



New Berlin Land Conservancy, Inc

November 13, 2006

RECEIVED

Maureen Connors
Office of the Great Lakes
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53701

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Dear Ms Connors:

BUREAU OF WATERSHED MGNT

This letter is submitted by the New Berlin Land Conservancy, Inc. as comment on the New Berlin, WI proposed project for diversion of Lake Michigan water to that city.

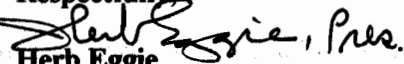
New Berlin Land Conservancy, Inc. is a non-profit, non-stock corporation, the mission of which is the protection and preservation of certain lands within the City of New Berlin as open space and free of development.

At a meeting of the Conservancy on November 9, 2006, the members present voted unanimously to oppose the diversion of water from Lake Michigan to New Berlin. We, therefore, wish to register with the DNR our strong opposition to a diversion of Lake Michigan water to any part of New Berlin that is not within the Lake Basin. We give the following reasons for our position in this matter:

1. To grant diversion to a community outside the Lake basin will set a precedent which will make it difficult to deny requests for diversion from other communities outside the basin.
2. To grant diversion will encourage development in areas outside the basin which, in turn over the long run, will result in greater amounts of water to be diverted.
3. The water problems in the City of New Berlin, as in some of the surrounding communities, are the result of its shortsighted pernicious policy that falsely assumed that intense development was acceptable because the supply of potable water in the local aquifers was unlimited. While our Conservancy opposes diversion, if diversion is granted, New Berlin should at least be requested to substantially change its development policies to assure that 50 to 100 years from now even Lake Michigan water will still be available to meet the then needs of the community.

We would urge that a decision in the matter give little weight to the arguments that the diverted water will be returned to the Lake. The quality and quantity of the alleged water to be returned is highly questionable and, in the absence of tested example and experience, also speculative.


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Respectfully,

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