From: nparks100@aol.com
To: DNR Racine Diversion Comments
Subject: Foxconn Application to Divert Lake Michigan water - public comment
Date: Wednesday, March 07, 2018 8:29:14 AM

Hi,

I wish to add my comments to the public record regarding the following:

- The city of Racine provides water to all or parts of the following Wisconsin communities: the city of Racine and the villages of Sturtevant, Mount Pleasant, Elmwood Park, North Bay, Wind Point and Caledonia within the Great Lakes basin. The city's wastewater treatment plant discharges to Lake Michigan.

Racine Diversion Boundaries

View an enlarged map of the Racine diversion request [PDF].

- The city has applied to the department for approval to divert up to an annual average of 7 million gallons of water a day to areas of the village of Mount Pleasant in the Mississippi River Basin. The diversion area includes part of the area that Racine County identified as the future site of the Foxconn facility. The application identifies that all wastewater, less an allowance for consumptive use, will be returned to the Lake Michigan basin via the Racine wastewater treatment plant.
- The city's application indicates that the Racine Water Utility currently has approved capacity to supply the proposed diversion amount and would not need a new or increased withdrawal to meet the projected diversion demand. The city withdrew an annual average of 16.9 million gallons of water per day in 2016.
- The application identifies a consumptive use of up to 2.7 million gallons per day associated with the diversion. Consumptive use is water that is not returned because it is either incorporated into a product or lost through evaporation. The consumptive use is primarily associated with the projected Foxconn water use needs. The application identifies that most of the Foxconn consumptive use may occur in the Lake Michigan Basin, but has been included in the application for flexibility in facility design.

Please let the record show that I strongly object to the removal of 7 million gallons a day of Lake Michigan water by the Racine Water Utility.

Due to the inability of the public to trust how Wisconsin officials will use Lake Michigan water, treat it and return it to the lake is cause for great concern and alarm. Water used by Foxcon combined with lax Wisconsin leadership and non-existent environmental oversight will not protect the millions and millions of people who use this water for their drinking, cooking and bathing.

How can water ever taken from the lake for manufacturing purposes ever be cleaned and treated and returned to the lake? Its not possible and Wisconsin officials will not protect the public interest. With Governor Walker openly expressing that his will loosen existing environmental laws this application should be denied.

Lake Michigan water is one of the greatest natural resources in the world and everything possible should be done to protect it, not exploit it for profit.

Thank you,

Laura Fedak
4915 Whiffen Place
Downers Grove, Il 60515