From:	Robert Merline
To:	DNR Racine Diversion Comments
Subject:	FoxConn Water
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2018 3:51:14 PM

The following is submitted in opposition to the City of Racine's Lake Michigan Water Diversion Request.

We find two major concerns with this request and feel that either should be sufficient cause for denial.

1. The City of Racine and surrounding villages currently withdraw and use 16.9 million gallons of water per day from Lake Michigan. That 16.9 million gallons of water and any remaining withdrawal capacity, including diversions, are to be, according to the Great Lakes Compact, used for public water supply. Wisconsin Statutes define public as communities that are largely residential, with some commercial and industrial uses.

Racine's request to divert 7 million gallons (nearly half of the current use) is obviously intended to satisfy the demand of a private industry, in this case FoxConn. By volume of use, this request shifts the focus of Racine's water utility from a balanced public water use toward one favoring private industrial use. If this request is granted, Racine's water utility will no longer be providing "balanced" public water service as required by the Great Lakes Compact. We believe the Racine/FoxConn request attempts to circumvent compact requirements and should therefore be denied!

In addition, most, if not all, municipal water treatment systems including Racine's, do not remove hazardous chemical wastes. If, indeed permitted, FoxConn's return water would certainly contain measurable levels of toxic industrial waste and would thereby subject Lake Michigan, the environment and the public to unacceptable risks. Since it is the DNR's responsibility to safeguard the public and environment from harm, granting the diversion would be contrary to its mission and therefore should be denied!

We ask your serious consideration of these points.

Respectfully,

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