

From: Ron Byers [<mailto:byers@mwt.net>]
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 1:21 PM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: Frac Sand Mining

Dear Lower Wisconsin State Riverway Board:

The citizens of Southwest Wisconsin are depending on the Board to protect the sacred and irreplaceable riverway and its land by keeping it safe from the exploits of the frac sand mining business. The potential threats to the area are numerous including health threats to inhabitants from the silica dust, compromising the quality of the water from chemicals and run-off, the impact on wildlife and endangered species, the damage scenically to the hills and the accompanying noise pollution, the impact on cultural and historic sites and risking the loss of the qualities of the lower Wisconsin that make it attractive for tourism.

This is too great an issue to say "yes" to the economic interests of a few frac sand mining companies and ignore the long-range interests of Southwest Wisconsin people, the wildlife, the river and the land. Temporary jobs and money can never compete with protecting the reasons why so many of us have chosen this area as our home.

Sincerely,
Ron and Ellen Byers
Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin

From: deanbc@aol.com [<mailto:deanbc@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2013 6:13 AM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: Frack Sand Mining - Pattison Permit

I urge the Board to deny granting Pattison a permit for FRAC Mining. It's the RIGHT thing to do! PROTECT our environment and the health and welfare of our citizens!

Ralph Gaudio
Desoto, WI

From: Glory Adams [<mailto:gloryaec@charter.net>]
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 5:33 PM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: Pattison Mine

It is unbelievable to me that a sand mine is even being considered for placement in the Lower Wisconsin Riverway.

1. This mine will change the riverway forever. It will be made into an industrial area, something it was never, ever intended to become that. The Lower Wisconsin Riverway was meant to be protected and preserved for the use of ALL--not for the use of one destructive industry. Reclamation of a sand mine never is a restoration.
2. There will be economic losses for the area. Who could come to enjoy the river and the area just to see a sand mine operation? With roads congested with huge trucks, dust flying over the river and road along with accompanying noise, I cannot imagine anyone wanting to be there.
3. Who is going to inspect this mine? They have had many violations at Pattison's Iowa plant and repairs do not appear to have been rushed.
4. Where is the runoff going to go except into the Wisconsin? At least 20% of the sand mines and processing facilities in Wisconsin have had storm water violations this spring. That is only the number known. Obviously, there were more.
5. Unfortunately, the DNR does little to monitor air. There will be ambient dust and silica. Will there even BE any air monitors on site?
6. A sand mine creates a wasteland. No wildlife lives there. The noise, dust, and lights make it a foreboding

place.

7. What happened to the rights of all the neighbors in the area? Are their wells being pre-tested? Why do they have to live with the constant noise and dust?
8. This mine sets a precedence. Do not for one minute think it is the only one coming. As the mines spread up the river, you can be assured that the idea of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway will be totally destroyed.
9. Who is going to ensure that Pattison does not destroy historical sites?

I certainly know what I am talking about in the above comments. For the past two years I have been an advocate for strong controls on any sand mining activity. In southern Eau Claire County we have found those who run the mines to be untrustworthy and aggressive. Leaving monitoring up to the mine is asking for trouble. This is not anything like a gravel pit or a quarry. These mines are huge and surrounded by no trespassing signs. There are NO examples of reclamation after sand mining. Please look at past practices at the Pattison mine in Iowa and of Kyle Pattison himself. The Lower Wisconsin Riverway as it is, and as it was intended to be, will be gone forever. Please do not allow that to happen. If you do not stand up to protect the Lower Wisconsin Riverway now, it may well be too late.

Glory Adams
1216 S Farwell St
Eau Claire, WI 54701
gloryaec@charter.net

From: Ann Williams [<mailto:acwilliams@wi.rr.com>]
Sent: Friday, August 02, 2013 12:17 PM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: Frac Sand Mining Permit

Dear Mark,

I'm am writing to express my support for keeping the Lower Wisconsin Riverway clear of development of any type—including frac sand mining. The Riverway is a precious resource that is enjoyed by persons across the state, the nation and even globally. The last canoe trip I took down the river, our group heard Russian spoken by a group paddling near us, and we learned that they were international visitors. They were enjoying the beauty of the river as we were. My husband spent the day on the river yesterday with a group from his office who were taking a "retreat" day to reinvigorate themselves. The Riverway is of great value to our state and its citizens, and hopefully it will remain that way for our descendants. It should not be sacrificed for a sand mining project that is temporary at best.

Thank you for all of your efforts on behalf of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway. Feel free to forward my e-mail to interested parties.

Best regards,

Ann Williams

210 North Hine Ave.
Waukesha, WI 53188
voice: 262.549.0512
e-mail: acwilliams@wi.rr.com

From: Anita [<mailto:gmezera@centurytel.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2013 3:47 PM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: deny permits sand mine

Mark Cupp,

First and foremost, It stands to reason, black on white, these permit applications should be denied for Pattison and the four landowners. The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway was established to "protect and preserve the scenic beauty and natural character of the lower Wisconsin River valley."

~Anita Schneider
~Gerald Mezera
gmezera@centurytel.net

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

From: Mary Lee Croatt or Lloyd Croatt [<mailto:croatt@ameritech.net>]
Sent: Sunday, July 28, 2013 1:47 PM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Cc: Sen.Erpenbach - LEGIS; Sen.Shilling@legis.wisconsin.gov; Rep.Nerison - LEGIS; Rep.Tranel - LEGIS; Rep.Marklein - LEGIS; Clark, Fred - LEGIS
Subject: Proposal for a Bridgeport Frac Sand Mine

Wake up!

At the confluence of the Wisconsin River and the Mississippi River, land owners are being lured by money to give beautiful land over to frac sand mining.

If this were to occur:

This area of Wisconsin known for its natural beauty for tourism would be no more.

This area of Wisconsin known for its healthy water could be at risk, as chemical pools for cleaning the sand could spill into our waterways during floods.

As Wisconsin residents, taxpayers, and voters, we urge you and the Lower Wisconsin Riverway Board to vote "NO" on all 4 landowner applications for frac sand mining permits.

You have the power and the responsibility to refuse the mine.

Think clearly and from your heart. Be true to the health and beauty of our land for future generations to enjoy it as it is.

Mary Lee Croatt and Lloyd Croatt

From: Jaye Rykunyik [<mailto:jrykunyik@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2013 9:07 AM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: Franc sand mining

Dear Sir. I am not a constituent, but regularly visit the area to camp at Wyalusing, spent time in the surrounding area and enjoy the natural beauty of this wonderful part of our state. Franc sand mining would ruin the area and decrease the tourism draw along with the revenue it provides for many area businesses. Please don't allow this to happen.

Sincerely,
Jerona Rykunyik,
Dellona, WI

From: Anita [<mailto:gmezera@centurytel.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2013 9:26 AM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: dont like this idea

Kyle Pattison of Pattison Sand Company, which mines frac sand in Clayton County, said although his company

uses millions of gallons of water, 80 percent of it is recycled, and that which is not recycled is held in a holding pond where it is filtered and tested before it is sent back into the water table.

From: Anita [<mailto:gmezera@centurytel.net>]
Sent: Saturday, July 27, 2013 10:21 PM
To: Stoffel, John A - DNR; Hart, Kristin L - DNR; Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Cc: kathybyrne@hotmail.com
Subject: fugitive dust

FYI,

We took the bypass in PDC, at the rail loading site they were loading railcars. A lot of fugitive dust could be seen in the air once again. They were loading with 2 elevators. (Saturday night at 9.30 p.m.) July 27th, 2013

DNR should require 2.5PM ambient air (fugitive dust) monitors at this rail loading site. What are they going to wait till somebody gets sick or dies from breathing this fugitive dust in their lungs. We the Public should be protected from this fugitive dust, but we are not. Pattison doesn't care about his workers. They breath this dust in all the time.

Somebody PLEASE come to this rail loading site without prior warning to Pattison knowing. Pattison needs a fine, not a slap on the hand. WE THE PUBLIC MUST BE PROTECTED FROM THIS FUGITIVE DUST.

Pictures have been sent, letters have been written, fugitive dust is in the air and nobody seems to care. Neighbors there have fugitive dust in their homes, and on their vehicles, yet nobody seems to care. Campgrounds is close to this rail loading area. Windy days takes this fugitive dust far and wide. **So PLEASE require 2.5PM ambient air (fugitive dust) monitors at this rail loading site.**

PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM THIS FUGITIVE DUST!

~Anita Schneider
gmezera@centurytel.net

From: Edie Ehlert [<mailto:edieehlert@centurytel.net>]
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2013 3:36 PM
To: DNR SECRETARY
Cc: Walls, Roberta A - DNR; Town Bridgeport; Beth Regan; Dave Troester; Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: Administrative Hearing Request

Dear Secretary Stepp,

Included and attached is a request for an Administrative Hearing on the Nonmetallic Mining Operations General Permit WI-0046515-5 for the Pattison Sand Company LCC Site for an industrial sand mine in Bridgeport Township in Crawford County, WI.

Please send me an email acknowledging receipt of this email.

Thank you for considering this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Ehlert
Crawford Stewardship Project Co-coordinator

July 26, 2013

RE: Administrative Law Hearing Request on Nonmetallic Mining Operations General Permit WI-0046515-5
DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp
Department of Natural Resources
101 S. Webster ST.
Madison WI 53707

Dear Secretary Stepp,

We are requesting an Administrative Law Hearing pursuant to 227.42, Wis. Stats. on the Nonmetallic Mining Operations Permit issued by the WDNR to Pattison Sand Company LCC for their frac sand mine site in Bridgeport Township, Crawford County, WI, Nonmetallic Mining Operations General Permit WI-0046515-5.

Crawford Stewardship Project (CSP) has a direct interest in this permit as this industrial silica sand mine is located in Crawford County. CSP is a citizens advocacy group with a mission to protect the environment of Crawford County from threats that potentially compromise our county's natural resources. The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway (LWSR) and the Wisconsin River are exceptional resources for all the citizens of the state and as such must be carefully managed so it remains an asset not only for now, but generations to come.

The mission of the LWSR Board includes, "***to protect and preserve the scenic beauty and natural character of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway.***" The aesthetic impact to the Riverway and State Highway 60 Scenic Byway will be extensive. Night lighting, visual dust, and considerable noise from trucks, blasting, and machinery will occur. Run-off could become silted with a rain event, as has occurred elsewhere at frac sand mine sites in the state. **The WDNR website talks about being on the River, "...and for the user wishing solitude, the stretch below Boscobel is the most secluded."** Industrial sand mining is not what people think of when they are considering a "secluded" day or weekend canoeing on the Wisconsin River.

An externally drained stormwater permit that allows drainage into the Wisconsin River and its tributaries within the (LWSR) greatly threatens this precious public resource.

The "Biotic Inventory and Analysis of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway" completed in June 2011, available at http://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/er/ER0830_ext.pdf is an impressive WDNR document that assesses the complexity and rich resource we have in the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway. We are highly concerned that these resources will be compromised on many levels by a frac sand mine. For example, forest fragmentation is one of the concerns. A frac sand mine will have a strong and lasting negative impact on forest fragmentation and thus on forest habitat.

Other habitat issues are a serious concern as well. The nonmetallic mining permit lists impacts that must be avoided that could cause serious destruction of wildlife and habitat:

"For the Life of the mine you plan to avoid impacting Threatened and Endangered species as follows:

- To avoid take of the Cerulean Warbler, Acadian Flycatcher, Prothonotary Warbler, no tree cutting and clearing of trees shall take place on any part of the properties from May 1 through August 31 of any given year.
- To avoid take of the Little Brown Bat or the Eastern Pipistrelle, no cutting or clearing of dead standing trees or dying trees shall take place on any part of the properties from June 1st through August 15th of any given year.
- Although the Gray Ratsnake and Bullsake are only special concern, caution not to disturb any habitat during the active periods of March through October will help preserve these species."

There remains no independent monitoring required within this permit for these species. Given the LWSR is such an impressive and highly valued resource, independent monitoring is crucial.

One of our major concerns is cumulative impacts. This mine site is slated to be in operation for decades, for generations. And yet the permit requires only "Quarterly Site Inspection of Storm Water Controls" and "Quarterly Visual Check of Storm Water Runoff Quality" by the Pattison Sand. Again, there is no independent monitoring. Pattison Sand had a clogged filter at their mine site in Clayton, Iowa, noticed in November 2011. The Iowa DNR required that Pattison Sand clean up the sand spill that went into the Mississippi River and harmed native mussels. Pattison Sand took a full year before they completed that clean up. We do not want to see this repeated in the Wisconsin River.

This spring, there were numerous breaches in stormwater berms and runoff events from frac sand mines in Wisconsin. Clearly there are issues with design and monitoring. We are highly concerned about potential pollution in the Wisconsin River. This most recent article gives us this warning from DNR Stormwater Management Specialist Roberta Walls, "It's very challenging," Walls said. "I really don't see the state being able to provide the staffing levels that the workload demands."

<http://m.startribune.com/local/?id=215335701&c=y>

Deb Dix is an environmental enforcement specialist and the new frac sand expert at the DNR. She says Arcadia Sands, Alpine Sand, Sierra Sand, Superior Silica and Great Northern Sand are under enforcement action. She says leaks like this can cause serious environmental harm. "It can damage small microorganisms within the stream, as it goes through it can settle on the stream bed as it flows through; it can settle down and it will destroy habitat. So, it's really not good for the stream biology at all." Dix says the recent rains were excessive but sand mining stormwater plans are supposed to be able to handle it. <http://news.wpr.org/post/dnr-frac-sand-companies-failed-contain-runoff-during-torrential-rains>.

Economic impacts have not been considered in this permit. Statistics compiled by the Wisconsin Department of Tourism show that tourism dollars spent in Crawford County increased from 2011 to 2012. Direct visitor spending went up from \$37.2 million in 2011 to \$39.1 million in 2012. Total business sales as the result of tourism increased from \$53.1 million to \$55.6 million in the county. Tourism related employment increased from 712 jobs to 729. Total labor income went from \$11.5 million to \$11.8 million. State and local tax revenue increased from \$5.3 million to \$5.5 million.

"Tourism is a growth industry in Crawford County in terms of revenue and with jobs created," said David Connolly, the executive director of the Crawford County Economic Development Corporation. Connolly noted that tourism related jobs account for 10 percent of the county's workforce. "Tourism is a base industry that directly supports economic growth here", Connolly said, "Tourism brings in outside wealth and is an important way to develop economic diversity."

The Lower Wisconsin State Riverway has an economic gain for the entire state as well. The WDNR itself promotes the Riverway as a wonderful recreational resource for people to come and enjoy its pristine beauty, wildlife and all that it has to offer. In addition, millions of dollars of public money has gone into the Riverway. In "Frac Sand Mining in the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway," authored by LWSR Board Chair Don Greenwood and Board member Melody Moore, they state, "\$30,000,000 to date for land acquisition and scenic easement purchases alone" has gone into the Riverway. This does not include the impressive list of WDNR, citizen, LWSR and legislative time and expense to create and maintain this most valuable resource. The Greenwood and Moore document is available on the Riverway website.

For these reasons, we are requesting an Administrative Law Hearing on this Nonmetallic Mining Operations Permit, WI-0046515-5.

We are presently waiting for the specific stormwater calculations documents from the DNR of the Pattison SWIPP so we can add a technical review of the specific requirements within the Stormwater permit.

We conclude that the public's right to a protected and truly magnificent natural resource of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway and the Wisconsin River itself is being compromised by this permit

From: Henry and Magdalene Hagedorn [<mailto:lenehhh@gmail.com>]

Sent: Saturday, July 27, 2013 10:12 AM

To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR; csp.county@gmail.com

Subject: Open pit frac sand mines on the Lower State Riverway

Dear Director Cupp,

I urge the Lower Wisconsin Riverway Board to vote against allowing frac sand mine within the riverway. The Wisconsin River is a treasure for all of us. Fracing will permanently degrade the scenic beauty and native plants and animals of the riverway. Please block the landowner applications for frac mining permits.

Regards,
Henry Hagedorn
Cross Plains

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

From: wuest@jvlnet.com [<mailto:wuest@jvlnet.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2013 4:17 PM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR; Nachtigal, Marsha K - LWR
Subject: The Wisconsin River

Please, please do all that you can to protect the lower Wisconsin river from the destruction of frac sand mining. This beautiful area is a treasure to us all. We love to canoe down the river and enjoy the quiet, the peace and the many wild creatures we see. We want our grandchildren to be able to enjoy the same experiences.

Whatever they say, sand mining is messy and polluting. It cannot be contained; it blows in the wind and runs with the rain. Please do not allow it along our great river.

Thank you very much.

Gene and Mimi Wuest
Reedsburg, WI 53959

From: Barbara Jenkin [<mailto:baj1@tds.net>]
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2013 3:40 AM
To: Cupp, Mark E - LWR
Subject: Frack Sand Mine Permit

Mark,

I will be brief. I am writing to urge the LWSR Board at their upcoming meeting to NOT approve the Pattison Co. request for a Frack Sand Mining Permit inside the LWSR in the Town of Bridgeport, Crawford County.

Barbara Jenkin
Erik Marquess
417 N. 7th St.
Madison, WI 53704
