

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Public Notice of an Application to Begin a Diversion of Great Lakes Water

January 31, 2018

The City of Racine (City) submitted an application to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to begin a diversion of water from Lake Michigan to an area outside of the Great Lakes Basin, within the straddling community of Mount Pleasant. The City of Racine's application materials include a diversion application and a water conservation and efficiency plan.

Name and Address of Applicant

City of Racine, Racine Water Utility, Keith Haas, Manager, 800 Center Street, Room 227, Racine WI 53403-1481

Brief Description of the Proposal

The City of Racine, a public water supply system, has applied to DNR for permission to divert Lake Michigan water to supply parts of Mount Pleasant, WI that are outside the Great Lakes Basin. All water proposed to be diverted would be returned to Lake Michigan, less an allowance for consumptive use.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact (Compact) prohibits diversions of Great Lakes water, with limited exceptions. One exception to the Compact's ban on diversions allows water to be served to portions of a "straddling community" lying outside the Great Lakes basin if requirements under Wisconsin Statutes s. 281.346 (4)(c) are met. Under the Compact, a "straddling community" is one whose boundaries are partly within the Great Lakes basin and partly without, but wholly within a county at least partly within the Great Lakes basin. Mount Pleasant meets the definition of a straddling community.

The City is requesting to divert an average of 7.0 million gallons per day (MGD) to areas within Mount Pleasant outside of the Great Lakes basin. All wastewater, less an allowance for consumptive use, would be treated and returned to the Lake Michigan via Racine's wastewater treatment facility.

Application Review

DNR will review the application materials submitted by the City of Racine. DNR's review will include a minimum 30-day comment period (referenced below) and a summary of public comments. Following this process, the DNR will either approve or deny the City of Racine's diversion application. You can review the application materials on-line at: <http://dnr.wi.gov> keyword search "[Racine Diversion](#)" or request materials at the address below.

Public Comments

Persons wishing to comment on the diversion application should do so by close of business on March 21, 2018. Comments should be sent to:

WDNR, Bureau of Drinking and Groundwater DG/5

Attn: Adam Freihoefer

P.O. Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707-7921

Comments may also be submitted electronically to: DNRRacineDiversionComments@wisconsin.gov

Public Informational Meeting and Hearing

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s.281.346 (9)(d), DNR will hold a public hearing to receive public comments on the application.

The public hearing will be held on **March 7, 2018** starting at **6:30 pm**, with an informational meeting from 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm, at the following location: SC Johnson iMET Center, 2320 Renaissance Blvd, Sturtevant, WI 53177

Reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be provided to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

For the Secretary

By 
Steven Elmore, Director
Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater

4/30/18
Date