we are in a high cycle of having the lake rise, shoreline may be eroded easily. That is where the current existence of the trees, wetlands and dunes come in to play to protect the landscape. It is also a reason for migratory birds to stop when they migrate to and from Wisconsin to head to South America.

The proposed roundabout is not a great feature to allow campers and other towing vehicles to go through easily. When weekends come and go the area receives many visitors and the single lane has had backups when we have the visited the park. If the golf course has a major event the allowances for state visitors in the park becomes a problem with congestion with the logistics of access to public lands versus the private.

Wetlands absorb the water from rain and assist in the recharge for the water aquifer. Although there are few wetlands on the Koehler Property, they are still important to preserve.

Please note my alternative is to acquire the land to the west, which is currently in farmland and a golf course. That way if there is a major event for the Golf Course it can accommodate the users, prevent the State Park land from being impacted/or sold and be more fitting since it is using the current golf course land to remodel and going to the Lake Michigan shoreline. With that in mind more of the woodlands can be salvaged and the shoreline having less impacts. Any wetlands can be preserved with most important aspect of having migrating wildlife having a stopover in the vicinity. Further, it is the peace of mind of keeping public lands in the state park system.

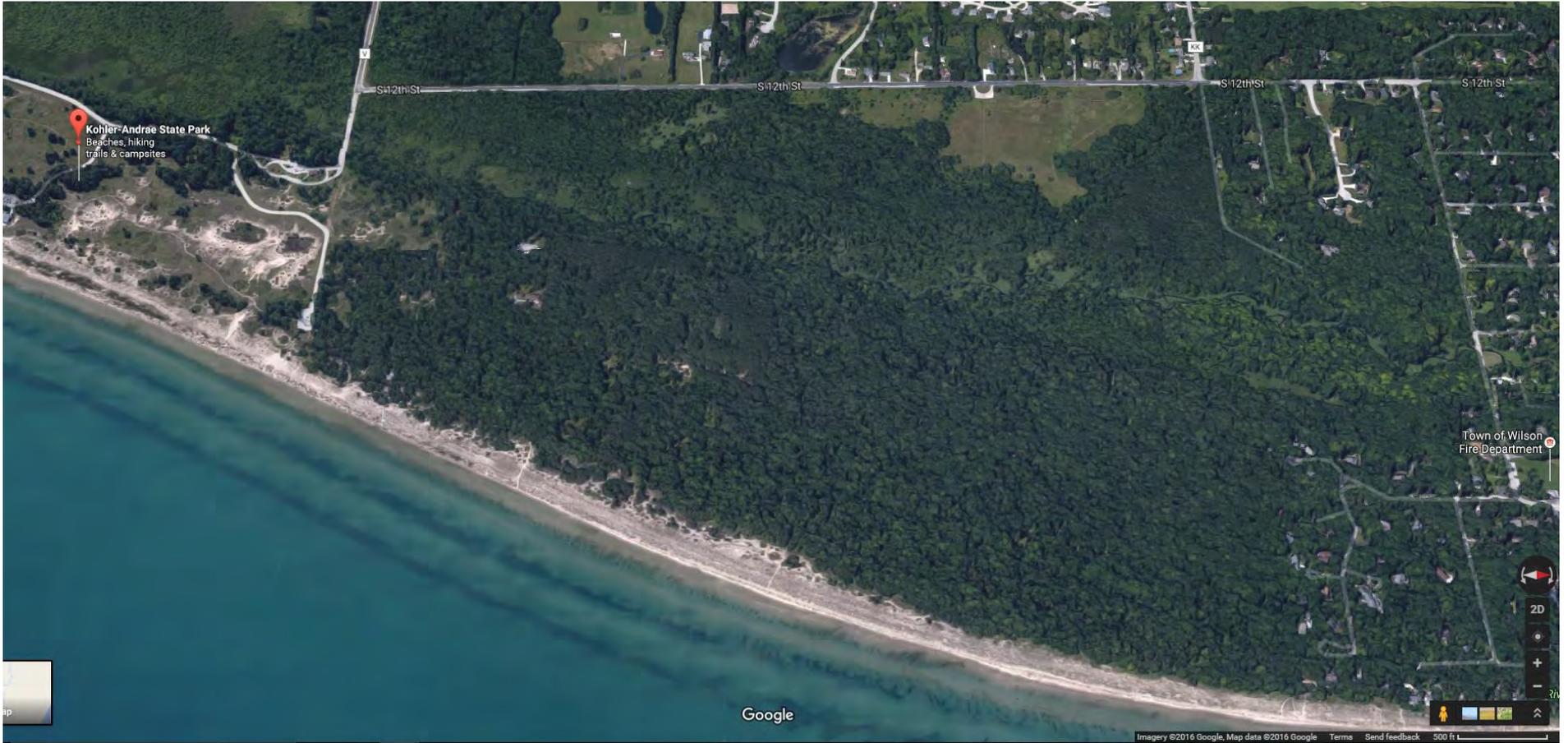
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dick Nikolai". The script is cursive and somewhat informal.

Dick Nikolai

920-734-0828

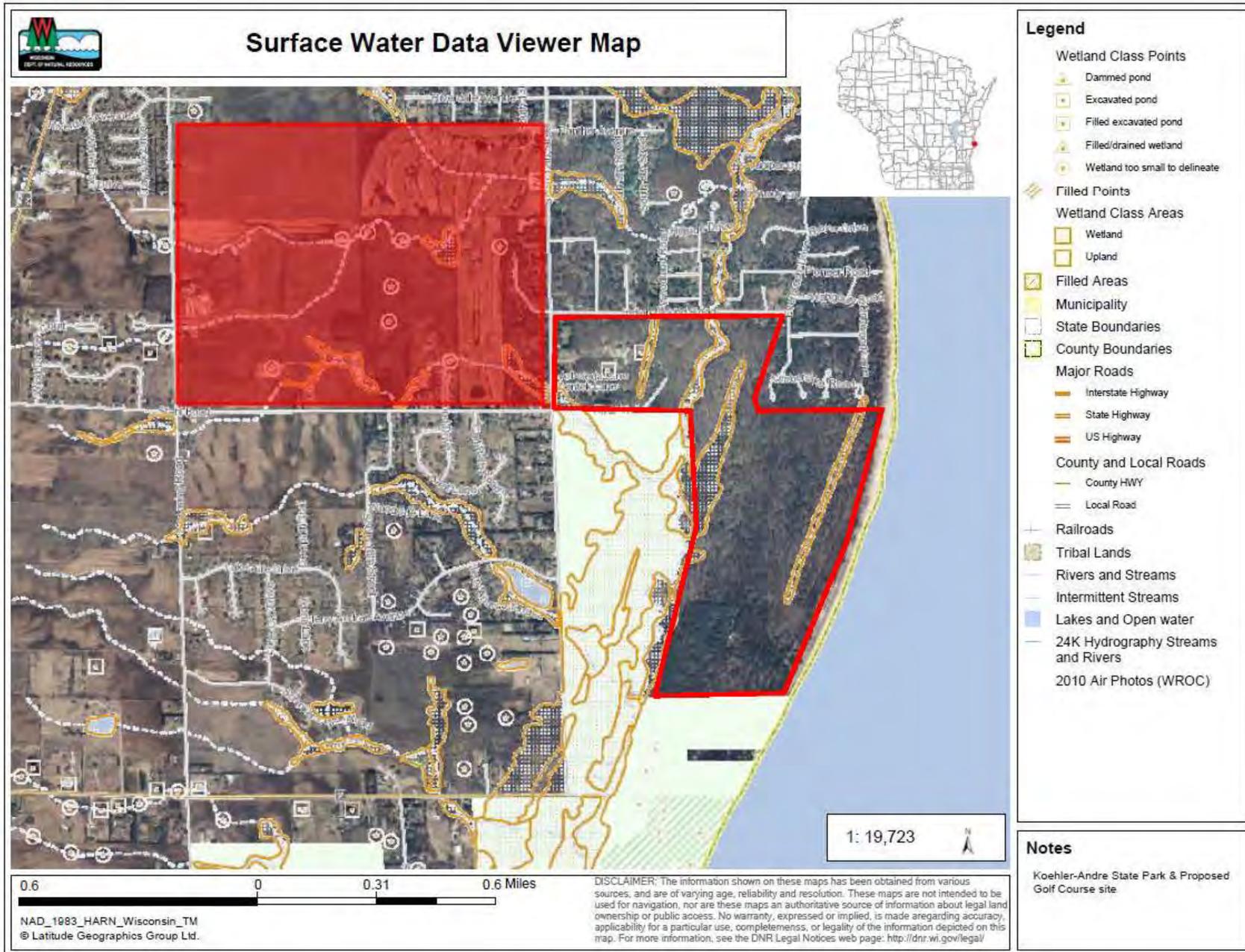
prairiechicken@att.net



Site of proposed Golf Course and State Park Acquisition/or trade.



Koehler Andre State Park Area.



Alternative to proposal. Acquire property to west of proposed golf course highlighted in solid red. Area of private land for proposed golf course is approximate outlined in red. There would be no need to have a shared road, no need for state land to be sold and the property would be equally enhanced to meet the private golf course immediate and future needs.

From: [Kathryn Rausch](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler golf course site EIS
Date: Thursday, July 28, 2016 12:40:07 PM

To whom it may concern,

I have recently become aware of the Kohler company's proposal to construct an 18-hole golf course on company-owned land just north of Kohler-Andrae State Park, and I was asked to provide a comment on the draft EIS recently issued by the DNR. I recognize the importance of the site as a major migratory bird stopover site, and am concerned about the destruction of valuable habitat. The site is really irreplaceable; the birds can't just be encouraged to find a different stopover point now that company execs want a convenient place to play golf. I'm also very concerned about the company's request for four acres of public park land and request to alter the park entrance. This is public land purchased with federal funds. There is no reason to convert it in to private land for the benefit and profit of a private company.

I'm asking the DNR to prioritize wildlife habitat and the integrity of the environment above the benefit of a private company. Please issue the strongest possible worded EIS and advocate for the preservation of this valuable site.

Thank you,

Kathy Rausch

From: [jon.bergquist](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler golf course, Town of Wilson, Sheboygan County
Date: Thursday, July 21, 2016 9:36:22 AM

I strongly oppose the proposed land trade!

Jon R. Bergquist, CWB
220 2nd St
Amery, WI 54001
715 268 5584

From: [Kevin De Mars](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 6:27:07 PM

Please do everything in your power to make sure this doesn't happen.

Thanks,

Kevin J. DeMars

From: [Robert Ziegelbauer](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler golf course
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 3:49:29 PM

Hello

My Name is Robert Ziegelbauer

Address of N8540 lakeshore road Sheboygan Wisconsin Town of Mosel

I am a Sheboygan County Supervisor Representing District 12

I attended Public hearing on the 20th of July in Sheboygan falls.

Former county planner,

Mr Mark Lieder spoke well at this meeting and I agree with his comments entirely.

I am I full support of this proposal. There is nothing but positive in this venture for Sheboygan County.

I am a neighbor of Whistling Straights Golf Course and have witnessed first hand the Positive relationship Kohler establishes with its neighbors and community.

As a child I hunted the Farmland that the straights course currently occupies.

and only have seen increased numbers of migratory birds.

among other wildlife . Including Pelicans the last few years that I have never seen before.

Nesting Bald eagles! once rare as well as cranes that were nonexistent in the seventies in this area.

ive also noted an abundance of milkweed for the butterflies.

as was mentioned at the hearing.

I heard of nightmares on the possibilities of well issues .

we have had a few instances of well issues that were handled quickly and efficiently.

My brothers well was repaired 5-8 years ago along with a neighbor.

They were put up at the resort to ease there inconvenience.

My well suddenly had issues three yrs ago.

I called the town of mosel for forms to fill out notifying Kohler of this.

within a few days I was back to normal with a new well replacing a 40 yr old system at no cost to me.

no scientific evidence was required as stated at hearing.

It was remarkable how efficient this process went.

I have not heard of any other neighbors needs to date.

Nor am I sure of fault?

I am also employed part time at all four courses .
And have seen firsthand the opportunities this creates for Employment at many different levels.

The positive impact of the economy of the region.
And the positive impact from Kohler as a involved community Leader.

Private parcels of land acquired and the homes and roads built in the last seventy five years to the Black river area have had a far more negative impact than this proposed use of this private parcel.

As a neighbor Kohler has been second to none.
There when you need them
Not there when you do not.

I Believe They should be able to pursue there interests
I do not see a negative impact of anykind .

Respectfully Submitted
July 26 2016
Robert Ziegelbauer
County Supervisor District 12
920 980 9253

From: [Linda Krueger](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course
Date: Friday, August 19, 2016 3:34:55 PM

I understand from Friends of the Black River Forest that:

1. The DNR wrote a Draft Environmental Statement on the proposed Kohler golf course without needed information or an application from the Kohler Company.
2. The State will arrange to convert land purchased for Kohler-Andrae Park with Federal funds (LAWCON) to private land so Kohler can use the land for its own profit. The Park's entrance will be reconstructed into a roundabout for the course. Construction will impair the camping and visiting activities of the Park for almost 3 years. 50-60% of the forest will be removed and the rarest wetlands filled in.
3. Dunes which took 5000 years to create will be graded.
4. Residents' wells will be drawn down and only remedied if one can prove to the Kohler Company that its pumping is responsible.
5. Rare and endangered species will be destroyed.
6. The presence of birds and other wildlife will be severely diminished because of loss of habitat. This area is a tier 4 Important Migratory Bird Route.
7. Artifacts and remains of inhabitants from 1200 B.C. will be bulldozed and covered on land that has been recommended by the Army Corps of Engineers for the National Registry of Historic Places.
8. A map of the DNR EIS indicates that Kohler will be given **20** acres of Kohler-Andrae land when the DNR has been saying **4** acres for over a year.

As a Wisconsinite, all of the above is unacceptable to me, even if a case could be made for "needing" yet another golf course in Sheboygan County, which it can't.

Linda C Krueger
Hales Corners, WI

From: [Kevin De Mars](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 6:27:07 PM

Please do everything in your power to make sure this doesn't happen.

Thanks,

Kevin J. DeMars

From: gleannah57@yahoo.com
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf course
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 6:57:12 PM

PLEASE, protect the Shores of the Great Lake Michigan in Sheboygan County by denouncing Kohler's golf course proposal.
Respectfully,
Geraldyn Leannah

From: [Little John](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course
Date: Monday, July 04, 2016 5:39:01 AM

Hello,

This email is to share my opposition to the potential golf course next to Kohler Andre Park. I see no need for yet another golf course in Sheboygan county. The fact is that there are golf courses closing all over the country as well as in this state should a one valid reason to to deny this project. Do we want an ecological wasteland to take the place of a thriving community of plants and animals? The use of chemical pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, etc is a big concern. This property has been a wonderful place for wildlife to take refuge from the activities at the state park and well as the surrounding residential properties. In short, I vote NO on this project.

Sincerely,
John Holzwart

You have to change yourself to change the world. WE ARE the leaders we have been looking for. -Grace Lee Boggs

From: [Mark Leider](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2016 6:28:40 AM

Attention Jay Schiefelbein:

Good Morning:

I have read all of the documents attendant to this project, and I intend to submit comments in strong support of this project. Question: At Wednesday's hearing, is there a time period for folks like me to present their testimony? Or, is Wednesday's hearing simply an opportunity to view the project alternatives and EIS details?

If there will be no public comment period, I will stay home and simply mail my written statement.

Many thanks.

Mark
markleider@att.net
920-918-3309

God Bless You!

Mark J. Leider

*"Lord, suffer me to catch
a fish so large that even I
in talking of it
shall have no need to lie."*

LeiderSide

From: [Mark and Jenny McGinley](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler golf course
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 3:06:15 PM

Please not another Kohler golf course. There is no way that the DNR should be working on behalf of Kohler to help make this golf course a reality. State land of the people should not be given back to someone to provide that person more profit. The DNR should not allow this ecosystem to be pillaged for someone's personal gain. This is a very unique ecosystem that will be destroyed with the construction of yet another golfing environment on the shores of Lake Michigan. There aren't places like this anymore. It should be treasured and preserved which is the job of the DNR. Don't let the bullies running our state keep you from doing your job and representing all the people, not just the rich.

Construct a true and researched environmental impact statement. We know this ecosystem is special and will be trashed by this construction and so do you. Putting out some propaganda to aid Kohler just shows how far the DNR is removed from doing the job of taking care of our natural resources.

Stand up DNR for what is right. Stop this project. It is within your power.

Jennifer McGinley

From: awrubbel@gmail.com
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course
Date: Monday, July 18, 2016 2:54:27 PM

To Whom It May Concern

As a Village President in Sheboygan County I would like to comment on the proposed DNR environmental impact study regarding the Kohler Golf Course in the Town of Wilson.

I believe this Golf course will not only be environmentally friendly but will also create jobs and bring more tourism to Sheboygan County. The DNR report is a very detailed document that seems to answer all questions that the public was concerned about.

It is my hope that the Town of Wilson Planning Commission and the Town Board gives the go ahead for this project.

As a civic leader I understand that in the long run it is up to the residents and the Town Board to make the final decision.

Thank you for allowing me to submit these comments.

Allen Wrubbel
President of the Village of Oostburg

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® A

From: [Emmett Wessel](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Golf Course
Date: Friday, August 26, 2016 12:23:38 PM

Jay Schiefelbein,

I am writing to express great concern over Kohler's preliminary, very incomplete plan for the proposed Town of Wilson golf course. The plan shows fairways, greens and buildings superimposed on an aerial photo. If this is in any way accurate part of the course appears to be on the dunes adjacent to Lake Michigan. This will entail much destruction of trees, dune grass and the dunes. Also, lake levels fluctuate greatly and are now high. During storms and high winds the waves are now washing away much of the beach. If the lake rises to 1980's levels waves will easily reach the course built on or near the dunes. Then the top soil and course grasses will be washed away. I'm sure Kohler has plans to protect this from happening, but nowhere in the preliminary plans is this addressed! Why not? Large boulders are the usual form of protection used, but if this is insufficient will a type of seawall be requested by Kohler? This would certainly disrupt the natural sand and dune movement to the north and south. Another concern is beach access for walkers. Feet in water is the rule, but with lake levels high this places non-golfers in close proximity to proposed course. Will this be a problem? Will Kohler block access as at Whistling Straits?

There are so many unknowns concerning this golf course and Kohler is not providing answers. Does the DNR really think there is enough information to make an informed decision on issuing permits to Kohler. I certainly hope this is not a done deal because of political pressure.

Thank-you very much for considering all input and for holding the July 20th hearing in Sheboygan Falls.

Emmett and Kathleen Wessel

6267 S. 18th St.

Sheboygan, WI 53081

From: [ANDREW GERARD CASSINI](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Property Comments
Date: Friday, August 26, 2016 2:20:50 PM
Attachments: [WSO Kohler EIS Response.docx](#)

To Whom It May Concern,

I am submitting written comments on behalf of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology Conservation Committee regarding the proposed Kohler Golf Course EIS. Please contact me with any questions. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew G. Cassini, Ph.D.
Wisconsin Society for Ornithology
Vice President and Conservation Committee Chairperson

August 22, 2016

VIA Email Delivery

Jay Schiefelbein
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
2984 Shawano Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54313-6727

Dear Mr. Schiefelbein;

Please accept these comments on behalf of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology (WSO) on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) recently released by the Department for the golf course proposed by the Kohler Company in Sheboygan County.

As this apparent project proposal has moved forward over the last two years, WSO has provided oral and written comments to illustrate our concerns about the loss of one of the last remnants of intact forests along the Lake Michigan shoreline. The forest and adjacent dune and beach are important stopover habitat for migratory birds, and the large forest block provides breeding habitat for birds that require large territories, as well as buffering Kohler-Andrae State Park from the effects of nearby development. We have provided support for our concerns in the form of published data and research, expert opinion, and a specific analysis by the Wisconsin Stopover Initiative which determined that the area has the highest level of significance for migratory bird stopover habitat.

In its initial review letter to the Kohler Company regarding the Environmental Impact Report, dated May 22, 2015, the DNR requested that the company “provide any wildlife or migratory bird surveys conducted by Kohler or used in the EIR”. In WSO’s comments submitted to DNR on July 23, 2015 during the Environmental Scoping process (Attached), WSO agreed with DNR’s request for further information on bird surveys that may have been conducted as part of the EIR. WSO further asked that a thorough evaluation of the area as breeding and stopover habitat for shorebirds and landbirds be conducted. Since no comprehensive surveys have been produced or cited in the EIS, we must assume that they were not undertaken.

The Kohler Company only commissioned surveys for three state threatened or endangered birds: [REDACTED]. DNR notes on page 40 of the EIS that seven other bird species were incidentally noted and that “additional wildlife species are likely present but were not noticed or surveyed.” There are a variety of other bird species that are state threatened, endangered, or of special concern that may use the property as breeding and/or migratory stopover habitat, including several species of terns, rails, owls, and passerines, and we believe that these species merit a comprehensive assessment as well.

On pages 16, 22, 31, 33, and 34 of the draft EIS, DNR acknowledges the unique and valuable nature of the plant communities which support rare, threatened and endangered species. The Kohler EIR contains many pages of survey documentation on wetland and plant communities. We believe that the breeding and migrant bird communities should receive comparable attention, as they will be significantly affected by alterations to these plant communities.

Page 40 of the EIS reiterates many of the points made by WSO in our written comments submitted to the DNR in July 2015: recognition by the DNR of the area as an Important Bird Area and a Tier I migratory bird stopover habitat; mention of the DNR's *Ecological Landscapes of Wisconsin* which states that "Providing and maintaining a sufficient variety and abundance of the habitats needed by [migratory] birds is a priority conservation goal"; and lists of numbers of birds observed by citizen scientists in surrounding areas. Given that DNR acknowledges the importance of this area to breeding and migratory birds, we question why there have been no comprehensive surveys of the site undertaken, nor any specific analysis on the significance of the change in migratory bird stopover habitat.

On pages 38-39 of the EIS, DNR acknowledges that the size of the forest habitat at the site would be significantly reduced, and its quality compromised: "The Kohler Property is almost 100 percent contiguous forest and at least 50 percent of that would be retained as fragmented forest, ensuring some habitat availability during songbird migration. . . .*The forest edge along turfgrass and human use areas created from fragmentation of the forest would probably increase the challenge of exotic and invasive species management.* The edge would likely provide some habitat for species that inhabit transitions between forest and openings. *Habitat value would likely be diminished,* however. . . . Interior forest bird nesting habitat is likely present within and adjacent to the Project boundary and would likely be eliminated. *Wildlife species inhabiting these areas would be permanently impacted by the loss of habitat. However, impact to these species is not expected to create a significant effect on regional populations.*" (Italics ours.)

We disagree with the statement that impact to these species is not expected to create a significant effect on regional populations. First, it is not known which species are present or their approximate number. Second, if the species in question are state endangered, threatened, or species of concern, then they are in need of conservation action and efforts should be made to protect local populations, regardless of the species status in the Midwest region. Third, this philosophy is short-sighted; if enough individual blocks in a habitat matrix are eliminated, effects on regional populations will eventually occur.

WSO again requests that formal migratory and breeding bird surveys, following established protocols, be conducted to determine which bird species use the area, to what degree and how the projected loss of 50% of the forest cover would impact the local populations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft EIS.

Sincerely,

Dianne Packet, M.S., WSO Conservation Committee Member

Andrew Cassini, Ph.D., WSO Vice President and Conservation Committee Chairperson

From: [Susan Daugherty](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler proposal
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 11:43:16 AM

Do not approve giving Kohler land. They are one of the richest companies in Wisconsin and can be treated like any other. Our state natural resources are for the people to enjoy as NATURAL resources. This is a travesty.

Thank you for listening,

Kristin S. Daugherty
509 Hillington Way
Madison, Wisconsin 53726

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. -Margaret Mead, anthropologist (16 Dec 1901-1978)

From: [Michael Doran](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Proposal
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 2:58:47 PM

This is insane! Kohler-Andrae State Park is a Wisconsin Jewel. My family and I have a long history of enjoying this public land and have had much pleasure over the years in doing so. There are extremely valuable ecosystem services provided by the park properties including carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat, water quality improvement, groundwater recharge and human recreation that will be irreparably damaged. The properties have, in fact, been proposed for national heritage site listing. There is no way that a reasonable person would allow this project to proceed. This is public property that is unique in character and value, that is being proposed to be given away to a private party for the purpose of making profit. How can this be justified? We humans continue to cause extremely adverse impacts on Earth. The only way we can mitigate these impacts is by reducing our footprint, not increasing it in the way this project will do. We should be buying and protecting more natural areas, not developing them.

Please do not allow this to happen!

Michael D. Doran, P.E. DEE *5212 Tonyawatha Trl, Monona WI 53716
*608-334-4810

From: [Myk Hranicka](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler proposal
Date: Friday, July 22, 2016 3:20:38 PM

My name is Myk Hranicka. I want to share some of my concerns about another golf course in Sheboygan county. First, I feel that the protection of wildlife should come first. With dwindling resources in this state, the few natural places along Lake Michigan should be preserved. Second, you don't have to look very far to see the effects that golf courses have on the environment. With all of the added nitrogen and phosphates that will be draining into the watersheds in the area, it will sooner than later become a very imminent problem! Lake Michigan is already starting to have bigger and more dangerous algae blooms caused by "legal" use of fertilizers. Right now in Florida, these same problems are killing wildlife and getting people sick from Blue Green algae. They are linking most of the problem is being caused by home use and golf course runoff of fertilizers! This problem is so big it's getting into the Gulf of Mexico! So in the Kohler golf course proposal, it's not if, but when this happens along the swimming shores of Lake Michigan, how much wildlife, and how many people do you want to get sick? So many of our "legal" practices are still polluting the environment! We need stricter regulations, and they need to be enforced! As the VP of Wisconsin Lakeshore chapter of Trout Unlimited, I urge you to reconsider the long term effects this golf course would have on the environment and the people who live near it. Someone has to start putting their foot down on pollution in this state. Just because it's "legal", doesn't mean it's right! Thank you for your time.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [james knickelbine](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler proposal
Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2015 8:30:48 AM

Hello,

I realize that this is a few days late but hope my comments can be included.

Regarding the proposed golf course adjacent to Kohler-Andrae State Park, I recommend against this project. The site is one of the few remaining parcels of [REDACTED] Habitat, which is known for rich floral and faunal diversity. It's location makes it part of an important migratory stopover for many species of birds, and it is located within what the WDNR itself has identified as a Conservation Opportunity Area (COA) of Global significance, one of few designated as such in eastern Wisconsin. Disruption of such an important biological site for recreational use is a very bad idea.

Jim Knickelbine
6016 Hwy KB
Denmark, WI 54208

From: [Aleks Kosowicz](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Proposal
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 11:02:27 AM

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that the DNR has taken up a rather "unnatural" partnership with Kohler concerning the appropriation of public, wild lands. As a Wisconsin resident, and one who enjoys the natural, protected areas of our state, I am writing to urge this public service to do just that: serve the public. The citizens deserve to know, in detail, the specific conditions regarding any exchange of said lands (especially with a private corporation that would profit from its acquisition) so that we have the opportunity to participate in the approval/denial of such proposals. The citizens deserve the ability to voice their concerns and preserve the lands that surround their communities.

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the scheduled hearing pertaining to this specific topic, so I am submitting my appeal in writing rather than in person: I urge the DNR to do everything it can do to protect the remaining wild habitats and ecosystems in our state and ensure that their natural beauty (and the beauty of the myriad species who call them home) may be enjoyed by the public for generations to come.

Respectfully,

Aleks Kosowicz
Hayward, WI

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

From: [Jennifer Pentek](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler proposal
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 7:53:50 PM

I apologize that my family and I will be unable to make it to the public hearing next Wednesday at the Sheboygan falls auditorium to show our support against the proposal. However, in case emails are counted to help determine how many public citizens are against the kohler proposal, please count all six of us in this category. Thank you

Jeffrey Pentek
Sharon Pentek
Bernard Pentek
Matthew Pentek
Jennifer Pentek
Mike Pentek

Sincerely,

Pentek family

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rich](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Proposal
Date: Saturday, July 30, 2016 10:32:16 AM

To whoever is in charge!

If this is true, shame on you!

Marilynn Dressler

There is are some issues occurring that I think all Wisconsinites should be aware of. In short, Kohler is building a golf course on property they own next to Kohler-Andrae State Park. They want to PURCHASE 4-20 acres of the State Park and this DNR is helping them do so.

Andrae is not in our back yard, but this purchase could set a dangerous precedent for purchase of ANY of our lovely public lands, continually nibbling away at the edges by developers. These are lands reserved for public use, and should be into perpetuity. Not reserved until someone comes along and decides to develop it.

BUT you can easily express your opinion BEFORE AUG 1, with the DNR by emailing at DNRKOHLERPROPOSAL@wisconsin.gov

Below is more info as to why many, including former K-A Superintendant James Buchholz who thinks the proposed golf course itself shouldn't happen as it impacts groundwater, it is a bird migratory stopover, there are Native American artifacts galore, and this is rare, rare habitat:

"The DNR's own Bureau of Endangered Species has termed these rare wetlands [REDACTED] as the rarest, most irreplaceable habitat/ecosystems in the state of Wisconsin. If the DNR doesn't protest the irreversible/permanent destruction of this important and threatened ecosystem who will? "

Please educate yourself, contact the DNR and share.

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FROM MY HOUSE TO YOURS ~ ~ ◦ * ★ ◦ * ★ ◦ * ★

Sent from my iPad

From: [Jane Ungari](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler proposed golf course
Date: Sunday, August 21, 2016 4:30:23 PM

Jay:

I can't figure the business sense in the Kohler's changing their land from beautiful forest to a golf course. Many golfers are dying off and I believe over 100 golf courses have closed already closed. It doesn't seem like the younger generation wants to spend its time and money on golf.

These are my concerns, which you probably have heard before:

1. a roundabout would cause delays for the park patrons, the one private property in the park, and for the Kohler golfers;
2. the new maintenance building is too close to private property, guests and children, especially the noise of the 5:00 AM start;
3. it seems to me to be cruel to mess with the Indian burial grounds;
4. my water concerns include pollution of the water table with the use of pesticides and fertilizers as well as the lowering of the water table to water the greens and fairways;
5. we lose more than we urbanites realize by eliminating bird species habitats;
6. 50% loss of trees means a 50% loss of oxygen generation for the area;
- 7 neighbors to the north should not have to lose what probably drew them to the Black River in the first place.

Please don't let this golf course be built; save the woods.

Jane Mueller Ungari

From: [Lois](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Proposed Town Wilson Golf Course
Date: Saturday, July 30, 2016 1:28:37 PM

There needs to be a fund to cover the cost to homeowners for extending/re-drilling wells that go dry in the years after the golf course is established and running. Costs to individual property owners to recover water access is not insignificant. Should such a fund be established, I can readily support the golf course project.

Tom Fritsch
4223 Moenning Road
Sheboygan, WI 53081

From: [Alex Johnson](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler Town of Wilson Golf Course Scam
Date: Thursday, July 21, 2016 6:49:46 PM

It's a dam outrage to even consider destroying any freaking part of these pristine lands. There are so many sound reasons to leave it as is. Last area like this within 100 miles on Lake Michigan shores. Do not let this happen no matter who greases your pockets.

100% against this project.

I live 1/4 mile from it for the last 17 years.

Alex Johnson

5418 Timberline Lane

Sheboygan, WI 53081

920-457-6117

email: alittlejay@hotmail.com

From: [jordan davis](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler-Andrae State Park
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 11:30:29 AM

Hello,

I am a Wisconsin state resident disapproving of the DNR's proposal to parcel out land from Kohler-Andrae state park to make room for a new golf course.

Please stop this proposal as Wisconsin's state parks are one of our greatest resources and eroding protections on them should be entirely out of the question. We need to ensure these lands are available for our children's generation and our grandchildren's

Thank you for your time,

Jordan Davis
2828 S Pine st.
Milwaukee WI, 53207

From: [Jeff](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler-Andrae State Park
Date: Sunday, July 31, 2016 1:01:56 PM

I am opposed to giving up any State Park land to the Kohler Company. The DNR is supposed to be protecting the land that we have plus trying to acquire more, not giving it away. Kohler is a for-profit industry that is creating golf courses that the average person cannot afford. What a waste of land use. This is obviously a political move with the DNR caving into the demands of a big company with a lot of money. Sad!

From: [Michael Wojtasiak](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler-Andrae State Park
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 10:21:34 AM

To whom it may concern,

As a lifelong resident of Wisconsin and regular visitor to our state parks and forests, it saddens me to hear that the DNR is considering sell off State Park land to be deforested and converted into a for-profit business. I have read about the environmental impact on the development, from the risk to the area's water table to the groundwater contamination to the destruction of a migratory bird stopover site. I've always thought our state parks and forests were designated as such to protect these things - not to simply treat them as land holdings to sell off when the price is right.

Please reconsider selling off these lands, and keep them as a treasured park of state's great park system.

Thank you,
Michael Wojtasiak
Monona, Wisconsin

From: [Arthur Marquardt](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Kohler"s Terry Andrea gulf coarse
Date: Friday, August 26, 2016 1:49:34 PM

I live in the town of Wilson, close to where Kohler wants to build a gulf coarse. I have read multiple documents, concerning the gulf coarse, from both sides. I have lived in Sheboygan since 1957, but lived in Colorado Springs from 2000 to 2014. In my opinion developers destroyed Colorado Springs and my wife and I could not get out of there and back to here fast enough.

This proposed gulf coarse would be a good thing for Kohler's profit, that is what he is in business for. The proposed gulf coarse would not be a good thing for the Town of Wilson residents. I read that Kohler stated "if the golf coarse does not work for the residents then it would not work for Kohler". I am a resident and it does not work for me.

We do not NEED a gulf coarse. We NEED the DNR to protect that land and the sacred rights of the people buried there. The zoning is obviously wrong and needs to be changed.

I believe that the Kohler land needs to be acquired by the state as to protect it from the developers. The state should not even consider giving any of the Terry Andrea land to Kohler.

This whole fiasco smells of greed.

Thank You, Arthur Marquardt
Town of Wilson tax payer

From: [Linda](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Cc: [DNR SECRETARY](#)
Subject: Kohler Andrea state park
Date: Monday, July 25, 2016 1:26:00 PM

What is good for Billionaires is not always good for generations of hard working Wisconsin residents. The DNR is to safeguard the land, water, air and other resources for the residents of the State of Wisconsin, current and those in the future. The Values of the DNR are being thrown away. Wisconsin was once known for their protection of the resources and now it is being torn apart.

When wetlands are removed from the landscape in this project and many other projects like the Bergstrom project in Green Bay, they are gone. Once the current administration is gone, the fall out will be on future administrations and got our children to deal with.

Rare and endangered species will be destroyed in this project. Artifacts and remains from 1200 B.C will be gone. They can not be replaced.

Migratory bird routes will be impacted

I understand that science has been thrown out in favor of big business, and political wishes but let science and those trained in science be heard instead of big business and political favors.

4 acres was the original number of acres that were to be sold for the golf course. The majority of Wisconsin residents will not be able to afford to golf and eat at Kohler facilities.

Linda Nikolai
3 Eastfield Court
Appleton, WI. 54915

Sent from my iPad

From: [Gloria Misiaszek](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Letter Attachments
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 2:21:34 PM

Dear Mike,

Thank you for taking my call this afternoon. I am sending you a note so that you have my contact information in order to send me the attachments to the Army Corps of Engineers letter. The date stamp on the letter is June 21, 2016.

Thanks again.

Gloria

Gloria A. Misiaszek, Paralegal
Legal Department
Forest County Potawatomi Community
Phone: (414) 847-7750 Direct Dial: (414) 847-7811
Email: Gloria.Misiaszek@fcpotawatomi-nsn.gov

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Think Green. Please consider the environment before printing this message. Thank you.

From: [mark.briese](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: letter re Kohler golf course
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016 2:38:49 PM

I am opposed to the proposed construction of a golf course in the Town of Wilson by the Kohler Company. The site for this project is situated on a sensitive wetland abutting the Lake Michigan shore and is adjacent to a state park, which by itself should negate its feasibility.

I am concerned that your draft EIS lacks science based data and does not hold the Kohler Company responsible for their lack of details on their proposal. The impact of this development would stress the water table for existing residents in the area and chemical runoff would further stress Lake Michigan. I am also concerned that previous developments, like Whistling Straits, have denied both visual (via berms) access and beach access (via concrete blocks) for WI residents. This is illegal, yet it exists today.

The proposed benefits of 200+ jobs is ridiculous on its face, unless these numbers came from what levels may be during a 3 day event which may occur once a decade. The loss of animal habitat, natural dunes, and addition of vehicle traffic pollution (both noise and exhaust) also make this a moral issue. Course fees at Whistling Straits run near \$500. Are we willing to sacrifice this sensitive area to those in the upper income brackets that would come here not to marvel at the area's natural beauty, but to play a trivial game? I hope not.

I lived in the Bay Area of CA from 1970 thru 1990 and have seen what over development of finite resources can cause not only to the environment, but to the everyday quality of life. Once an environment is damaged, it is all but impossible to restore. We have many resources in WI that too many take for granted. Fresh water is Number One. I am not anti-development. If Kohler wants to move some manufacturing jobs back to WI, I will cheer his decision.

I tried to find employment statistics for Whistling Straits, but could not. You should use your considerable resources to verify their economic benefit claims. FYI there is a part time bartender position open at the Straits (29 hrs/wk). Hardly a family supporting opportunity.

I hope the DNR abides by its mission statement and fully holds to a science based evaluation of this project. As a WI taxpayer, I expect this. Political funding lobbying and campaign funding had better not surface as favors in this proposal.

Mark Briese
2430 Erie Avenue
Sheboygan WI 53081
920 918 8196

From: [Ross, Laurie J - DNR](#)
To: [Georgeanne Matranga](#); [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Cc: [DNR SECRETARY](#); [Thiede, Kurt A - DNR](#)
Subject: Matranga comment RE: Do NOT approve Kohler company's plan for a golf course on public state land!
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 9:25:36 AM

Your email has been shared with the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board as well as with appropriate department staff for their consideration. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you for your comments related the proposed Kohler Golf Course.

Please be aware that each Wisconsin Natural Resources Board meeting is webcast live. You can forward the following link and information to others so they can watch the meeting. Go to <http://dnr.wi.gov/about/nrb/agenda.html> and click Webcasts in the Related Links column on the right. Then click on this month's meeting. After each meeting, the webcast will be permanently available on demand.

If you have not done so already, I encourage you to "subscribe" to future Wisconsin Natural Resources Board notices (e.g. agenda, brief of action, calendar) and receive email or text updates. You can do so under SUBSCRIBE at <http://dnr.wi.gov/about/nrb/>.

Best regards,

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Laurie J. Ross

Natural Resources Board Liaison – Office of the Secretary Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources P. O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921

Phone: (608) 267-7420

Fax: (608) 266-6983

Email: laurie.ross@wisconsin.gov

dnr.wi.gov

From: Georgeanne Matranga [mailto:dtporge@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 5:05 AM

To: DNR Kohler Proposal

Cc: DNR SECRETARY; Thiede, Kurt A - DNR; Ross, Laurie J - DNR

Subject: Do NOT approve Kohler company's plan for a golf course on public state land!

Dear Wisconsin DNR Officials,

I oppose any easement through Wisconsin lands for Kohler's proposed golf course. No public lands should be sold or used for private profit. This easement would cut across State trails that are heavily used by the public. Our environment is not here to serve the 1%.

I am asking the DNR to DENY the Kohler Company's request to build a private maintenance shed on over 12 acres of public land. The DNR must tell the Kohler Company that they can NOT destroy wetlands, bulldoze rare

dunes along the Lake Michigan shoreline, clear cut over 125 acres of forest and use public lands for a private, for-profit, golf course. The DNR must NOT set a precedent of stealing land from Wisconsin residents and giving it to the highest bidder. I am requesting that the Wisconsin DNR PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND PRESERVE WISCONSIN'S PUBLIC LANDS.

Thank you for your attention to my profoundly grave concerns.

Sincerely,

Georgeanne Matranga
140 Village Green Drive
Port Jefferson Station, New York 11776
DTPORGE@aol.com

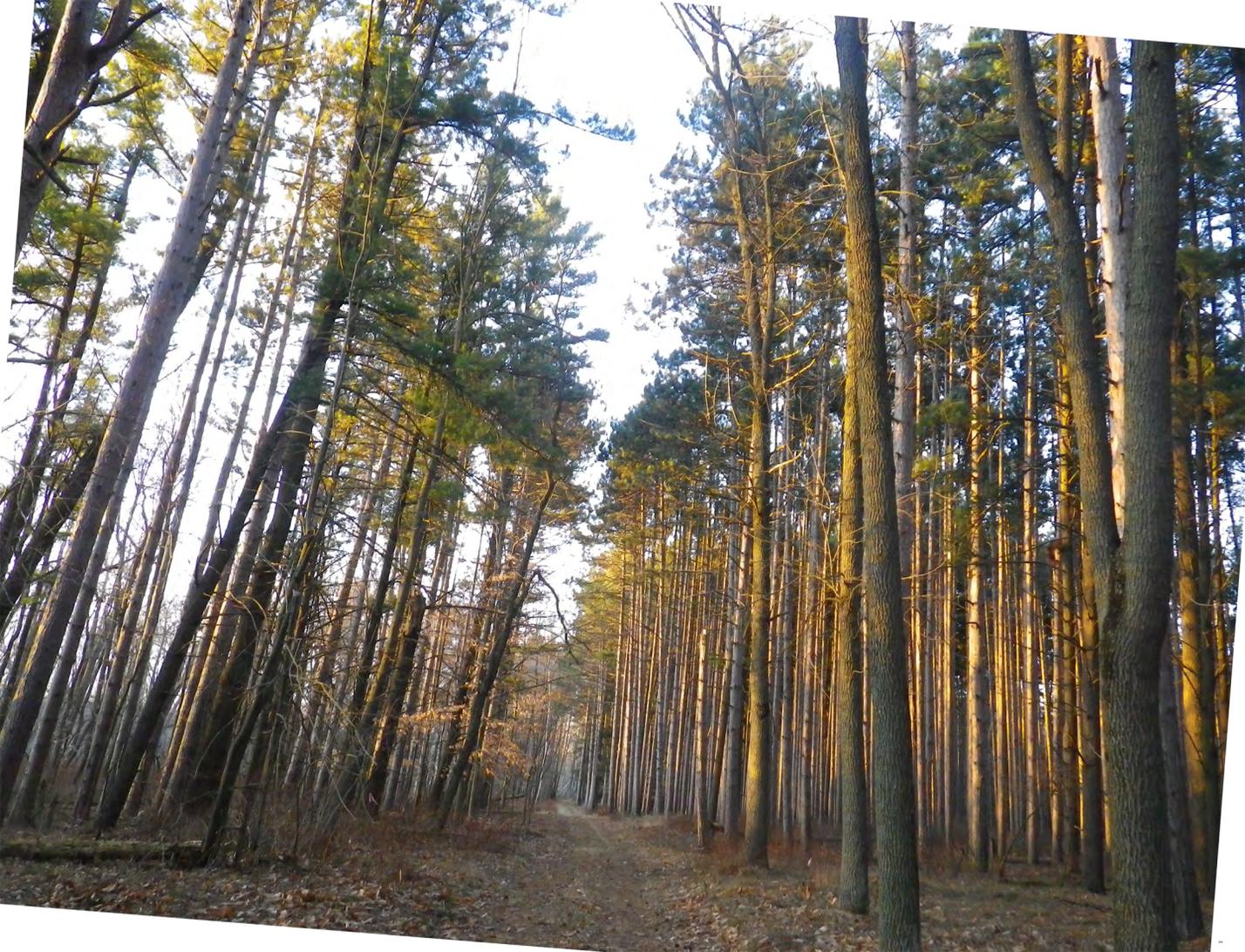
From: [Joe Selinski](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Money is not the answer!
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2016 5:31:56 PM

I would like to officially add my name in protest of the proposed golf course in the Black River area of Sheboygan. I spent many hours in that area as a teen and it represents the natural environment on the shore of Lake Michigan. No amount of preservation will be significant if this area is developed and once it is lost will be lost forever. The only real driving force behind this project is money with vague speculation of what it may bring to the community. We need to preserve nature and history and not an additional golf course.

Sincerely,
Joseph Selinski

From: [TOM THEUNE](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: more woods
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 1:11:19 PM
Attachments: [222.JPG](#)
[176.JPG](#)
[156.JPG](#)

Sorry, don't know how to make smaller files to send these in 1 email..







From: [Julie Salt](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: NO to purchase of Kohler Andrae State Park acres for golf course
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 7:52:03 AM

I and my family absolutely do not want any acres of Kohler Andrae State Park or any other state park to be sold off for private interests.

As for the development of the golf course, others have explained problems with developing the land. For one:

"In particular, the forested property is a major migratory stopover site. The DEIS, while noting that the area is recognized as an important stopover site, does not provide any specific evaluation of how the extensive forest clearing for a golf course would degrade the value as a migratory stopover site." <http://wsobirds.org/about-wso/news/346-public-comments-invited-on-kohler-golf-course-project>

These are unique and fragile lands that deserve to be protected. It seems in trying to develop them, the very beauty Kohler is trying to capture will be destroyed, removing 1/2 the trees and other alterations. Instead of a golf course, why not develop a birding mecca or eco-tours (assuming done in a thoughtful way)? Let's think outside the box here!

We cannot recreate the quality of these habitats, which becomes more clear as we scrape the surface of the interplay between soil and water, earth and sky, floral and fauna, much we do understand or realize is there.

Thank you,
Julie Salt
1433 Ellen Ave
Madison, WI 53716

From: [Laura Anderton](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: No Development of Kohler Andrae!
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 7:10:24 PM

I read that a part of Kohler Andrae is planned to be sold as easement for a golf course and I was horrified. We camp at Kohler Andrae every year and I would be appalled to know that parts are being sold off. It is completely unnecessary. Please don't do this to a beautiful park that so many use and love.

-Laura Anderton

6705 Cooper Ave

Middleton, WI 53562

From: [Angie Hullin](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Cc: [Angie Hullin](#)
Subject: No giveaway of our state land
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016 10:35:14 PM

Dear Mr. Scheifelbein and the stewards of our Wisconsin public lands and water,

I appreciated the opportunity to voice my concerns with the draft Environmental* Impact Statement for the proposed Kohler golf course at the meeting in Sheboygan Falls on July 20, 2016, and to submit my comments in writing as well. I went to the meeting not planning to speak, but as the meeting progressed, I felt compelled to speak for the citizens who were not there that night and who have NO chance to provide comments on the Environmental Impact Statement. I'm speaking for our children. My 5-year-old son cannot read an Environmental Impact Statement. My five-year-old son does not pay property taxes or income taxes. So—like clean air and clean water—he doesn't sign anyone's paychecks. But, it is still HIS land that is in question here. It's HIS, it's MINE, it's Herb Kohler's, it's yours, and all the citizens of Wisconsin, whether they support or oppose the project. It is OUR public land. The DNR works for all of us, "To protect and enhance our resources."

Section 6 of the draft Environmental Impact Statement states that approval of this project would set NO precedent. If it is true that there exists a precedent for handing over to an individual or company, for the profit of that individual or company, state park land—in any amount—4 acres or 20—I believe details of this precedent need to be outlined in the Environmental Impact Statement. If this precedent indeed exists, the DNR needs to set a NEW precedent in order to fulfill its mission statement. State park land will not be under any less pressure from developers in the future. We need to protect the people's land NOW so there is precedent to keep protecting our children's land in the future.

At the meeting on July 20, I became increasingly distressed being continually reminded of the incompleteness of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, depriving the citizenry of our right to make informed comments. I expect you will include the information I have requested as well as information others requested in their spoken and written comments, when you publish a complete, science-backed Environmental Impact Statement. I also expect that public comment will be considered when the real Environmental Impact Statement is made available subsequent to Kohler Co. submitting the necessary applications.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to fulfilling the laudable mission of the DNR.

Angela Hullin
6709 Lake Aire Ct.
Sheboygan

*I have used the full phrase "Environmental Impact Statement," rather than the acronym EIS, throughout this email to make clear that we all understand: Economic Impacts, which may or may not come to fruition as a result of this project, and which may or may not be beneficial to the citizens long-term, are separate from the mission of the DNR and the purposes of their Environmental Impact Statement.

From: [Maureen McDonald](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: No golf course using public land
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 6:00:49 PM

Disasters ous results to the planet wet lands trees forests r necessary to our survival, think. Terre Andrea is a pristine park,that we luv

Sent from my iPad

From: [Carla](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: No golf course
Date: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 10:04:31 AM

There is no environmental good to another golf course on Lake Michigan's shore. Wisconsin State Park land should not be used for commercial purposes or developed by any private party.
State park land does not belong to the governor or his campaign contributors.
Leave the Black River Forest shoreline undeveloped. Leave our state parks alone.

From: [Victoria Bower](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: No more golf courses are needed in this county.
Date: Monday, July 04, 2016 10:19:48 PM

In a time of growing population, diminishing resources including sufficient clean water availability to sustain life in many areas, it makes no sense to build more golf courses. Golf courses use a maximum of resources, water in particular, introduce loads of toxic chemicals in the use of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides, and are of arguable use and benefit for decreasing numbers of people. In many regions, some golf courses are failing as not enough people can afford to belong to them or pay the course fees to golf. A limited percentage of the population actually uses them.

Certainly five in one county is enough. Protect the countryside and environment. Protect water resources for basic needs of life, human and animal. In this way, you will not regret your actions when you realize it is too late.

[From- Victoria Bower's iPhone]

From: [Gisela Zelenka-Drysdale](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: No new golf course!
Date: Thursday, July 28, 2016 9:12:39 AM

Dear DNR:

We do not need another golf course in an environmentally sensitive area.

We DO need to preserved critical habitat for migrating birds. You folks at DNR are well aware of the decline in so many bird populations so let's keep and maintain this habitat for the birds.

Seems simple to me.

Respectfully,
Gisela Zelenka-Drydale
2121 N. 86th St.
Wauwatosa WI 53226

From: [Erin Simmons](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: No to Mr. Kohler's Destructive Passing Fetish
Date: Thursday, July 21, 2016 11:35:37 AM

To whom it may concern:

I was not able to be present at the meeting last night as I work second shift but I have to state my opposition to Mr. Kohler's newest flavor of the month. Whether or not Mr. Kohler's current obsession physically touches part of Terry Andrae Park, it WILL impact it in a negative fashion. Any work will bring destructive equipment into the area, killing/disorienting/scaring off wildlife and damaging the environment. He's already indicated a desire to alter the park to make a private access road to this monstrosity. How does that coincide with what YOU as the DNR are SUPPOSED to protect? And exactly what are your plans for when he would inevitably demand that snipers eliminate any wildlife left in the park because they damage his course? He's done that with previous courses after putting them up in the middle of wildlife habitat. Guaranteed he'll do it again. Are you prepared to destroy an entire park simply for the passing whim of a spoiled rich "kid"? A couple years after he builds it, he'll go build somewhere else because the shine will be off. What do you do then? The park is a treasure, one that the whole of Sheboygan, Wisconsin and the world can and do use. Mr. Kohler's golf course will only be used by a handful of folks in the entire world as they are all exclusive, high priced affairs that 99% can not afford- in particular a middle class heavy area like ours. Why should the majority of people lose a treasure simply for a rich man's new toy? He can't claim that it will bring money to Sheboygan that wouldn't already be there from his other courses as it is the same clientele so he would simply be shifting their money from one of his multitude of other courses. There is nothing to be truly gained from this absurdity. If he is that bored and can't find something useful to do with the cash burning a hole in his pocket... let him renovate an older course so it isn't a bore to him anymore. I realize in this world, in particular with government departments, that money talks but that does not mean that it should. Mr. Kohler is not the only person in this county... he certainly should not be coddled and given everything he wants simply because he has money. Somebody has to teach him the word NO... I certainly hope you will have the spine to do it and not just allow him to do as he pleases because of a bank account.

Erin Simmons

From: [Lisa Biemann](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: No!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2016 2:24:14 PM

I am opposed to the building of a golf course adjacent to Kohler-Andrae park. My reasons are wetland destruction, habitat destruction, groundwater and lake water contamination.

Sincerely, Lisa Biemann
Sheboygan, wi

Sent from my iPad

From: [John Dolan](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Object the Kohler Black River Forrest Golf Course
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2016 11:10:41 AM

Although I live in Wyoming which is a playground for the rest of the United States citizens, I object to Kohler's request for additional lands to build another golf course... We do not need another golf course.... It would be better to create another trout stream or warm water fishery which causes less environmental damage and provides more recreation to many who cannot afford the significant cost to play a round of golf which often exceeds \$100 after green's fees, cart rental etc...

John Dolan
3811 S. Oak
Casper, WY

Sent from my iPad

From: [Gary Shea](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Oppose Kohler golf course
Date: Sunday, July 31, 2016 8:47:32 PM

Dear DNR,

ONE:

As a resident of the Black River neighborhood, I am opposed to the proposed Kohler golf course. Although Kohler Co. may make legitimate attempts at environmental safety, there is too much vagueness in the EIS as to outcomes. So with equal vagueness, I say that over time the golf course will cause chemical damage to wetlands, the Black River, and Lake Michigan - and cause potential loss of water supply and safe water for nearby home owners' wells. I also think the destruction of habitat and dunes would be a significant environmental loss for the Lake Michigan shoreline.

TWO:

If Kohler does receive approval for the proposed golf course, I oppose using Kohler-Andrae State Park land for any of their proposed development. All access to the course should be through Kohler's River Trails development and their maintenance building/parking/access should be on Kohler-owned property only. As a graphic designer, I often need to revise the design of ads and brochures to accommodate the addition of client information by making items smaller, adjusting positions of items, and tightening up spacing between items to make everything fit - while still providing a good design. Surely Kohler's designers and architects can revise the layout of the course to make everything fit on Kohler land only - and still design a nice course.

Thank you,
Gary Shea
338 Edgewater Road
Sheboygan, WI 53081

P.S. As it states on a sign marking the Kohler-Andrae dunes cordwalk...

“PROTECT THIS UNIQUE AREA”

From: [Barbara Eisenberg](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Opposed to golf course proposed by the Kohler Company
Date: Wednesday, August 03, 2016 10:18:55 AM

Dear Mr.Schiefelbein,

I am opposed to the proroposed 18--hole golf course in the Town of Wilson by the Kohler Company for the following reasons:

- The area listed for conversion is listed as “lightly used”.The area was designed by park management purposely to not be used as heavily as the park’s beach and picnic areas. Hiking trails, boardwalks, restrooms, etc. were left out of this area to keep it in its natural sand dune state to protect this rare ecosystem as mandated by the Kohler-Andrae State Park Master Plan.
- The Dept. of Natural Resources has no right and nor any responsibility to “give away” 4-plus acres of publicly owned state park land to anyone, especially to a “for-profit” business or person for the purpose of increasing the revenue of such business or to increase the income of any person or corporation. Kohler-Andrae State Park’s land acquisition was made possible by Federal LAWCON funding. The conversion of these public lands to a private person or corporation is NOT justified to accommodate their financial interests and is not permitted except in very rare circumstances.
- 50-60% of the forest will be removed and the rarest wetlands filled in. This changes the entire hydrology of the area destroying natural filters for agricultural and pesticide runoff into Lake Michigan.
- Dunes which took 5000 years to create will be graded.
- Residents' wells will be drawn down and only remedied if one can prove to the Kohler Company that its pumping is responsible.
- Rare and endangered species such as the [REDACTED] will be destroyed
- The presence of birds and other wildlife will be severely diminished because of loss of habitat. This area is a tier 4 Important Migratory Bird Route
- Artifacts and remains of inhabitants from 1200 B.C. will be bulldozed and covered on land that has been recommended by the Army Corps of Engineers for the National Registry of Historic Places.

Please consider my comments and reject the proposal to sell land to the Kohler Company for development of a golf course.

Sincerely,
Barb Eisenberg

From: [Lumpy Rutherford](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Opposed
Date: Friday, July 08, 2016 12:51:39 PM

I want to express my OPPOSITION TO ANY destruction of the natural beauty and to land development of the proposed new golf course on the Kohler owned property north of the kohler-Andrae State Park. We do not want, nor need any new golf course in Sheboygan County Wis., nor do we the citizens wish to see any disturbance of the natural resource and eco-system that this proposal would result in if allowed to proceed.

Please add my comment to the other comments received on this matter.

Mike Maurer 2111 Arizona Avenue Sheboygan, Wis. 53081

From: [Paula Fitzsimmons](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Opposing Kohler Golf Course Project
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 12:05:49 PM

Dear Mr. Schiefelbein,

I'm in opposition to building the 18-hole golf course due to the impacts it would have on important bird habitat and threatened bird populations.

Thank you.

--

Paula Fitzsimmons

From: [Rebecca Rick](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Opposing private sale of Kohler-Andre
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 10:35:55 AM

Good morning,

I am writing to voice my opposition to selling off public land at Kohler-Andre State Park to a private organization.

Publicly available natural places are vital - far more vital than a golf course - for Wisconsinites, tourists, and the environment. They provide a respite for all of us to get away from our busy lives and simply enjoy being in the natural world. I worry that turning over this beautiful parcel of Wisconsin to a private entity will threaten access to what is a wonderful asset for everyone in our state, and tarnish our state's proud history of conservation.

Thank you,
Rebecca Rick

From: [Mary Anderson](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Opposition to Kohler's land grab
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 12:05:52 PM

I recently saw news of this proposed land grab to privatize public lands and am appalled. I DO NOT support this action in any way for many reasons, not the least of which is the precedent this would set for stripping public lands AND what this particular action would do to damage the migratory path of 200 species of birds.

Please oppose Kohler's attempts at grabbing public lands. It is short-sighted and bad for our children and our state.

Mary Anderson
807 Greenway Road
Monona, WI 53716

Sent from my iPhone // Please excuse any typos

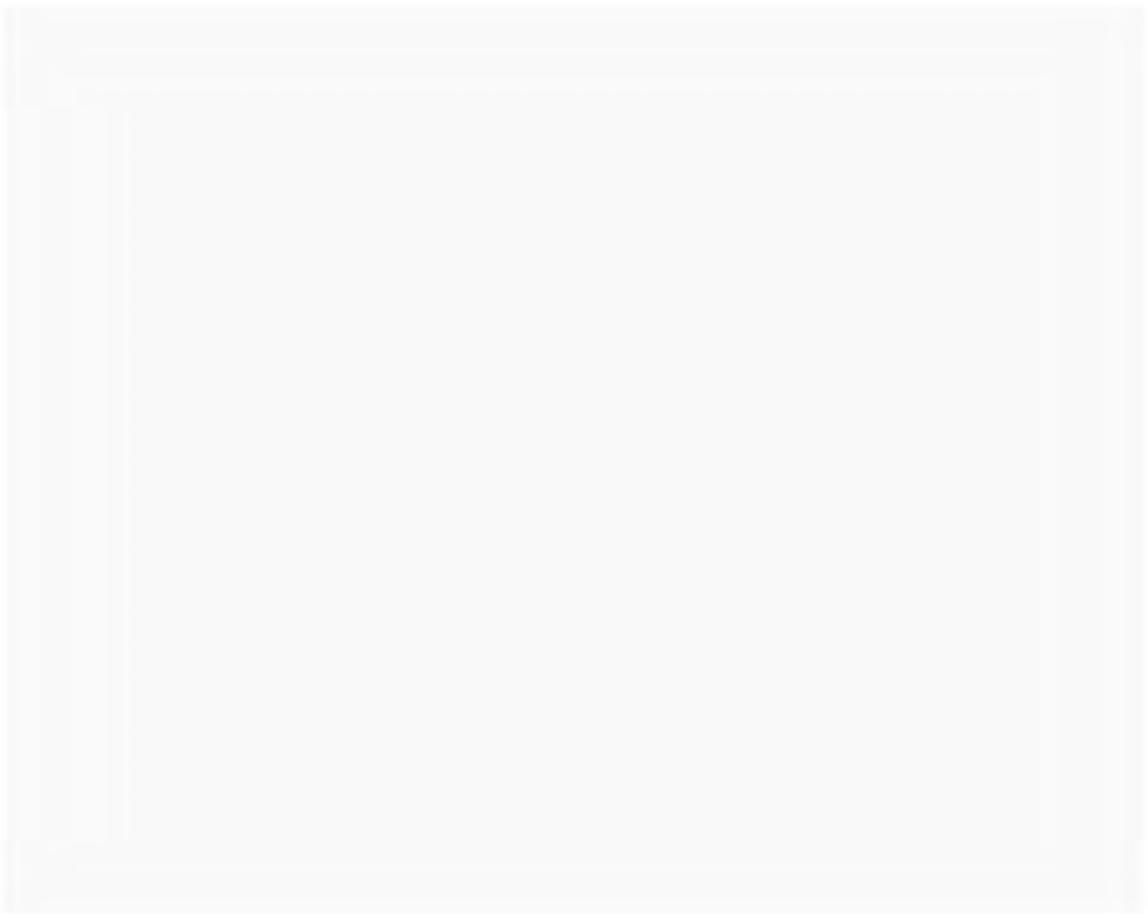
From: [Gary Nickel](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Please do not allow the Kohler gild course project to GI forward, the Black River area and Kohler-Andrae Park are valuable to the residents, visitors, and historians. Please listen to the Friends of the Black River. Thank you, Gary Nickel
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 9:03:00 AM

From: [Joe Weidert](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Please do not...
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 4:17:44 PM

Please do not allow Kohler Corp or any private company the purchase any of Kohler-Andae Park. The park belongs to all citizens of Wisconsin and as one of those citizens I forbid it. Your job and your charter is to protect the natural habitat of Wisconsin for its citizens. You must realize who you are in service of and stop favoring big business. It is shameful.

Joseph M Weidert
841 Broad St.
Menasha, WI 54952





From: [DJ](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Please reject the purchase of Kohler-Andrae State Park
Date: Friday, July 29, 2016 9:33:35 AM

Hello,

As a taxpaying Wisconsin resident, I'm concerned by the precedent being set by the proposed purchase by Kohler of a few acres of Kohler-Andrae State Park.

I could go into several details as to why this is concerning, but you've likely heard them all before. I'll simply say this little piece of common sense:

No piece of publicly-owned, preserved land should be sold to build a friggin' golf course. Come on.

Thank you,
Denis Hostettler
Cudahy, WI

--

<http://bodyfutures.bandcamp.com>
<http://www.ifihadahifi.net>
<http://ifihadahifi.bandcamp.com>

From: [Tom Murn](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposal for impacts to state parkland
Date: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 4:31:53 PM

Regarding proposal to remove acreage from state park -- speaking as an ecologist who has studied and worked to restore several areas along the lake michigan shore, I would oppose any proposal for any additional impact to state lands along and near the lake michigan shore, and would instead propose additional restrictions on access to these lands, which contain native microbiome which would certainly be impacted by additional access whether there is chemical runoff directly into river or lake or whether it's just exhaust, footfalls, chemical drifts, replacement of native plant cover with non native plant cover, etc etc etc

Thomas Murn
Newark township Rock Co WI

From: [Lisa Beimel](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposal of Kohler Golf Course-Town of Wilson.....
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 5:07:33 PM

To Whom this may concern,

My name is Lisa Beimel and I am writing to you in regards to the Proposed Kohler golf course in the town of Wilson. As a 20+ year associate of Kohler/The American Club and a life long residence(48yrs.) of Sheboygan, I feel that Kohler should be granted the go ahead for this project.

At a time when companies are downsizing and shipping jobs elsewhere, Kohler continues to build and grow right here in Sheboygan Co.

I understand the concerns the near by residence have with regards to the project. Kohler has jumped through the many many hoops that have been put in front of them for the past 2 years and are willing to do whatever they can to make this a win-win for everyone. Bottom line is, this is Kohlers land, has been for many, many generations and they have shared it for all this time, now it is time to let them develop their own property.

Kohler has done so much for Sheboygan County, can you imagine if they had given up when they were trying to get Whistling Straits off the ground-Dare I say Detroit???

No other Company has proven time and time again that progress and preservation can go hand and hand. There is room for golfer and gohpers and everyone/thing in between.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lisa Beimel

From: [Stubbe Family](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: proposed golf course
Date: Friday, July 15, 2016 6:35:02 AM

As a previous resident of the Town of Wilson who still has family in the area, I am opposed to the proposed Kohler golf course. I spent many of my formative years enjoying and studying nature in this ecosystem to the point where I decided to be a high school biology teacher. This area has tremendous natural beauty which would be lost by the addition of this proposed golf course. Kohler-Andrae State Park is (and was for a long time) a heavily used state park which would benefit from expansion, not a reduction in size. Also, the planned deforestation, groundwater withdrawal, pesticide use, additional automobile and human traffic, noise, light, destruction of rare dunes and northern forest ecosystem will have irreparable harm to the area. This golf course is simply not the proper use for this rare piece of land.

Sincerely,
Chris Stubbe
Pulaski, Wisconsin
920-833-1128

From: [Pete Fankuch](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposed Golf Course
Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 9:02:31 AM
Importance: High

Dear Jay Schiefelbein, I spent close to 36 years growing up in Plymouth, WI with plenty of time in the county. I live in Marinette County on Lake Noquebay. I still spend about 120 days a year in Plymouth as my mother lives there and work brings me to the area frequently. I'm 60 years old.

Kohler has always been a great steward of the lands they own in Sheboygan County, the State of Wisconsin and the world. I have been to their golf courses although I do not golf. The courses are beautiful and well thought out. Adding a Kohler golf course to the area is a no brainer in my opinion.

Developing the land in any other way would cause way more harm than a golf course should especially one built by Kohler Company.

Sincerely,

Pete Pfankuch
Crivitz, WI

From: [Judith Guevara](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Cc: [Miguel Guevara](#); [Marcos Guevara](#); [Alexandra Meyer](#); [Don Gutenberger](#); [Consuelo Guevara Knoch](#); [Sonja Leicht](#)
Subject: Proposed Golf Course
Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016 1:27:00 PM

Department of Natural Resources,

Please consider the environmental impact of the Kohler Golf course next to the Kohler-Andrae State Park in the town of Wilson. Besides deforestation, wetland destruction and toxic runoff from grounds keeping chemicals into wells and ground water, there will be disturbances to Native American relics as well. We citizens need your help to protect these lands and water and prevent another golf course in the area. The park and Lake Michigan shore are habitats for animals and fish and offer a pristine area for all to enjoy year round.

Thank you for preserving our natural resources,
Judith C. Guevara

From: [Chris Krochalk](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposed Golf Course
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2016 9:26:37 PM

To: Jay Schiefelbein
Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources
2984 Shawano Ave
Green Bay, WI 54313
DNRKOHLEPROPOSAL@wisconsin.gov

Your mission (if you choose to accept it):

To protect and enhance our natural resources:

our air, land and water;
our wildlife, fish and forests
and the ecosystems that sustain all life.

To provide a healthy, sustainable environment

and a full range of outdoor opportunities.

To ensure the right of all people

to use and enjoy these resources
in their work and leisure.

To work with people

to understand each other's views
and to carry out the public will.

And in this partnership

consider the future
and generations to follow.

I am strongly opposed to the development of the proposed 18-hole golf course in the Town of Wilson by the Kohler Company. There should also be NO LOSS of publicly-owned state park land for the development of a private golf course.

Having worked on a golf course for a summer job (Geneva National) – I can tell you from firsthand experience how un-natural and polluting golf courses are. This development has nothing to do with your stated mission.

Chris Krochalk

Milwaukee, WI

From: [Sue brisk](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposed golf course MY comments
Date: Thursday, July 21, 2016 4:44:37 PM

I am a golfer.

I also believe it is a terrible mistake to carve a golf course out of state land.

1) terrible precedent setting. A bad snowball rolling downhill....we don't want anyone opening that door...selling off state land FOR ANYTHING!! Once this bad policy has begun, how can we stop future commercial development of State Land?

2) Wisconsin is so blessed by the work of our prior governance to still have undeveloped lands....where wild animals have HABITAT. if you haven't read about it, many birds and, of course large mammals are in peril because of habitat loss globally. Every acre counts....let us not destroy our legacy of undeveloped green (space) land for wildlife for another golf course....there are plenty of private courses for golfers to go to.

3) Of all reasons to develop state land, making a golf course is one of the worse options. The reason is, it uses WAY TOO MUCH ENERGY to maintain. Water, pesticides, herbicides, energy to mow each and every snowless day, motorized use (gas or electric) of carts...

Golfers often comment how nice it is to be "outside" and "in nature." A golf course is such a corruption of the environment that it isn't even close to natural. It has NO PLACE in our State Park system.

4) some things just should not be undertaken by government. Let the private businesses provide golf. It's not sensible at all for golf courses to be developed on our public lands. We should phase out the ones that the State has. In my opinion, the Counties as well should get out of that business...the public dole should have no part of creation, maintenance, or support of this sport.

Thank you. That's my opinion.
Sue Brisk

From: [David Palmer](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposed Golf Course nest to Kohler Andrea State Park
Date: Sunday, July 17, 2016 2:49:28 PM

Eastern Wisconsin's single most valuable, long term economic asset is the Lake Michigan Shoreline. Kohler has already "locked up" what should have been a major asset to Wisconsin tourism with the Whistling Straits Golf Course. The value of a major tournament once every four or five years is insignificant compared to the inability of all but a few to easily enjoy the lakeshore dunes.

Another golf course on the Lake Michigan shore will provide minimal long term benefit to the state and County of Sheboygan. The loss of a section of Kohler Andrea State Park will have a long term negative impact by removing the land from public access. There is no economic justification for this project. But the negative economic and environmental impacts have been clearly delineated and should provide sufficient justification to deny Kohler's request.

David Palmer
707 Clara Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081
920-452-0406

From: [kathleen wehrle](#)
To: [Schiefelbein, Jeremiah J - DNR](#)
Subject: Proposed kohler golf course
Date: Saturday, July 16, 2016 9:37:49 PM

Hi, I am writing as a WI citizen who is opposed to the proposed Kohler golf course in Sheboygan County. While the Kohler family may tout the value of yet another golf course in the area, it seems to me that preserving the ecology of the area should be the first and guiding principal of the DNR approach.

From what I have read, the proposal : takes land away from the nearby state park, will destroy 50-60 % of the tress at the site, plow down dunes and cover them with soil and perfect grass that must be maintained with lots of weed killer, do damage to the water of the area ... all in the name of a golf course with a view!

It bothers me greatly that the DNR is pro corporation under this administration. I would like to see the DNR be a fighter for the protection of the land of the state. It should be an agency that is guided by science and has a long term approach to land preservation.

Sincerely,

Kathy Wehrle
4329 Felton PL
Madison, WI 53705

From: [Mark Leider](#)
To: [Schiefelbein, Jeremiah J - DNR](#); info@proposedgolfcourse.com; [Town Wilson Clerk](#)
Cc: [Mark Leider](#); [Scott Schreiber](#); [Gregg Wagner](#); [Marshall Krugel](#); [Mike Basch](#); [Pamela Kissel](#); [Phil Mersberger](#)
Subject: Proposed Kohler Golf Course
Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016 11:10:34 AM
Attachments: [DNR EIS Support Statement 2016.docx](#)

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept my July 20, 2016 comments to the above-referenced project in the attachment below.

Thanks kindly.

Mark Leider
920-918-3309

God Bless You!

Mark J. Leider

*"Lord, suffer me to catch
a fish so large that even I
in talking of it
shall have no need to lie."*

LeiderSide

July 20, 2016

Subject: Proposed Kohler Golf Course

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project and to express my strong support for its approval by your agency as well as its ultimate approval by the applicable federal, state, county, and town regulatory authorities.

My name is Mark Leider. I reside in the Town of Wilson, at 1319 Woodview Avenue, which is a short distance from the subject Kohler property. I have lived at this property for over 40 years, and I am familiar with the subject site.

Let me be clear, I have no affiliation with the Kohler Company or family, and I am not a golfer.

I have expressed--in writing, and in some detail--support for this project during the last two years. Those prior written comments have been provided to the DNR, the Town of Wilson, the "not in my backyard" opponents, and the media. So, I will not restate them here.

I had not intended to comment further at all, until I received this document (SHOW) last weekend from the "not in my backyard" opponents who title themselves "Friends of the Black River Forest".

Frankly, the propaganda comments in this document warrant a response. I had read very closely the DNR's nearly 100-page Draft Environmental Impact Statement. I was pretty impressed with its depth, breadth, and detail.

Yet, the "experts" from the "Friends" group have termed it "incomplete", and they charge the DNR with "showing favoritism" to the Kohler Company. They claim, and I quote, "the true impacts of this project have been overly minimized, glossed over or just plain ignored" by the DNR.

These people speak and represent without portfolio, based strictly on emotion and hypocrisy. Yet they criticize the resource professionals and their science-based facts.

They urge their followers to act, I quote, "...before an entire ecosystem is destroyed". They cite, I quote, "Impacts of spreading huge quantities of Herbicides, Pesticides and Fertilizers affecting Lake Michigan, the Black River, Town wells, plants and wildlife". It goes on.

Who could write such rubbish with a straight face? They know that Kohler will strictly be following Integrated Pest Management practices and Best Management Practices with everything attendant to water. It's just ludicrous!

A nearly 700-page Environmental Impact Report on this project was completed by Stantec International, a most reputable professional services company headquartered in Edmonton, Canada. It is extremely comprehensive, and is consistent with state and federal environmental policy acts. I read it. The NIMBY group has chosen to disregard it because the Kohler Company paid for this report.

An Economic Impact Report on the project was prepared SB Friedman & Company, an equally reputable firm headquartered in Chicago. It projected an annual economic impact of nearly \$21 million

countywide. I read it. Yet again, the NIMBY group has chosen to disregard it because the Kohler Company paid for this report.

So, despite the fact that the Kohler Company is obligated to provide these studies, and that it selected leaders in these disciplines, the “Friends” know better. And, now, despite the efforts and expertise of the DNR in preparing the nearly 100-page Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the “Friends” know better yet again.

The “Friends” propaganda piece sets out 11 bullet points that are so sophomoric as to be meaningless and unworthy of reply. Suffice it to say that the developer has already complied with a range of conditions since the project inception. And, the above environmental reports satisfactorily address all pertinent issues.

It's simply time to move forward. This project is a winner! Any adverse impacts are minimal. The positive benefits are astounding!

Anyone who would characterize this Kohler property as “pristine” is either dishonest or has not actually visited it. The forested areas should have had a managed harvest years ago.

Finally: The Town of Wilson Zoning Ordinance, which implements the Town's Comprehensive Plan, specifically identifies “Golf Courses” as compatible within its Conservancy District. They are simply treated as a “Conditional Use” rather than a straight up “Permitted Use”. The distinctions blur, but as a conditional use, everyone gets a “kick at the cat” through public hearings. The Kohler Company has already agreed to numerous “conditions”.

Folks, there are many land uses that'd be less desirable than a golf course, and particularly one that may have an economic impact of \$21 million per year countywide. Let's support something spectacular for a change!

From: [Stacey Bahr](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposed Kohler Golf Course, Town of Wilson, Sheboygan County, WI
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 10:59:03 AM

I have previously emailed comment, but felt compelled to do so again. I live about a mile from the proposed golf course, and would be impacted by a number of concerns, as have been clearly discussed by myself and other parties. I wanted to add that I have recently entered into a conservation program contract with the USDA. The purpose of the program is to establish and maintain permanent vegetative cover in order to enhance wildlife habitat, reduce soil erosion and sediment, and improve soil quality. The objective is to improve pollinator habitat for Honey Bees. I find it disheartening that whatever work I do may be destroyed by the pesticides used to maintain a golf course, as bees will travel a lengthy distance to obtain nectar and pollen.

In reading the DNR website, I found this: "Clean air, clean water and healthy landscapes. These are foundations of Wisconsin's economy, environment and quality of life. They are the assets that separate us from the rest of the pack. Protecting and enhancing them will benefit everyone in Wisconsin - and require everyone's help." I can't help thinking that somehow the DNR may not be on board with these thoughts when it comes to the proposed golf course and the big money it represents.

I can't afford to golf at an elite golf course. I'm guessing that many of the people who would be employed at the proposed Kohler course would not be residents of the town of Wilson, and maybe not even from Sheboygan County. I'm not saying that Kohler should not build a golf course, just that the Black River area is not an acceptable place to do it.

Thank you for your time.

Stacey Rajchel-Bahr

From: [John Halverson](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Proposed Kohler golf course
Date: Thursday, July 14, 2016 4:42:46 PM

I am opposed to the construction of this golf course. It will hurt the water supply for the area, and destroy a rare shoreline in Wisconsin. We need to preserve the natural beauty of this great state. We have plenty of golf courses, and our natural areas decreasing every day.

Sincerely,
John Halverson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Terry Pavletic](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: proposed Sheboygan Co Kohler Golf Course
Date: Sunday, July 24, 2016 6:57:04 PM

I am opposed to any land swap or lease of public land for this golf course. I feel due to the current high value of natural resources at the proposed site that the DNR should be encouraging Kohler Co to purchase an existing golf course and further develop that to meet their needs.

I am in full support of the Friends of the Black River Forest efforts to protect this land and water resources from golf course development.

Terrence Pavletic
12121 W Sunset Lane
Greenfield WI 53228

From: michael_g@charter.net
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Cc: ["friendsbrf1@hotmail.com"](mailto:friendsbrf1@hotmail.com)
Subject: Proposed Black River Golf Course
Date: Sunday, July 10, 2016 10:15:40 AM

As a Wisconsin citizen, I am strongly stating my OPPOSITION to the Black River Golf Course as proposed by the Kohler Company. The environmental impacts of this project are enormous, yet the Kohler Company continues to falsely state they are building a "minimalist course respecting the existing ecosystem" in order to justify this project.

I do not accept the flawed DNR Environmental Impact Statement of this proposed golf course. Why was this DNR statement written without an application from the Kohler Company? Why has the DNR, being paid by taxpayers, been working as a private contractor for Kohler for over 2 years without any application or permits?

The citizens of Wisconsin have been provided with an environmental report backed up with mostly worthless data. The citizens of Wisconsin are being deprived of our right to know the real impacts of this proposed golf course; the DNR needs to be honest with the citizens of Wisconsin! The proposed Black River Golf Course is not in the best interests of Wisconsin!

Michael Glenetzke
Wausau, WI

From: [Ray Cary](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Pros vs Cons of Kohler golf course
Date: Monday, July 18, 2016 11:00:23 AM

I am a 42 yr resident of the Lake Michigan shoreline community ie Town of Belgium/Town of Holland border. It is my opinion in sum; the benefits fall short of the deficits from this development. It goes without saying the golf industry is in a downturn and southeastern Wi does not need an additional golf course ie Squires in the Town of Belgium closed. Interestingly it is a bird/nature sanctuary now.

The loss of wetland habitat is my primary concern. Granted the mitigation requirement will kick in - I suspect the Sheboygan County recently acquired Amerstam Dunes in the Town of Holland will be the mitigator. Tell the invertebrates and rare plants to pack up and head 10 miles South.

Flyway bird migration is of concern. The availability of stopover points has already been compromised from Milw to Door County. Crowding and additional distances are very stressful to birds.

I could go on at more length but will end with the concern for a Native American cultural site. To obliterate burial mounds and cover over the artifacts of this location is unconscionable. If Mr Kohler needs another golf course to add to his resume tell him to compete with Donald Trump in purchasing Scottish Links.

Ray Cary, 7236 Sauk Trl, Cedar Grove Wi 53013

From: [Mark Peterson](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Cc: lori.peterson2564@gmail.com; mark.peterson0871@att.net; kohlhagena86@gmail.com
Subject: Public Comment for proposed Kohler golf course draft EIS
Date: Monday, August 01, 2016 4:51:25 PM
Attachments: [Public Comment for the proposed Kohler golf course draft EIS.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Jay Scheifelbein,

We respectfully request that the attached information be forwarded to the appropriate members of the DNR.

Sincerely,

Mark and Lori Peterson
and
Ashley Kohlhagen

Dear Mr. Jay Schiefelbein, Mr. MikeThompson, and Mr. Jim Dick,

We would like to request that you give us this opportunity to express our opinion as so many others did at the EIS meeting held July 20th 2016 at the Sheboygan Falls High School Auditorium.

We agree with the comments made that were NOT in favor and expressed deep concern with regards to the proposed Kohler golf course in the town of Wilson and the Draft EIS.

Many Town of Wilson residents are expressing that they do not want an additional golf course to be built in the Town of Wilson.

We also do not want the golf course to be approved for several reasons.

My husband and I, our daughter and our friends, each have a home and property on 12th Street across from the State Wildlife Preserve and proposed site for the proposed golf course.

It is very unfortunate and upsetting that the residents and friends of this town are being put in a position where they need to stand up against government agencies and corporate entities by themselves so a blind eye and deaf ear isn't turned to those not in favor of allowing this happen.

Many residents in the Town of Wilson, including ourselves and family members, have purchased our properties and pay our taxes faithfully. In return we expect that our Community, Regulatory agencies and State leaders will support the needs of its residents when it comes to the following areas:

- Our wells should not be put in jeopardy of running dry due to excessive water use of non-essential or non-critical golf course watering.
- Road ways being created on public land that should be preserved by the DNR.
- Overcrowding in limited road way access space.
- Danger to those of all ages using these roadways for recreation i.e. walkers, joggers, bikers, and the wildlife as well.
- Premature deterioration and additional cost of maintenance for existing roads.
- Wildlife displacement and plant destruction due to deforestation.
- Destruction of rare wetlands, animal habitats and migratory bird route sanctuaries.
- Contamination to water, soil, wildlife, and humans in the area from pesticides and fertilizer.
- Unwanted tax increases for unwanted ventures.
- Upholding the Town of Wilson 20 year Comprehensive Plan.
- Preserving the Native American Cultural Heritage Artifacts.

How devastating it would be for residents and visitors to have this rare environment disrupted. We agree the many comments, views and information that support preserving this area and want the land and wildlife protected that were presented at the meeting. We moved to the Town of Wilson many years ago because of the natural scenery, wildlife and peacefulness. We want the natural state of this environment passed on to future generations to also enjoy and experience

We understand the corporate and government pressure you may be under, but please, we appeal to your sense of doing what is right and ask you to please help stop this from happening.

Respectfully,

Mark Peterson
phone: 920-452-2410
email: Mark.Peterson0871@gmail.com

Lori Peterson
phone: 920-627-7101
email:Lori.Peterson2564@gmail.com

Ashley Kohlhagen
phone: 920-946-4629
email:Kohlhagena86@gmail.com

From: [Hartzer, Mark J](#)
To: [DNR Kohler Proposal](#)
Subject: Public comment RE proposed Kohler golf course
Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 11:23:48 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Mr. Schiefelbein;

Thank you for extending the comment period regarding the proposed golf course on Lake Michigan. I have reviewed the Environmental Impact Statement, and it is patently obvious that yet another golf course is a poor use of this particular piece of property. The permanent degradation of the property by a golf course, which impinges on both public property and groundwater is unacceptable.

I oppose granting a permit for said golf course.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely;

Mark Hartzer

