

From: Beth Regan [<mailto:BRegan@pattisonsand.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 2:01 PM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Cc: Kyle Pattison; Steve Stroschein
Subject: FW: Nov 8th LWSRB mtg
Importance: High

Mark,

We will have at least 2 people at the November 8 meeting in Spring Green. Kyle may be out of town, but I will be there and probably our General Mgr. (Mike Murphy).

Also, any further information on the lighting issue? We will minimize our lighting impacts to the best of our abilities. By using the light plants (as shown prior), we can point the lights downward and inward and can also add shields/visors to others.

What will be the frequency of blasting and what type of noise level is associated with blasting of this kind? Pending necessary production levels, blasting could occur +/- 2 to 4 times per week. Wisconsin allows up to 133 dB (decibels) at the closest non-owned structure. As you can understand, blasting noise is highly dependent on atmospheric conditions and the distance from the blast to the receptor.

About how many trucks per day and what size of trucks will be leaving/entering the area? Given full production operations, there would be about 125 trucks/day. These 40 ton trucks are the same or similar to grain trucks.

Do you have any ideas for reducing back-up beeping noise from heavy equipment or do you have a contact with MSHA that I can discuss options with? Let me check with our Safety Director before answering this.

What is the status of your reclamation plan application with the Town of Bridgeport and with other permits and or document review from DNR and other state agencies? PSC submitted our Reclamation Plan and Non Metallic Mining Reclamation permit application, as well as the Conditional Use Permit application, to the Town of Bridgeport on Oct. 22, 2012. We will be submitting our Stormwater Pollution and Prevention Plan/Non Metallic Mining Permit application to DNR over the next several weeks, upon Town approvals. Along with that submittal, we'll also submit our Phase 1 Archeological Reports for DNR to forward onto the Wisconsin Historical Society. We are currently starting our coordination with DNR-Bureau of Endangered Resources re: the Endangered Resources Reports. A Driveway Access Permit from WisDOT has been received. We will be submitting our Air Permit application to DNR over the next several weeks, as well.

Let me know if you have further questions that we can help with.

Beth

From: CLD [<mailto:cld@mwt.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 10:44 AM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR

Cc: wgcldundy@charter.net; dongreenwood48@yahoo.com; fredmad@wisc.edu; gemador@execpc.com; gcg@countrysspeed.com; melodymoore@centurytel.net; wtcac@aol.com; garimond@uwlax.edu

Subject: Frac sand mining in Lower Wisconsin Riverway

Mark E. Cupp, Executive Director
Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board
202 N. Wisconsin Avenue
Muscodia, WI 53573

Dear Mr. Cupp and All Decision-Makers,

I'm writing to express my concern with the possibility of frac sand mining in the Lower Wisconsin Riverway, an area that is supposed to be protected from such brutal land use.

Perhaps you've heard of "mountaintop removal," the horrific obliteration of ancient mountain ranges in the Appalachians for coal mining. We don't have mountain ranges here, but we have ancient bluffs, which are the signature feature of our unglaciated topography. With the mad rush to mine frac sand in Wisconsin, these blufflands are in danger of disappearing - forever. Much of our more level land has been cleared and plowed under. These unique bluffs and hillsides represent the last refuge for many species of flora and fauna. That they should be leveled and carted off for private profit is unthinkable.

As far as "reclamation" goes, there is no comparison to what existed before mining. The original elevation is gone, the native biota is eliminated, and the soils are completely changed in texture, structure, organic matter, microbial populations, and chemical composition. In short, the diversity is wiped out. You simply can't replicate a landscape that took nature millennia to make.

Of course the dramatic increase in traffic, noise, and corrosive silica dust degrades quality of life (and not just for humans), as well as property values. And don't forget increased demand on groundwater (our drinking water), and contamination of both ground and surface water.

Where is the justice for those who don't sell out to mines, but live near them and along the noisy, congested, dusty hauling routes? Should they be told to move if they don't like it (so that some corporation and a few landowners can make huge profits)? Is it reasonable to trade our natural resources - the basis for all life - for some temporary trucking jobs?

We've been told fracking is necessary in the quest for ever more energy. We, as a society, need to get serious - now - about renewable energy use, and stop burning fossil fuels. To paraphrase Andrew Wilson's recent post in The Harvard Business Review:

The percentage of our electricity coming from solar, wind, geothermal and biomass has doubled in just four years to nearly 6 percent. The power of exponential growth and economic tipping points work wonders: in just three more doublings in share (i.e., in 12 years) non-hydro renewables could provide nearly half of our electricity needs — **more than we get from coal or natural gas today**.

We have important decisions to make. We can continue on a path that allows destructive land uses for the short-term gain of a few, or take a stand against environmental plunder and consider the long-term health of the only planet in the universe known to sustain life.

I urge people in decision-making positions to step up and resist those who say we have no choice. We always have a choice.

Thank you for your attention.

Carol Dagnon
Town of Freeman, Crawford County

-----Original Message-----

From: Lila Marmel [<mailto:sunmoon@mwt.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 10:04 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR; Cupp@gadget.mwt.net; wgcdlundy@charter.net; dongreenwood48@yahoo.com; fredmad@wisc.edu; gemador@execpc.com; gcg@countryspeed.com; melodymoore@centurytel.net; wtcac@aol.com; garimond@uwlax.edu

Cc: Crawford Stewardship Project

Subject: LWSR mine proposal

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway is known as a place with special protections for the essential habitat and aesthetic resources it includes. I am deeply concerned that if approved, the frac sand mine proposal would end up imposing a huge violation on the sacred trust of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway Board. This amazing resource will be significantly diminished by excess lighting, constant truck traffic day and night, and fugitive dust polluting our air. This treasure brings many visitors to our part of Wisconsin every year with tourist dollars and great respect for the excellent asset the LWSR represents. Please resist the temptation to give in to economic interests that are willing to destroy an ecological treasure for a few decades of profits. Take the larger view and continue to protect the Lower Wisconsin.

Thank you,
Lila Marmel
Soldiers Grove Wisconsin

From: wisriverfriends@gmail.com [<mailto:wisriverfriends@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Friends of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway

Sent: Sunday, October 28, 2012 11:37 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR

Subject: To the Executive Committee:

Greetings Mark & Executive Committee Members,

The River Valley Elementary Studio School staff is thrilled at the opportunity for the students to sing their Wisconsin River song at the upcoming November meeting. Especially as a way to honor outgoing Chair: Bill Lundberg.

With your approval, we will have the kids lined up and ready to perform at 5:00. Board members can interact a bit if they chose and then the kids can leave.

I'd also like you to be aware that FLOW and several other entities are working hard to stop the frac sand mine at the Town level. It would be advantageous for us if the Riverway Board delayed approving a permit until things move further along at the Town level.

FLOW has had success in the past contesting claims that lawyers working for the State have made, we hope to do so in this case too, but it would be better to deal with it BEFORE a permit is granted.

Sincerely,

Timm Zumm
FLOW President

From: deanbc@aol.com [<mailto:deanbc@aol.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 1:05 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR; wgcdlundy@charter.net; donggreenwood48@yahoo.com; fredmad@wisc.edu; gemador@execpc.com; gcg@countrysspeed.com; melodymoore@centurytel.net; wtcac@aol.com; marl@mwt.net; garimond@uwlax.edu

Cc: pflesch@crawfordcountywi.org; jgeisler@crawfordcountywi.org; dtroester@crawfordcountywi.org; aachenbach@crawfordcountywi.org; Sen.Erpenbach - LEGIS; Sen.Schultz - LEGIS; Sen.Shilling - LEGIS; Rep.Nerison - LEGIS; lauraleeng@aol.com; slkozerowitz@gmail.com; rushcrik@mwt.net

Subject: Frac Mining

Board Members,

I pay my property taxes with my hard earned money. FRAC Mining will destroy property values...your duty is to help to protect the land, environment AND my property values. Say NO and say it NOW to FRAC Mining within the **Lower Wisconsin State Riverway...so the right thing because it's the right thing to do.**

Elected officials...take note you have the same duty, we pay our taxes and we expect each of you to look out for us!

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Gaudio

DeSoto, WI

From: Kathy Office [<mailto:kathyf@paragon-assoc.biz>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 30, 2012 11:45 AM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR; 'Bill Lundberg'; 'Don Greenwood'; 'Fred Madison'; 'Gerald Dorscheid'; 'Greg Greenheck'; 'Melody Moore'; 'Ritchie Brown'; 'Ron Leys'; 'George Arimond'

Cc: Sen.Erpenbach - LEGIS; Sen.Schultz - LEGIS; Sen.Shilling - LEGIS; 'EdieEhlert Ehlert'

Subject: Lower Wisconsin State Riverway

Dear LWSR Board;

Please do all you can to stand firmly on November 8th against the permitting of a sand mine in the LWSR. The environmental impact may not be as negative as a Frac Sand Mine, but it does not take much research to find images akin to mountain top mining; polluted runoff; 24-7 lighting and the impacts upon wildlife & humans; vehicle traffic that would eliminate the quiet preservationist nature of the region and air quality impacts that can be deadly.

Many in Wisconsin will see this as yet another "property rights" issue. This would be simplistic, self-serving thinking. I do not think that we can possibly allow short term profits to supersede the important priority that preservation of the public commons should be. As they say, no one is making anymore Wisconsin. These companies spread a lot of money around, sure. But hauling off the earth is simply nuts. This natural gas craziness of drilling anywhere and everywhere no matter the toxic damage is already suffering the results of blind greed. Moratoriums abound as communities realize their water is being poisoned and quality of life destroyed. The gas price has dropped so much due to overproduction that their profits have disappeared.

The solution to energy shortage hysteria is not fracking and all the destruction it entails, but wiser energy use and sustainable sources like solar and wind. Please don't let LWSR corrupt their mission by succumbing to the pressure of short-sighted greed. Thank you.

Kathy Fairchild
Valley Stewardship Network Member
30 year resident of Crawford County

From: Kathleen Byrne [<mailto:kathybyrne@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2012 3:20 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR

Cc: Bill Lundberg; Don Greenwood; Fred Madison; Gerald Dorscheid; Greg Greenheck; Melody Moore; Ritchie Brown; Ron Leys; George Arimond

Subject:

October 25, 2012

Mark E. Cupp, Executive Director
Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board
202 N. Wisconsin Avenue
P.O. Box 187
Muscodia, WI 53573

Dear Mr. Cupp,

I attended the LWSR Board meeting in Wauzeka on October 11, 2012 and I am writing on behalf of Crawford Stewardship Project. During the board meeting you mentioned that Pattison Sand Co. had submitted for your review archeological and endangered species assessments concerning their proposed mine site in the Town of Bridgeport. I would appreciate a copy of these assessments be sent to me.

We would also like to know who authored these assessments and if they were done by someone working within the silica sand industry or if they were done by an independent authority. If these assessments were not done independently of the industry we are requesting the board have archeological and endangered species assessments done by an independent and unbiased authority.

We have one last request. We feel it is important for the LWSR Board to have all the facts and sides of this frac sand mining issue since this will set a precedent for the future of the LWSR. It was stated at the board meeting that the board would like to visit a silica sand mine and reclamation site. If the board is scheduling these visits through the industry we would expect that the board will only be shown the best site and scenario and not the average. Therefore, we are requesting that the board visit independently other mines in the area as well as speak with residents near mines and processing facilities in order to gain a complete picture and understanding of this industrial use. You all are entrusted with the preservation of the LWSR and we know that you take this very seriously. We hope that you will do all that you can to protect the Wisconsin River for many generations to come.

Thank you for your time and for considering my requests.

Sincerely,

Kathy Byrne, Co-Coordinator
Crawford Stewardship Project
55276 Three Creeks Rd
Ferryville, WI 54628
608-734-3143
kathybyrne@hotmail.com

From: Kathleen Byrne [<mailto:kathybyrne@hotmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, October 29, 2012 1:59 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR; Bill Lundberg; Don Greenwood; Fred Madison; Gerald Dorscheid; Greg Greenheck; Melody Moore; Ritchie Brown; Ron Leys; George Arimond

Subject: Proposed Bridgeport Mine

October 29, 2012

Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board
202 North Wisconsin Avenue
P.O. Box 187
Muscodia, WI 53573

Re: Proposed Pattison Sand Mine – Town of Bridgeport

Dear Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board:

The non-metallic mining that is listed as an “acceptable” activity in the LWSR statues is not the industrial sand mining that is happening today. This was written well before the explosion of frac sand mining in Wisconsin and it is not the small scale local sand and gravel quarrying that we are used to.

The following is an excerpt of a speech by Mark Cupp, LWSR Executive Director, at University of Wisconsin-Madison, December-1999 and it is posted on the LWSR website. I think it is very pertinent that these remarks be remembered by the board when making its decision on whether or not to allow such an environmentally destructive activity such as silica sand mining within the Wisconsin Riverway.

“The valley is a place worth protecting and preserving for future generations. The wisdom we show today in caring for this special part of our state will speak volumes about the people of the late twentieth century and their commitment to assuring the magnificence of the lower Wisconsin River, a place of such beauty and spirit, does not fall victim to the exploitation and greed of those members of society who are concerned with material things and could care less about things wild and free.

I am convinced that, because of the Riverway law, our legacy will be of a valley which will become more valuable and more special with each passing decade and, 90 years from now, when someone, perhaps my grandson’s grandson, celebrates the 100th anniversary of creation of the Riverway, they will be grateful for the wisdom and foresight shown by their forefathers a century earlier.”

I would like to know what this Riverway Board’s legacy will be. Will it be the one stated above or one setting the precedent for industrial sand mining to destroy it? I urge this board to do everything in its power to follow its mission to protect what should be held in trust for future generations.

Sincerely,

Paul Byrne
55276 Three Creeks Rd.
Ferryville, WI 54628
608-734-3143

From: Glory Adams [<mailto:gloryaec@charter.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2012 5:49 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR

Subject: Fwd: Re: Lower Wisconsin

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Dear Riverway Board Member,

RB 1.01 Mission. The mission of the lower Wisconsin state riverway board is to protect and preserve the scenic beauty and natural values of the lower Wisconsin state riverway through administration of a permit program to control land use and development.

With that mission in mind I would ask you to please postpone the decision to accept frac sand mining in the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway. The issues involved go far beyond the visual eyesore a mine creates. Please wait so more research can be done to explore the legal and aesthetic interests. Additionally, there will be negative environmental impacts emanating from Pattison Mine. A balance is needed, but once there is a mine on that stretch of the Wisconsin that is all that will be there. Mines do not share with wildlife or human life.

No place in Wisconsin is there another stretch of riverway like the Lower Wisconsin. The area has been designated to be set aside for the protection and preservation of the rights of landowners and Wisconsin residents.

I live in an area of the state that has been inundated with demanding frac sand mines. The land is completely destroyed. Wildlife is displaced and left to wander as they attempt to find new territories--many do not succeed. There is also a question of water usage and runoff, especially with an operation so close to a waterway. Reclamation plans are inadequate. Top soil is moved more than once killing the life thriving in it. Most often the area is left as "recreational", meaning a few small bushes, grasses, and flowers are seeded. The noise and lights are most disconcerting to humans and wildlife. Development and tourism of any sort stops and regresses. Roads take a real beating and diesel fumes fill the air.

This is an industry that is a bust and boom type. Promised jobs do not last forever. There is also a discrepancy in how the number of jobs are spoken of. Are they full time? Do they remain after construction of the mine is complete? These mines are highly mechanized and many of the workers are already affiliated with the company and hence, will not be new hires. Experience with sand mine companies is that everything must be written down and compliance with ordinances (expectations) be enforced. What the company officials say prior to mining can be very different from what actually happens when they are given free rein.

A frac sand mine in no way fits into the mission for the Lower Wisconsin Riverway. It is not gear to preservation of fauna or wildlife, nor conducive to use by residents for pleasure and restoration of their souls. The moral and ethical values need to be considered. They are extremely worthwhile to all. Support for the Wisconsin Riverway comes from throughout the state. Never was it meant to be used for the sole economic reward of one company. It is a treasure. Please delay and decision and make a thorough study of the pros and cons.

Thank you,
Glory Adams
1216 S Farwell St
Eau Claire, WI 54701

gloryaec@charter.net

From: Francis and Laura [<mailto:flfraun@wi.rr.com>]

Sent: Friday, October 12, 2012 8:18 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR

Subject: sand mine

Hi Mark,

I am very concerned about the WI River and the communities around the proposed sand mine for several reasons. Here are three:

1. water filtration and percolation reductions due to removal of sedimentary layers
2. noise from the operations on-site and in transit
3. air particulates that are currently under study that may cause some serious respiratory system problems

Mark, as a canoeist, a dad and an educator, this use of a near pristine environment to earn some fast money for some stock holder is not worth the destruction of our Earth.

Thanks,

Francis Fraundorf

From: Cindy Wiar [<mailto:cywiar@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, November 01, 2012 4:01 PM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR; wgcldundy@charter.net; dongreenwood48@yahoo.com; fredmad@wisc.edu; gemador@execpc.com; gcg@countryrspeed.com; melodymoore@centurytel.net; wtcac@aol.com; marl@mwt.net; garimond@uwlax.edu

Cc: Sen.Erpenbach - LEGIS; Sen.Schultz - LEGIS; Sen.Shilling - LEGIS; Rep.Nerison - LEGIS; Clark, Fred - LEGIS; Rep.Tranel - LEGIS; Rep.Marklein - LEGIS; Rep.Roys - LEGIS

Subject: Lower Wisconsin River Protection

November 1, 2012

Dear Lower Wisconsin Riverway Board Member,

I am a resident of Soldiers Grove who spends many of my weekends on the Wisconsin River. From Spring Green to Bridgeport I have boated and camped since 1985. I have taken my children (now grown young men) on this beautiful river. We observed eagles, otters, turtles, small and large fish, and best of all a snake with its mouth unhinged eating a fish! In short, my children received the best environmental education that one can ask for on the Lower Wisconsin. I love this river! I need you to step up and protect and preserve it as your mission statement states:

RB 1.01 Mission. The mission of the lower Wisconsin state riverway board is to protect and preserve the scenic beauty and natural values of the lower Wisconsin state riverway through administration of a permit program to control land use and development.

However, in concert with the program to control land use and development, due consideration shall be given to the rights of landowners and the freedom to exercise the rights associated with land ownership. The challenge facing the lower Wisconsin state riverway board is to maintain the fragile and delicate balance between protection and preservation of the scenic beauty and natural values of the lower Wisconsin state riverway and protection and preservation of the rights of landowners and residents within the boundary of the lower Wisconsin state riverway.

Allowing industrial frac sand mining in the lands along this river that has been entrusted to you protect, does not make sense. Surely, you are not just looking out for the rights of a very few land owners who want to sell or lease land for industrial mining? You must realize many other landowners live and vacation along the river because of its beauty. I also know you must be aware of the growth in tourism through canoe and kayak rentalsthis river is prime for these sports. Do I even need to mention all the people who fish and camp?

Please postpone accepting frac sand mining until more research can be on what effects this industrial mining will have on the environment and residents of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway. It seems to me, that examining the impact this kind of mining will have on the riverway is exactly why you exist as a board. I am asking you to consider whether frac sand mining will be good for ALL the residents of LWRW.

Thank-you for considering my comments.
Cindy Wiar

-----Original Message-----

From: Harriet Behar [mailto:harriet@countrysspeed.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2012 6:52 PM
To: Nachtigal, Marsha K - LWR
Subject: sand mining in the lower Wisconsin riverway

My understanding is that your board has oversight on the "viewshed" of land that borders the lower Wisconsin River as well as protection of this exceptional and lovely resource. Those that are boating on the river are to view wild lands, and not industrial or residential sites (unless they were "grandfathered in when the Lower Wisconsin riverway was created).

With the proposed creation of a large sand mine within the viewshed of the Wisconsin River, I ask the board to follow their mandate to protect the pristine environment of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway that attracts tourism, protects a unique and fragile resource, and provides future generations with many irreplaceable benefits.

The extended hours of operation, along with the methods used at the mine site, will make boating on the River in this section, extremely unpleasant as well as disrupting wildlife and possibly in the long term, degrading the soil and water resources. There is no other place in our region that meets the same high level of natural resource value as the Wisconsin River provides, and the Lower Wisconsin Riverway was created to protect and enhance this value. No measure of mitigation can replace what would be lost.

Please do not provide a variance to your current requirements that would despoil this section of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway by allowing this large, noisy, lighted and polluting mine within the viewshed of our beloved Wisconsin River.

Sincerely,

Harriet Behar
Gays Mills, WI 54631
