



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DULUTH
~~222-Grayhound-Building~~
DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55802

JUN 7 1977

Mary Evans
1832 E. 5th St.
Duluth, Minn. 55812
June 5, 1977

Harriett Herb
LWVMN
555 Wabasha
St. Paul, Minn. 55102

Dear Harriet,

Enclosed you will find a copy of the report of the hearing on the Clean Water Act of 1972 held in Duluth June 2, 1977. Testimony given by the Duluth LWV is also included. Would you please see that copies of the report reach the LWVUS office and Mary Poppleton of the State Board.

Two members of the Duluth LWV will represent Minn. at the Coastal Zone Management Conference, June 13-15, 1977. They are Carol Bailey and Alyce Johnsen. Would you please give these names to Ann Thomas so she can give them some help in Washington. We have not written a grant proposal and perhaps she can assist the two Duluth LWV members in this.

I would like to add my thanks to you and the State Board as well as any others who helped make the 1977 State Convention such a success.

Sincerely,

Mary M. Evans
Mary M. Evans

Sent 6/7/77
to Nell
Sent to
Ann
6/7/77

News from the office of Senator Wendell R. Anderson

U.S. Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510
202-224-5641

Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution
Committee on Environment and Public Works
City Council Chambers
Duluth City Hall
Duluth, Minnesota

June 2, 1977
8:30 a.m.

Contact: John Freshman
218/727-8981

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR WENDELL R. ANDERSON HEARING ON CLEAN WATER REVIEW

Today's hearing is the second in a series of hearings by the Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. We are engaged in a comprehensive review of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Our purpose is to determine what, if any, amendments to that Act are necessary.

We are resolved to examine all aspects of that law. We intend to explore as many issues as can be identified, and we hope to provide a maximum opportunity for the public to shape any changes in that law.

Today's hearing will review generally the issues with the water pollution program in Minnesota and focus specifically on the issues of best available technology for industries, and management of treatment facilities in municipalities. We have chosen these issues in this area because people are concerned with and knowledgeable of these aspects of the clean water law. Correspondence and conversations over the past several years have suggested the need to focus specifically on these issues.

The 1972 law required two phases of technology-based pollution controls for industrial sources, supplemented where necessary by more stringent water quality or toxic standards. The first phase has been a success--the Environmental Protection Agency estimates a compliance rate of over 90%. The second phase--reductions in pollution based on the best we can do--is to be written into permits in 1978 and 1979, to be achieved no later than 1983. This phase will be the subject of extensive discussion by industries, environmentalists and others throughout these hearings.

Today, we will continue this discussion, exploring the projected economic and environmental implications of this second phase requirement for industry with witnesses representing various perspectives within the State.

The testimony from this panel will be a part of an analysis of the environmental and economic implications of the 1983 effluent control requirements focusing on such questions as:

--What are the expected costs of achieving the 1983 standards?
Is there a potential for savings in process changes which use materials more efficiently or recover process materials?

--How will the compliance with the 1983 limits contribute to the achievement of the basic objective of restoring and maintaining the nation's waters?

--Are effluent limits based on best available technology an efficient and equitable method of assuring that toxic or potentially toxic materials are not discharged into the aquatic environment?

over...

As we are examining the implications of the 1983 industrial requirements, the Subcommittee needs to have a detailed discussion on what is happening in communities today. Are municipal facilities, constructed with large amounts of Federal funds, operating in the intended manner?

The 1972 law established a series of requirements for municipal facilities to protect the Federal investment. These include user charges to pay for operation and maintenance costs; recovery of the industrial share of capital costs; minimum levels of performance; and management of sludge.

The second panel today will explore with us these requirements of the law, as they are being applied to Minnesota. The discussion should assist in the Subcommittee evaluation of the statutory requirements for municipal facilities management to determine if any changes are appropriate or necessary.

We need to know whether the requirement for proportionate user charges is necessary to assure the kind of operation and maintenance needed to protect the Federal investment.

Is the industrial cost recovery provision being administered equitably or as some have alleged, does it discriminate against small industrial users in small communities?

Does the law provide adequate recognition of and assistance for management of sludge?

We are here to obtain a local perspective. We intend to broaden the information base on which water pollution decisions are made. We welcome this testimony.

JENNINGS RANDOLPH, W. VA., CHAIRMAN
EDMUND S. MUSKIE, MAINE
MIKE GRAVEL, ALASKA
LLOYD BENTSEN, TEX.
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK.
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JOHN W. YAGO, JR., STAFF DIRECTOR
BAILEY GUARD, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

WITNESS LIST

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

DULUTH, MINNESOTA

June 2 - 8:30 a.m.

1. Sandy Gardebring *Exec. Director*
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
2. Alden Lind, Richard Jones, Rep. Arlene Lehto
Save Lake Superior Association
3. Panel on 1983 BAT Requirements *Best Available Technology*
4 BPT " *Practicable* "
Ken Carlson
Minnesota Power and Light

Dick Nachbar
Boise-Cascade

Russ Susag
Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing

Gary Welk
Northern States Power

Steve Chapman
Clear Air-Clear Water & MECCA
4. Panel on Management of Municipal Systems
Mayor Bob Beaudin
City of Duluth

Mayor Al Loehr
City of St. Cloud

Cliff Grinde
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

Milt Knoll
Hoerner-Waldorf-Champion International

Dave Zentner
Izaak Walton League of America
5. Rudy Esala
Arrowhead Regional Development Commission
6. Roger Aitkin
Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee

Witnesses are not necessarily listed in order of appearance.
Others interested in presenting a statement will be heard
after these witnesses have been heard, as time permits.

Subcommittee on Environmental Pollution

Hearing June 2, 1977

Notes on Testimony of Witnesses submitted by Gloria Hamman

1. Sandy Gardebring, Executive Director, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Agency has authority over air, water, noise and solid waste. Said Federal Act is doing a good job. Spoke about standards for discharges and problems of small communities to comply and get grants, and funds for research into low cost techniques. Act should be amended to specify no vessel waste discharges allowed. In answer to Senator Anderson's question about effects in communities since Minnesota share of Federal funds has been used up, she said some were not progressing and that \$1 Billion is needed.
2. Rep. Arlene Lehto, Save Lake Superior Association
People should have access to the decision making process. P.L. 92,500 should be strengthened, and goals need adequate funding. We should reaffirm national commitments to water quality.

Alden Lind, SLSA

Spoke about human health and how it relates to P.L. 92,500. There is greater concern for water quality in relation to human health now than in 1972. Then some pollutants were not known that are now--PCB, asbestos, and other toxic chemicals. Should prohibit variances where there are toxic chemicals, and require the burden of proof for non-toxic chemicals.

Dick Jones, SLSA

Costs and standards are bases of the act. Our capacity to generate wastes exceeds capacity of the environment to absorb them. Projected power plants will add to pollution.

3. Panel on 1983 BAT Requirements

Ken Carlson, Minnesota Power and Light

Asked for mid-course correction of portions of act and extension and postponement of deadlines when industry can make a case. Lack of balance of such factors in the act adds to costs to consumers. Industry has made more advances than communities and agriculture. Costs of compliance to 1983 requirements will exceed benefits. Thermal discharges--exemptions should be allowed when they won't harm the environment. Asks exemption for them, and redefinition of term "navigable waters."

Dick Nachbar, Boise Cascade

Need for greater flexibility in BAT and BPT deadlines. Some permit-holders are trying but unable to meet deadlines. Goal, of navigable, swimmable waters not precise. Effluent color should not be considered a problem--paper company discharge similar to color of some northern lakes and rivers. Cost, according to Jan. 1977 knowledge, to reach 1983 BAT guidelines--\$68 Million for BPT, additional \$53 Million to reach BAT, if estimates are reliable. Could be as much as \$120 Million. Small, one-industry towns could shut down. Recommends element of flexibility in deadlines, recognizing good faith efforts to comply.

3. Cont'd.

Russ Susag, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing

Spoke on how 3M has been affected by the 1977 deadline, and why 1983 deadline should be postponed. Said 90% of industry will have achieved requirements, while far few municipalities will have complied. Non-point sources account for about 50% of pollution. Costs for clean water could be transferred to land and air pollution. Cited case of a chemical plant where air pollution caused by burning coal for power to operate water cleaning system exceeded pollution of effluent.

Gary Welk, Northern States Power

Not sufficient time to comply with guidelines. Variance procedure ineffective because of veto actions. Recommends Corps of Engineers jurisdiction be limited to navigation. Stated municipal sewage treatment plants get preference to industry in funds and variances.

Steve Chapman, Clear Air-Clear Water & MECCA

Asks that there be no weakening, but a tightening where it affects human health. Don't extend deadlines. 90% of industry will be in compliance in 1983. 83% of the major industries will be in compliance by July 1, 1977.

4. Panel on Management of Municipal Systems

Mayor Bob Beaudin, City of Duluth

When industries plug into the new system, costs will be higher to residential users. Asked for extension of cut-off date till completion of plant in 1978.

Cliff Grinde, Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

Total cost of new plant to be \$108 Million. Plans were made before P.L. 92,500. Industrial contributors will be about 40% of the capacity, and they have to await the completion of the plant, so variance from the July 1, 1977 deadline is necessary.

Substitute for Mayor of St. Cloud

Their plant was completed and serves 50,000 people. Sewage costs have increased. Industrial cost recovery is paid by fair share. Three major industries' sewer bills increased about 20%. A poultry processing plant left the city because of costs. Plant has on-land sludge disposal system that works well.

Dick Beams, Metropolitan Wastes Control Systems

Urges uniform application of standards.

Milt Knoll, Hoerner-Waldorf-Champion International

Operates two paper mills recycling newspapers and corrugated board in St. Paul. 46% of water is recycled in plant operations, then a percentage of solids is removed before discharged into St. Paul treatment plant. Costs increased 108% to decrease waste 34%. \$80 Million more will be necessary to comply with the 1983 requirements from this company. Believes law should only be required where water quality would be significantly improved by implementation.

4. Cont'd.

Dave Zentner, Izaak Walton League of America

In favor of BAT rather than BPT. There is a need for Congress to consider costs of operation and maintenance in funding.

Roger Aitkin, Leech Lake Reservation Business Committee

City of Bemidji sewer treatment facility not doing the job, polluting water in river and lakes. Indians will seek litigation if something isn't done soon.

Mr. Marks, representing Michigan

Detroit concerned with vessel dumping. State should be permitted to retain priority of allotment of Federal funds for pollution control.

RECESS

As time allowed, Senator allowed persons to testify from the floor. The following made statements:

President of Flambeau Paper Co. requesting time extension of discharge permit to get discharge equipment installed.

Potlach Co, representative asked for amendments granting authority to extend time on case-by-case basis.

Audubon Society representative said natural habitats need to be preserved. Support provisions in law for preservation of wetlands.

Karen Carlson, SLSA

Gloria Hamman, Duluth League of Women Voters, safe drinking water

Betty Hetzel, Superior League of Women Voters, compliance of Superior Fiber Products Corp.

Several times there was criticism for lack of sufficient notice of the hearing, and lack of time for all who wished to testify. The Senator felt that insufficient notice should be blamed on the media, who were amply represented at the hearing. He apologized for not being able to hear all statements.

STATEMENT GIVEN AT HEARING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIORNMENTAL POLLUTION

June 2, 1977

I am Gloria Hamman, representative of the Duluth League of Women Voters.

The League of Women Voters has been working for clean water for many years, and we wish to add our plea that we not allow the Clean Water Act to be weakened. Focus of our most recent study has been safe, high-quality drinking water.

Introduction of new and varied contaminants into raw water sources may be csusing the quality of our drinking water to deteriorate. Waiting to see how many people may suffer substantially from drinking water-related diseases could mean massive long-term studies over twenty years or more. We cannot wait. It is more prudent to reduce the risks by improving treatment methods and preventing water pollution. We must be willing to pay the costs.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 555 Wabasha, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Memo to: Local Leagues

From: Mary Brascugli, State Environmental Quality Chairman

Re: Moratorium on Stream Channelization

April 19, 1972

The following background information will be of help in bringing your members along with current action in support of measures to halt stream channelization in Minnesota. The LWV of Minnesota is a co-signer of this resolution. Additional copies of this memo are available (6¢ each) - how about stapling copies to your bulletin? Distributing to other groups in your community?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
PROPOSED MORATORIUM ON STREAM CHANNELIZATION

1. Stream Channelization has an adverse effect on the physical and biological environment in terms of DRAINAGE, LOSS OF GROUNDWATER RECHARGE, SEDIMENT DAMAGE, POLLUTION, FISH AND WILDLIFE LOSSES.

2. Channelization contradicts other federal and state policies and expenditures to acquire and protect wetlands, enhance fish and wildlife habitats, to subsidize the idling of "excess" agricultural land (while draining marginal land to bring more land into production).

3. Channelization is extensive in Minnesota and throughout the U.S. Approximately 1/5 of the agricultural land of the U.S. is now, or will be included in these small watershed projects of the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), Dept. of Agriculture.

The legislation that permits the SCS to channelize, P.L. 566 was preceded by a pilot watershed program in the '50s. An assessment of these programs nationwide resulted in passage of the International Association of Game and Fish and Conservation Commissioners Resolution 12 (1956). It requested that P.L. 566 be amended to eliminate drainage that would bring new land into production. But between the time of the pilot studies and June, 1970 21 drainage-flood control projects involving channelization were approved in Minnesota (testimony by David Vesall, Div. Game and Fish, DNR; now assisting in administration of federal water bank program - at National Watershed Conference, June 8, 1970).

In the Blue Earth Subbasin, where the SCS is doing detailed planning, they note that 300 of 468 lakes and all shallow lakes have been drained partly due to channelization and aided by tilling and artificial ditches.

The SCS will complete 40 miles of channels this year on the north fork of the Upper Watonwan River in the Blue Earth subbasin and will start 8 miles of channels on the LeSueur River near Janesville. There are presently 186 miles of channels approved in state.

The SCS is authorized to do planning in the entire Minn. Rivers Basin over the next 8 years - more projects can be expected. Channels are being studied on the Zumbro River near Rochester.

Furthermore, the SCS is cooperating with the newly-formed Southern Minnesota Rivers Basin Commission whose enabling legislation directs them to plan for several purposes including "improvement of stream channels for handling of surface waters, navigation and other public purposes". (The LWV opposed this bill in the 1971 legislative session.)

The Army Corps of Engineers is proposing a 12' channel in lower Mississippi, Ohio, Illinois waterway. The proposal was initiated in 1944 and is now progressed to Alternative Stage public hearings; formulation stage hearings scheduled for 1974; July 1972 devoted to ecological study of effects.

4. The SCS has declined to file environmental impact statements on 258 of its 273 channelization projects in U.S. This defeats the National Environmental Policy Act.

5. Ironically the SCS had recognized certain limits to the channelization projects. As expressed in the Inventory Report on the Blue Earth Subbasin: "Adverse effects on wildlife habitat, impact upon scenic beauty, channel stability problems, induced downstream damages if adequate outlets are not obtained and other related characteristics are factors which place limits on the potential for channel improvements." p. 7.11

The League seeks public support for broader recognition of these "certain limits".

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF STREAM CHANNELIZATION

1. DRAINAGE OF WETLANDS:

In Mud Lake Creek Pilot Watershed in Minnesota 56% of wetlands were drained due to channelization.

In Hawk Creek Pilot Watershed, Minn. 54% of the wetlands were drained between 1955 and 1968. Only 6% were drained in the unchannelized portions during the same period.

2. LOSS OF GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

Studies have determined how much water returns to the groundwater system while it is held in wetlands. When the wetlands are drained, this recharge is lost.

3. SEDIMENT DAMAGE

Erosion is aggravated by the process of channelization (stripping banks, dredging bottom, denuding protective corridor along stream). Also, the straightened stream carried water moving at a higher velocity and this creates a scouring effect.

Silt, the number one pollutant in terms of quantity in our water, smothers bottom life of a stream, spawning beds; cuts down on the penetrability of sunlight, carried pollutants. The federal Water Quality Act declared silt a pollutant, and enabled states like Minnesota to include turbidity standards in their stream designation and water quality standards.

4. POLLUTION

The loss of nutrient-trapping wetlands and protective vegetation leads to pollutants being carried into streams. Some pollutants become extremely hazardous when they enter water (e.g. soil pathogens, mercury).

5. FISH AND WILDLIFE LOSSES

A typical study was carried out by two North Carolina biologists; they determined that channelization reduced the game fish population by 90%, both in weight of fish produced and in game fish longer than 6 inches. "Channelization is the death blow from which the stream doesn't recover." George Laycock, "When Conservation is a Bad Word", STREAM CHANNELIZATION Part I, testimony before U.S. House Committee May 3 & 4, 1971.

Channelization also destroys spawning streams for such species as white bass, walleyes, sauger.

In short, there is a consensus among conservationists that there is a need to prevent 566 projects from destroying fish and game habitat.

RESOLUTION TO GOVERNOR WENDELL ANDERSON, STATE OF MINNESOTA

SUBJECT: moratorium on dams and channelization projects of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Soil Conservation Service

WHEREAS, the evidence is mounting that dams and channelization projects do not in fact solve the problems of flood control, pollution control, recreational needs, and the provision of land for agriculture and development;

WHEREAS, in fact, these engineering solutions produce a significant adverse ecological impact on the physical and biological environment;

WHEREAS, time is needed to assess the true costs of these practices in terms of depletion and degradation of our natural resources; and to plan a national program of "environmental reconstruction";

WHEREAS, alternative protective measures, such as floodplain zoning, and programs for acquisition, protection, and reclamation of wetlands should be encouraged;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governor of the State of Minnesota refuse approval of all requests for Corps of Engineer dams, SCS P.L. 566 projects and channelization proposals, and withdraw support from those projects already authorized but for which contracts have not yet been let.

May 1, 1972

The Honorable Wendell R. Anderson
Governor of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Governor Anderson,

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota endorses the following resolution:

Subject : moratorium on dams and channelization projects of the U.S.
Army Corps of Engineers and Soil Conservation Service.

Whereas, the evidence is mounting that dams and channelization projects do not in fact solve the problems of flood control, pollution control, recreational needs, and the provision of land for agriculture and development;

Whereas, in fact, these engineering solutions produce a significant adverse ecological impact on the physical and biological environment;

Whereas, time is needed to assess the true costs of these practices in terms of depletion and degradation of our natural resources; and to plan a national program of "environmental reconstruction;"

Whereas, alternative protective measures, such as floodplain zoning, and programs for acquisition, protection, and reclamation of wetlands should be encouraged;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Governor of the State of Minnesota refuse approval of all requests for Corps of Engineers dams, SCS P.L. 566 projects and channelization proposals, and withdraw support from those projects already authorized but for which contracts have not yet been let.

We appreciate your consideration of the above resolution.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann McCoy, President
League of Women Voters - Minnesota

Mary Brascugli, Chairman
Environmental Quality

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 555 Wabasha, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Testimony before Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Re: Proposed Chapter 37: WPG 37
Standards for the Limitation of the Amount of Phosphorus
in Various Cleaning Agents and Chemical Water Conditioners
by Lenore Parham, League of Women Voters of Minnesota
February 11, 1975, Roseville, Minnesota

I am Lenore Parham, speaking for the 5,000 members of the state League of Women Voters; we have a background of 19 years of study and action to improve water quality in Minnesota.

We urge the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to adopt standards limiting the amount of phosphorus to levels in various cleaning agents and chemical water conditioners.

Throughout this hearing, there will be ample testimony from persons with technical information on phosphorus levels in cleaning agents and its effect on water quality. We emphasize that citizens are willing to make sacrifices for water quality. This is supported by a published study, "A Survey of Attitudes Towards the Mississippi River as a Total Resource in Minnesota" (Baron, N. J., et al. Water Resources Research Center, University of Minnesota, Bulletin No. 55, 1973.) which indicated that in 1972,

92% of the respondents throughout the state said that they would be willing to use soap instead of detergents.

They were being asked if they would be willing to give up their detergents; they were not being asked merely to use a low-phosphorus detergent.

Our membership has had a strong, active interest in this subject. For example, prior to labeling regulations, many of our Leagues tried hard to keep their members informed of the phosphorus content of the various detergents. The Minneapolis League, and others, sold a low-phosphate detergent some four years ago.

We would like to make one last point. The League of Women Voters realizes and continues to support the need for public investment in primary and advanced waste treatment plants. The League, and we feel the public as well, will not abandon this commitment even though phosphorus levels may be reduced in waste waters as a result of these deliberations.

To: Members of the Senate Natural Resources and
Agriculture Committee

From: Mary Watson, State Environmental Quality Chairman

Re: S. F. 1308

April 16, 1975

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has supported state control over identification of public works. The present bill represents an extreme compromise on the part of the Department of Natural Resources; we hope it will not result in great loss of wetlands and great variances between counties. To counteract that possible weakness, we urge the inclusion of a provision allowing the Department of Natural Resources to contest the decision of the board composed of representatives of the Soil-Water Conservation Commission, the Regional Development Commission and the County Soil-Water Conservation District. This was suggested by a member of the agricultural community and by Charles Dayton, Sierra Club and we support it as a necessary safeguard.

To: Action Chairmen, Second District, copy to Elna Ponto
From: Mary Watson, E.Q. Chairman
Re: Time for Action on Safe Drinking Water
Date: June 20, 1974

HR 12005, legislation to establish federal standards for safe drinking water with subsequent adoption by the states is presently in the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. Ancher Nelson, a member of the committee, led the effort to delete standby federal enforcement; he has stated that he has had no mail on the bill from his district! The bill has been passed by the Senate with EPA given the power to enforce federal standards if the states refuse to act to adopt the standards. Presently, only water used on interstate carriers is required to meet federal bacteriological standards; these standards are recognized as minimum standards and less than half the states have adopted them and few vigorously enforce them.

The bill, in addition to establishing standards, authorizes funds for grants "Where there are known public health hazards which require advanced technology for the removal of particles which are too small to be removed by ordinary treatment technology." This section was added by Rep. Blatnik and obviously refers to situations such as Duluth's. Also included is a consumer information section requiring that the public be notified every three months of any violations of water standards.

ACTION TO TAKE

Review Facts and Issues, LWV of US, THE WATER YOU DRINK for more background. Write to Rep. Nelson to let him know his constituents are concerned over safe drinking water and that EPA enforcement is necessary to protect the health of the people if states fail to adopt the standards.

To: Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee

From: League of Women Voters of Minnesota,
Mary Watson, Environmental Quality Chairman

Re: Drainage Issues

January 23, 1975

In considering what factors should be included in the definition of "public waters," we support the present definition--"Waters which serve a beneficial public purpose." The further definition of "beneficial public purpose," which includes water supply, recreational activities, public navigation, wildlife habitat, scientific and natural areas, entrapment and retention of nutrients, retention of water and recharge of underground water strata, recognizes the value of wetlands and the functions they perform.

The determination of "public waters" should be made by the Department of Natural Resources after full opportunity for local voices to express their opinion. The state agency is the only qualified agency able to take a "state view."

We support consideration of all the criteria listed in the proposed rules and regulations for drainage. All of these were considered at length by the task forces and all are necessary considerations to prevent drainage which is unwise or unnecessary. Previously, the petitioner has benefitted and little consideration has been given to the broad environmental aspects of the drainage.

Walter Ochs, Water Management Engineer for Drainage, Soil Conservation Service, states, "SCS, in providing planning and construction assistance for water resource development, believes that channels should be constructed only as a last resort."

I would like to close with a quote from Liquid Assets, a European wetlands study. "The planning of such projects demands much more than technical ability; it requires also an understanding of the natural assets inherent in all marshes and wetlands--an understanding broad enough to foresee the full extent of the losses that are going to be incurred. Drainage itself should be thought of as a form of surgery, a painful operation only to be undertaken in the last resort."

FILE COPY

This statement was presented at the public meeting on urban water resources problems on March 1, 1974 in City Council chambers by environmental quality committee of the League of Women Voters, Duluth

B. L. Monson

Members of the LWV of the United States have studied water quality for years. Our representatives testified before a Congressional Committee in March 1973 in favor of HR 1059 - the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Members of the Duluth League of Women Voters Environmental Quality Committee have interviewed local officials concerned with water quality. We find this situation: Duluthians now have these alternatives to drinking unfiltered tap water: 1. Buying bottled water; 2. Using well water from WDIO or other sources; 3. Using water from the two fire halls which are provided with filtration systems and maintained by the city; 4. Installing home filter systems at a cost of around \$100 and maintained by the home owner.

The Duluth water department is self-supporting. This public utility has the means of acquiring funds for installing one of the recommended primary filtration systems.

Citizens have been told since last June that Duluth needs a primary water filtration system. The State Health Dept. recommended this 10 years ago and the PCA one year ago. Now that the pilot study program is started we will all be concerned about the results. We have urged individuals and organizations who, like us, are concerned about the safety of Duluth's drinking water, to contact their elected representatives--the mayor and Duluth City Council.

Citizens pay for safe drinking water and consume the water, and our officials are elected to be responsible for assuring this basic service.

Environmental Quality Committee

Betty Monson

Helen Hanten

Mary Evans

Dorothy Blatnik

Helen Seymour

League was the only group making a statement, so is officially noted!

FILE COPY

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

To: The Department of Natural Resources
Robert L. Herbst, Commissioner
From: Mary Watson, Chairman, Environmental Quality
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
RE: Testimony on the Proposed Rules and Regulations in
Establishing and Improving Drainage Systems
February 19, 1974

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota has long been concerned over the increasing drainage and channelization of wetlands in Minnesota, which has placed the state in a position second only to Indiana in the number of acres drained.

Previously, emphasis has been placed on cost benefit ratios which have indirectly favored drainage. The proposed regulations will involve environmental considerations, reflecting the public interest in the value of wetlands and bring the question of drainage into better balance.



FILE COPY

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

July 27, 1973

Col. Rodney Cox
Corps of Engineers
1210 Post Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Col. Cox:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota seriously questions the wisdom of locating the coal terminal at Pig's Eye. Our comments are concerned with one aspect only - the resultant degradation of water quality; this one aspect alone should be reason to relocate the facility.

The voluminous impact statement cites the many unavoidable effects including:

- loss of more than 221 acres of flood plain with forested areas as well as marsh
- deleterious effects on the water quality due to the initial dredging and subsequent periodic dredging
- discharge of the drainage water from the coal storage areas into the lake, further despoiling the water quality of the lake.

These known effects are serious enough to rule out this environmentally fragile location, but added to that are the many unknowns:

- the impact of the sulphur in the leachate; the degree to which the leachate would get into the groundwater and the lake
- the results from compaction of the dump landfill with the possibility of mud or solid waste pushed into the lake
- the effects of compaction on the decomposition of the dump as well as the impact on water quality in the lake and the groundwater
- the possibility of chemicals in the earthworks being washed into the water by rains or floods.

Does it not seem senseless to thrust all of these extremely harmful activities on an already polluted lake and river? It is ironic that serious consideration is given to this project at a time when plans for advanced waste treatment will result in improvement of the water quality of both the river and the lake.

We urge the consideration of an alternate site.



Sincerely,

Mary Watson

Mary Watson, Chairman, Environmental Quality

TELEPHONE 224-5445

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 555 Wabasha, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

TIME FOR ACTION

TO: Local League Presidents and Legislative Action Chairmen and
Capitol Letters Subscribers

FROM: Mary Watson, Environmental Quality Chairman

RE: S.F. 1334 Author: Wegener
H.F. 1465 Authors: Sherwood, Munger, Hanson, Savelkoul and
Pleasant

April 25, 1973

This bill redefines public waters, saying all waters of the state which serve a beneficial public purpose are public waters and as such are subject to the control of the state. Beneficial public purpose (changed from "capable of substantial use") includes recharge of underground waters, retention of water to prevent flooding, retention of nutrients, wild life habitat, scientific and natural areas. This will provide strong protection for our wetlands.

It calls for a statewide information system on the waters of the state, covering availability, distribution, quality and use. It makes the procedures for establishing lake levels more democratic. There is a strong provision which requires restoration of public waters when illegal action (i.e. action without a permit, such as filling or dredging) has been committed. It makes it illegal for a contractor to do any work for which a permit is required if that permit is not posted on the premises; this provision would then place the guilt where it properly belongs.

Many of the provisions were recommendations of the joint House and Senate Interim Committee.

League supports this legislation to provide more protection for our water resources.

WHAT TO DO:

1. Please contact your legislator and state the League's support.
2. Contact other organizations in your community and ask them to support the bill; Izaak Walton League, Sierra Club, JRLC, and sportsmen groups are all backing this legislation.

This legislation has passed through committees in both Houses and is on General Orders. It will be on the floor in about 10 days so immediate action is necessary.

Testimony before the Senate Subcommittee on Environmental Protection of the
Senate Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee

by Mary Poppleton, League of Women Voters of Minnesota

March 28, 1973

Room 118, State Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota in its support of measures to improve water quality strongly endorses the concept of mandatory sedimentation controls. Sedimentation is the greatest pollutant of our waters by volume and this bill requiring all persons engaged in land disturbing activities to have a plan for erosion and sediment control should greatly lessen the amount of soil being washed into our streams and rivers.

Section 15, Minn. Statutes 1971, Chapter 115.03 (subd. 1)

We support this addition encouraging waste treatment rather than low flow augmentation for dilution purposes. This is necessary if we are to clean up our waters.

Section 16, Minn. Statutes 1971, Chapter 115.045 (subd. 1 & 2)

We also approve of permit and surveillance fees for discharging waste into our waters. This should be accepted as a cost of business and based as it is on the volume and strength of waste should provide an incentive for reduction of waste.

Section 18, Minn. Statutes 1971, Chapter 115

The addition of section 115.11 (subd. 3) requiring a report on the causes and extent of pollution of the waters of the state seems a wise requirement. The public has a right to this information.

Section 19, Minn. Statutes 1971, Chapter 115.85

This section regulating scavengers is most important. Their activities must be subject to stringent controls.

24 Mary Watson & McCoy

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is a volunteer nonpartisan organization; at the present time we have 67 leagues throughout the state representing some 5114 members. The League's purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League believes in study and so is a kind of educational group, but the League also believes in political action. Study precedes consensus and action. Because the League tries to go into a chosen subject in some depth, (and not just pass resolutions about problems), the number of subjects on the program are deliberately limited.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota with its background of sixteen years in support of wise use of water resources and improvement of water quality has chosen to focus its lobby activities on legislation covering water management and related land use. Presently, we are study proposals from the Joint House and Senate Subcommittees and the proposal from Gene Hollenstein. The League has long been concerned with the need to develop an effective government structure to manage water resources. The present system is confusing and complex, hampering effective administration, and frustrating to the citizen who wants to see a problem solved.

The structure proposed by the joint committees is still under consideration by the League; however, we do strongly endorse the concept of clarifying authority and reducing the number of agencies involved in water management. An overall framework plan is essential.

The list of recommendations cover many proposals we approve; providing state guidance and control over appropriation and use of water, control over construction of water supply facilities, a statewide system of information on the waters of the state. A water users fee program has our support, for we believe the service should be paid for by the user and that the cost should be based on the amount of waste water and the difficulty of dealing with material it contains. Such a fee program would lead to less use of water and a reduction of the wastes put into it. A monitoring fee is another essential. We support mandatory sedimentation control, knowing this is the greatest pollutant, by volume, of our waters. The control of scavengers by registering with the MPCA and filing regular reports on their operations, and by MPCA regulations covering disposal of effluent is important. We approve of advanced waste treatment rather than low flow augmentation for stream dilution. The wetlands management section, covering acquisition and compensation to owners if land cannot be drained or developed is endorsed by League as well as shoreland development ordinances in incorporated areas. We have long advocated flood plain zoning as opposed to structural projects in flood control.

We do suggest a moratorium on drainage during the one year time lapse between when the standards are set and ordinances adopted. Experience with shoreline development ordinances indicated a great deal of building construction before the law went into effect.

One other recommendation we strongly approve--the expiration of the Southern Minnesota Rivers Basin Commission. At the last session we opposed the creation of the commission -- Might I add that the League was a lone voice--saying we objected to another agency being created when the state already had too many agencies involved in water management. We stressed then the problem was the lack of funds available and asked that an existing agency take over the job with necessary funding.

The Environmental Policy Act We strongly approve the concept of the act and stress the value of consideration of environmental impact before granting of permits. The provision for publicizing the permit applications and comments of appropriate agencies also has our approval.

We do not comment on the size of the Environmental Council or the Environmental Quality Commission. We do approve of the citizen make-up of the Environmental Quality Commission believing informed citizens should make value judgment. We feel citizens should have

easy access to government officials and that these officials should be highly visible.

FILE COPY

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 555 Wabasha, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Testimony before the Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee
of the Minnesota Senate
by Alison Fuhr, Member
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
February 28, 1973
Room 118, State Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota

I am Alison Fuhr, speaking for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
We thank you for the opportunity to speak to this committee.

The League of Women Voters, with its continued interest in the
improvement of water quality, lends its support to S.F. 225 to include
the incorporated areas in shoreland zoning.

Shoreland use has a direct impact upon quality; careless shoreland
use can increase the amount of eroded material that enters a lake.
Shorelands act as a buffer between water and land and preserve
water quality as they trap nutrients.

These set back requirements will help prevent erosion and sedimenta-
tion caused by land disturbing activities.

There is necessity to protect our lakes, especially in incorporated
areas where pressures on the lakes are even greater than in rural
areas.

RACERASE BOND

SOUTH NORTH CO. U.S.A.

25% COTTON FIBER

FILE COPY

Testimony before the Subcommittee on Water Resources
of the Minnesota Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture
by Mary Watson, League of Women Voters of Minnesota
March 22, 1973
State Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota

I am Mary Watson, speaking for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, representing 67 Leagues and 5100 members.

Before I make specific comments on sections of S.F. 737 I would like to commend the authors for the scope and far reaching aspects of the bill. We highly approve of all the objectives.

Section 4 (4.54) Endorsements

This section which requires federal flood plain projects to be in conformity with local, regional and state flood plain management plans or requires data on alternative plans has our strong support.

Section 5 Subdivisions 1 and 2

We agree that consideration should be given to alternative means of transportation before approving development of public waterways for commercial transportation and that the environmental impact should be considered.

I understand that the section on flood management plans has been amended out. We felt this was a good strong section with its emphasis on non-structural measures and a time table to be adhered to.

The section on shoreland zoning in incorporated areas, also amended out, fills a great need.

We strongly endorse a statewide framework plan for water and related land resources and subsequent adoption of regional, county and municipal plans in conformity with the state plan. This is necessary and the coordination is important.

The League of Women Voters in its study on water has traditionally approved of water management on a hydrological basis. We realize that the Citizens League report supports using general governmental units and that other authorities support the same concept. The League also recognizes the philosophy of the bill in discouraging the increase of special purpose districts. Our goal is better water quality and we will support legislation that can achieve it.

We would like to raise some questions. Is the mechanism to resolve differences between municipalities strong enough? Who will resolve the problem of counties and municipalities who selfishly reject watershed district plans? Conflicts which cross political boundaries are difficult to solve.

FILE COPY

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One other recommendation we strongly approve--the expiration of the Southern Minnesota Rivers Basin Commission. At the last session we opposed the creation of the commission -- Might I add that the League was a lone voice--saying we objected to another agency being created when the state already had too many agencies involved in water management. We stressed then the problem was the lack of funds available and asked that an existing agency take over the job with necessary funding.

The Environmental Policy Act We strongly approve the concept of the act and stress the value of consideration of environmental impact before granting of permits. The provision for publicizing the permit applications and comments of appropriate agencies also has our approval.

We do not comment on the size of the Environmental Council or the Environmental Quality Commission. We do approve of the citizen make-up of the Environmental Quality Commission believing informed citizens should make value judgment. We feel citizens should have

easy access to government officials and that these officials should be highly visible.

We question the amendment of Minnesota Statutes 1971, Section 116.07 Subdivision 2

....."recognizing that due to variable factors, no single standard of purity

of air is applicable to all areas of the state."

The League supports non degradation of air quality; to the extent that this would

lessen the quality of the air, we oppose it. Preserving the quality of air in un-

polluted areas is highly important.

We endorse other environmental legislation:

The Environmental Bill of Rights amendment to the constitution

Civil Penalties for those who pollute

We support an opening up of the dedicated highway fund so there can be an

alternative to building more and more highways. Mass transit is a must if

we are to maintain air quality.

We support an all-vehicle emission inspection bill

Solid Waste We are concerned over the ever increasing amounts of solid waste, realizing that sanitary landfills are only a temporary expedient. At present, we are in the process of reaching a consensus on reuse, reclaiming and recycling; this will include a position, and I cannot predict it now, on a ban on non-returnable beverage containers.

Thank you for this opportunity to explain our views.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
PRESERVATION AND NATURAL
RESOURCES



JAN 11 1973

WILLARD M. MUNGER
DISTRICT 7A
DULUTH, MINNESOTA

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 10, 1973

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
555 Wabasha
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dear Members:

I would cordially like to invite a representative of your organization to appear before the House Committee on Environmental Preservation and Natural Resources, which I have the pleasure of chairing this session.

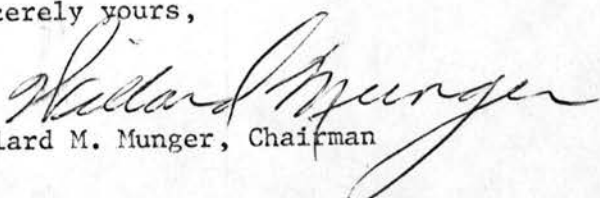
We have reserved two dates - Friday, January 19 and Monday, January 22 - to hear from private environmental groups and lobbyists in Minnesota. Both committee meetings will be held from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 P. M. at the State Capitol, Friday's meeting in Room 123 and Monday's in Room 15.

Because of the great number of organizations appearing, we have unavoidably to impose a ten-minute time limit on each presentation. The Committee would like to hear about the functions of your organization and what legislative proposals you will be endorsing this session.

Would you please call (296-4282) or notify the Committee Secretary Mildred Norling, Room 23G, State Capitol, 55155, to come either January 19th or 22nd and what time you prefer.

We shall be striving this session to be as reflective as possible of the views of Minnesotans in the important field of Environmental Protection Legislation. Your advice and assistance will be most helpful in the development of legislative proposals and subsequent policy.

Sincerely yours,


Willard M. Munger, Chairman

WMM/bf

encl: Committee membership list





JAN 11 1973

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 8, 1973

TO: Members of the Environmental Preservation and
Natural Resources Committee

FROM: Representative Willard Munger, Committee Chairman

SUBJECT: Membership and Staff

Membership

Munger, Willard--Chm.
Boland, John--Vice-Chm.
Andersen, Richard
Biersdorf, John
Braun, Art
Carlson, Arne
Carlson, Bernard
Carlson, Douglas
Carlson, Lyndon
Casserly, James
Cleary, David
Culhane, Robert
Dieterich, Neil
Erdahl, Dale
Fjoslien, David
Graba, Joseph
Hanson, Walter
Johnson, Douglas

Johnson, John
Jopp, Ralph
Jude, Thaddeus
Kahn, Phyllis
Lemke, Richard
McFarlin, Robert
Myrah, Leonard
Nelson, Ken
Patton, Al
Peterson, Harry
Prahl, Norman
Samuelson, Donald
Savelkoul, Henry
Searle, Rodney
Sherwood, Glen
Sieben, Harry, Jr.
Ulland, James

Staff

Committee Office: Room 23G, State Capitol, St. Paul
55155; phone: (612)296-4282

Committee Secretary, Mildred Norling

House Research Assistant, John Helland, Room B46, State
Capitol; phone: 296-6753

Intern, Aron Yngve



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

November 10, 1972

Warren R. Lawson, Secretary and Executive Officer
State Board of Health
717 Delaware Street, S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

Dear Dr. Lawson:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports the proposal¹ which would require submission of water-well cuttings from wells drilled in Minnesota for analysis and storage by the Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS). Further, the League of Women Voters agrees that data from these cuttings be compiled and stored in such a way as to facilitate retrieval by all Minnesota agencies, public and private, who have need for such information to make sound decisions regarding the state's groundwater resources.

The League of Women Voters recognizes that wise groundwater management requires sound data in two basic areas: (1) analysis of the groundwater itself, and (2) analysis of the rock materials in which the groundwater moves and is contained. The state now requires submission of water samples from new wells for professional chemical and biological analysis. It should also require submission of rock cuttings for professional geological analysis. The presently available information regarding the rocks in which our groundwater moves and is contained is inadequate to make sound decisions as to the quantity and location of groundwater resources. In addition, this type of information is necessary to ensure that land uses are planned with regard to the protection of this resource. The siting of waste disposal operations, for example, requires knowledge of the rocks below to prevent possible groundwater contamination.

Minnesota is in need of this type of data but lacks the public funds to drill exploration holes on the scale necessary to provide an adequate network of information points. We ought to benefit from the experience of neighboring states where requiring rock cuttings from water-well drilling has proven a practical and economical way of obtaining this much-needed data.

It is also important that the information obtained from the cuttings be available for use and coordinated with other



major state data-gathering activities. The "Minnesota System for Storage and Retrieval of Geologic Log Data"² which was established at the MGS for just such a purpose by an interagency work group should be activated and supported. Sound basic data, available to and used by public and private agencies, is, of course, invaluable not only in relation to groundwater resources, but also in problems relating to the construction of highways, airports, tunnels, dams and building foundations, to exploration and management of mineral resources, and to general land use planning.

1) Outlined in "Twin City Geologists Report: Recommendations for the Improvement of Minnesota's Subsurface Geologic Information System," June, 1972.

2) Minnesota Geologic Survey Information Circular No. 9, 1971, p. 1.

We would appreciate it if you would inform the members of the State Board of Health of our position. As indicated, we are sending copies of this letter to other agencies and organizations who have a responsibility or interest in this matter.

Please advise us of the Board's action on this proposal.

Yours truly,

Mary Ann McCoy
State President

Mary Watson
Environmental Quality Chairman

cc: Governor Wendell Anderson
F. F. Heisel, Director Environmental Health,
State Board of Health
George Keyes, Chairman, Water Well Contractors
Advisory Council
Robert Herbst, Commissioner of Natural Resources
P. K. Sims, Director, Minnesota Geological Survey
John A. Brown, President, Twin City Geologists
Joe Sizer, Director of Environmental Planning,
State Planning Agency

cc: Mary Ann McCoy
Mary Watson

Statement by Lenore Parham
to be submitted to State Board of Health,
Commissioner of Natural Resources, The Governor,
and the Director of Minnesota Geolog. Survey

FILE COPY

The LWV of Minnesota supports the proposal which would require submission of water-well cuttings from wells drilled in Minnesota for analysis and storage by the Minnesota Geological Survey (MGS). Further, the LWV agrees that data from these cuttings be compiled and stored in such a way as to facilitate retrieval by all Minnesota agencies, public and private, who have need for such information to make sound decisions regarding the state's groundwater resources.

The LWV recognizes that wise groundwater management requires sound data in two basic areas: (1) analysis of the groundwater itself, and (2) analysis of the rock materials in which the groundwater moves and is contained. The state now requires submission of water samples from new wells for professional chemical and biological analysis. It should also require submission of rock cuttings for professional geological analysis. The presently available information regarding the rocks in which our groundwater moves and is contained is inadequate to make sound decisions as to the quantity and location of groundwater resources. In addition, this type of information is necessary to ensure that land uses are planned with regard to the protection of this resource. The siting of waste disposal operations, for example, requires knowledge of the rocks below to prevent possible groundwater contamination.

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TESTIMONY

FILE COPY

I am Nancy Rieger from New Brighton, testifying for the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. I wish to speak to the fundamental policies on page 1 of the preliminary draft of recommendations.

The League of Women Voters supports policies and procedures which promote comprehensive, long range planning for conservation and development of water resources and improvement of water quality. We believe that "comprehensive planning, development, and water management on a regional basis is essential to the optimum development of the nation's water resources.

- 1.) Such development should meet the particular needs of the region but not be in conflict with the national interest.
- 2.) Machinery is needed, appropriate to each region which will provide coordinated planning and administration among federal, state, and other agencies."

With such a position we find it difficult to agree with the philosophy that decisions concerning watershed management and sanitary districts should be made at the municipal and county level. Counties may have parts of 4 or 5 watersheds in their districts. Washington and Ramsey Counties have not worked together to stop the destruction of Battle Creek. Ramsey County might have a great deal of trouble convincing Anoka County that their development would ruin Ramsey's portion of Rice Creek. Sanitary districts set up on a regional basis can give consideration to more factors than just the need for a sewer. An outstanding example is the problem in Centerville; the simplest solution, running the M.S.S.S.D. to Centerville, would force development on an area that perhaps should not be developed at all -- this is where the Lino Lakes Park was planned.

We support decision making at the regional level, for watershed management and sanitary districts are not practical at an arbitrary governmental line which does not conform to the geography of the area.

June, 1972

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Presented to a joint meeting of--

House Natural Resources Committee

Subcommittee on waters and drainage

Senate Agriculture Committee

Subcommittee on Drainage

Senate Natural Resources and Environment Committee

Subcommittee on Water Permits

State Capitol - June 29, 1972

TO: ALL BOARD MEMBERS

2/68

FROM: MARIE WATSON

SUBJECT: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the question of permission to NSP to operate a nuclear power plant at Monticello, discharging wastes into the Mississippi River.

The meeting was held on February 13, 1968

Commission members present:

Director, John Badelich, hired staff
Robert Trueson, Chairman, Attorney, Albert Lea
Dr. Howard Anderson, Medical doctor, Rochester
Mase Harris, Northwest Paper Products, Cloquet
John Bernhart, University of Minnesota, geographer, Minneapolis
Steve Gdler, Retired Air Force Major? Colonel? St. Paul
Wayne Packard, Culligan Water Softener, Edina? St. Louis Park?
Hans Laick, Retired Banker, Northwestern National Bank, Minneapolis

Mr. Badelich explained that the commission had had a hearing on this subject on January 12; that they had published a notice of this meeting in the paper according to law; that only one communication was received by the agency prior to that meeting; that NSP people had come to them from various parts of the country to explain their application for a permit to discharge wastes into the river; that they had carefully presented slides of the plant, etc., and that the agency had taken no action at that meeting; and in view of the public interest aroused, NSP would be allowed to present its story to the audience, although a number of the same people were present at this meeting that had been present in January. It was made clear that the agency can grant a permit without a formal hearing and that this meeting was not necessarily to be considered a hearing.

Mr. Arthur Bengtson, NSP attorney, spoke for himself and Mr. Donald E. Nelson, VP and General Counsel for NSP. He stated that some months ago they had filed an application with the Pollution Control Agency (PCA). In designing the plant, he said, they had "designed" the most advanced and "most sophisticated system for the control of water temperatures." There will be two large cooling towers, which can cool most, but not all of the water discharged, to conform with the temperature requirements of the PCA and the federal government, the National Fish and Wildlife Service, etc. He stated that they "would be willing to take a permit where the temperature would be determined by PCA." The permit is subject to modification as PCA deems necessary, "they will study effluent and biological content of the water," "all radioactive wastes will be dealt with as required by AEC and the state Department of Health."

(ed. not: It was an official of the Department of Health who said re the St. Croix plant, "We can't let a few irritants stand in the way of roads and schools.")

Mr. Arthur Bernhart, manager of engineering for NSP presented slides. He said that they have set May 1970 to begin operation. The plant construction is well underway. They are building under a permit from the AEC. That is a construction permit. AEC will again review the safety factors and then issue an operating permit. There are two water systems involved. One circulates directly around the atomic 'cores' and becomes very radioactive. This must conform to AEC standards and should not be the subject of concern by us at this meeting, he said. (However, later on he said that this system, which is completely closed, must be emptied about once a month. When this is done, the water will be carried to a special part of the building and stored until the decayable radioactive materials have done so. The rest will be treated with chemicals to remove most of the rest of the radioactivity. What is left will be dis-

charged into the river on a programmed schedule, in accordance with AEC standards. I never felt that questions relating to this closed cycle were adequately explored.) The second system involves massive amounts of water and is used to cool the rest. It acquires some radioactivity through minor leakages, fatiguing materials, some escaping through walls, etc. But he left questions of radioactivity to the next speaker and talked about heat. He described three modes of operation. The mode used will depend upon the amount of water available and the temperature of the water.

- Mode 1. A simple in and out operation with no cooling. Maximum intake is something like 6457 cubic feet/second.
- Mode 2. A reduced intake and partial recirculation of water.
- Mode 3. Minimum intake and minimum outflow (36 cubic feet. second) with maximum recirculation, to be used with high temperature and low river level. They cannot recirculate all the water. Mr. Deinhart stated that if the system is completely closed, the chemical content of the water would become unsuitable for their purposes.

They will monitor the food, water and milk used in this area for two years before and for two years after the plant begins to operate, and maybe even longer after.

Mr. James M. Smith, consultant on radiological engineering, atomic power plant division of the General Electric Company. He is a mechanical engineer and said he has worked on radiological problems since 1944. He stated that General Electric has about 25 plants in construction. He had slides to illustrate that the radiation in nature is not zero and covered the bit about variations depending upon soil and altitude, etc. in different geographical locations. These were the figures:

- Natural background is about 200 mrem/year (count you get from surroundings plus X-rays)
- AEC limit from power plants, etc. is 500 mrem/year
- 1,000,000 mrem/year to get injury
- 29,100 mrem/year permissible dose to bone
- 25,000 accidental dose can be ignored
- 12,500 emergency dose can be OK
- 5000 mrem/year is permissible occupational dose for radiation workers
- Their design goal is 5 mrem/year

Smith said the "probable off-plant dose will be 1 mrem/year. He said the amount they would add would be less than the amount we get naturally.

At this point, a man named Gunn, the PCA attorney, pointed out that the permit under consideration is written to include air pollution - that is, that PCA would judge whether the plant was polluting the air. Then he said, "In the absence of standards for air pollution set by this agency, PCA has no control over air pollution." He therefore suggested amending the requirements of the permit so that there were no stipulations regarding the condition of discharged air. No action was taken.

The opposition came first from Dr. Dean Abrahamson from the U. of M. (dept. unknown) and from a Dr. Ruver, biologist at the U. of M. They were concerned about the background amount we already have in this area - said it was relatively high and that no addition to it would be desirable. They also raised the point that NSP et al were talking about concentrations in the water only and that no consideration had been given to increasing concentrations as they went up to the biologic scale. They were concerned that this water is being dumped in 34 miles above the intake of the water supply of a large metropolitan area. They worried about truck farms, especially since the wastes contained strontium 90 and tritium, two troublesome elements which become concentrated in potatoes and other vegetable crops.

Both are said to contribute to leukemia and tritium concentrates in the bones. Farms immediately below the discharge point pump water from the river onto their truck gardens, and the food is then sold in the Twin Cities. They considered the AEC radiation amounts as too high and asked that the World Health Organization standards be applied - if this were done, NRP would have to remove more wastes. They were concerned also about heating the water in terms of increased microorganisms, size odor, etc. It was pointed out that as a result of the Hanford plant, oysters in the Columbia River are "recommended not to be eaten because they are too hot."

Others there who made statements were Mr. John Rogers from Clear Air-Clean Water Unlimited, Rep. Alpha Smaby, Mpls., Rep. John Wingard, Anoka; Alderman MacGregor, Mpls., on behalf of Mayor Naftalin, a man representing the water department of the City of St. Paul - all opposing the proposed plan. They asked that a closed system be used.

The Problem for members of the PCA, as they expressed it, was that they couldn't substitute their judgment for that of the AEC.

Deinert said that NRP decides what cost is reasonable for the public to bear and balance required safety against cost. He said they cannot announce where future plants will be located because it causes the price of land they are acquiring to be inflated - that it becomes almost impossible to get right of way. There will be several atomic and coal burning plants built on the Mississippi in this area. He said it is necessary to double their power capacity, they think, in ten years.

My assessment of the problem: NRP doesn't inform the public of their long-range plans. This means it often comes as a nasty surprise. NRP has to acquire land and buy a plant years before it actually is built - making last minute adjustments very difficult. They buy from companies who must be competitive, like GE. If GE wants them to buy an atomic plant, it must be made to cost the same or less than plants using other fuels. GE then cuts cost corners to keep the price low at the expense of some safety factors. GE first and then NRP decide how much safety is essential as against what the public should pay. The question here, as Mr. Badalich said later to the paper, is who should rightfully be making this decision. Should it not be a public agency - since a public agency sets the rates and the margins of profit anyway? I don't mean to say that GE necessarily decides on a dangerous limit - only that we can question whether they should be making this decision. The plant under construction is already being built, and 'millions' of dollars are already involved. If this makes retreat or reevaluation impossible now - something should be done to prevent this in the future. Deinert also said that they are cooling the water in this case to conform with PCA standards near the metro area, but that they do not consider that will be necessary with some of their other plants - like maybe at Red Wing? - it wasn't clear just where. If public disclosure of future plans works a hardship on NRP, some way should be found to prevent that happening - like maybe the state can decide on a price as of the time the plan was submitted to prevent inflation. Surely if we had known about the belt of high towers, we could have planned the metropolitan area in some way to include them sensibly as in a green belt instead of making so many communities and home owners unhappy. This disclosure before building began would allow for public scrutiny of the water quality.

I said at the meeting: "I am Mrs. Harold Watson from the Minnesota DWR. We have been interested in water resources since 1956. We recognize that in this case the project is already underway which makes it difficult to alter any plans. But we are particularly concerned because it is our understanding that this is the first of a number of nuclear installations which will be proposed by NRP. This means that the decision made today will face us again."

It is our belief that it is becoming increasingly important for industries to return water to the rivers in as much the same condition as it was withdrawn as possible. We are aware of the successful efforts being made by a number of industries across the country to do this.

One question which always arises at this point is the cost. This poses a problem for those industries with competitors, and we have been supporting legislative measures to accommodate for this. In the case of an industry like NSP, we recognize that the cost would have to be passed on to the consumers. The League would be willing to cooperate by conducting a program of education in the 69 communities where we have units to accept electricity that is nickel cheap for NSP."

The upshot of the whole deal was that Mace Harris moved that permission be granted and Taveson refused to accept the motion. He read from the law a list of criteria which the agency was required to apply and said that this would require further discussion. He listed a series of dates on which they expected to be meeting and suggested that interested people keep in touch with them to find out the day of decision.

Monticello Plant

League of Women Voters of Minnesota - 555 Wabasha Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

February 1968

STATEMENT MADE BY MRS. HAROLD WATSON, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF MINNESOTA BEFORE THE MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY
February 13, 1968

SUBJECT: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the question of permission to NSP to operate a nuclear power plant at Monticello, discharging wastes into the Mississippi River.

I am Mrs. Harold Watson from the Minnesota League of Women Voters. We have been interested in water resources since 1956. We recognize that in this case the project is already underway which makes it difficult to alter any plans. But we are particularly concerned because it is our understanding that this is the first of a number of nuclear installations which will be proposed by NSP. This means that the decision made today will face us again.

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One question which always arises at this point is the cost. This poses a problem for those industries with competitors, and we have been supporting legislative measures to accomodate this. In the case of an industry like NSP, we recognize that the cost would have to be passed on to the consumers. The League would be willing to cooperate by conducting a program of education in the 69 communities where we have units to accept electricity that is nickel cheap for NSP.

August 12, 1968

Mrs. Donald E. Clusen, Second Vice President
League of Women Voters of the United States
820 Allouez Terrace
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54301

Dear Mrs. Clusen:

Enclosed with this letter are copies of some of the statements made at the AEC hearing on the Prairie Island Nuclear powered generating plant held at Red Wing, Minnesota on May 22-23, 1968. Unfortunately, I cannot include the statement made by Dr. Abrahamson of the University of Minnesota because I have not received a copy from him yet. Dr. Abrahamson's statement was excellent and included a series of important questions, some of which cannot be answered because the field is so new that scientists do not know the answers. Also, I am enclosing a copy of an excerpt from the Congressional Record of February 28, 1968, which was given out at the hearing, undoubtedly by someone in opposition. I should mention that most of the testimony presented was in support of the Northern States Power Company plant.

Representatives from Wisconsin were present, also. Their statements were brief and said essentially that they expected the plant to comply with Wisconsin's water standards. Wisconsin's interstate water standards have been approved by Secretary Udall and have a section referring to atomic waste pollution which indicates that the discharger should comply with the AEC standards. Minnesota and Wisconsin have thermal pollution standards which are comparable. At this time it appears the Minnesota's interstate water standards (which do not have federal approval as yet) may have a section on nuclear waste standards as set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. During the hearing a member of the AEC Licensing Board questioned the state of Minnesota's authority and the lack of Wisconsin's authority regarding this plant inasmuch as the Mississippi River is the dividing line between the two states. Northern States Power Company must obtain a water use permit from the Minnesota Department of Conservation and a water discharge permit from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. We were told that Minnesota's jurisdiction stems from the fact that the plant will be placed on ground within the boundary of Minnesota. However, efforts will be made to keep Wisconsin informed and to meet their requirements.

I should like to make a few observations regarding the attitude displayed by some of the AEC people. First, let me say that I thought the members of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board appeared to be conscientious in performing their assigned task. The members of the board were Dr. Lawrence Quarles, Dean, School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Virginia, Charlottesville; Dr. Clarke Williams, Deputy Director Emeritus of Brookhaven National

Mrs. Clusen -- page 2

Laboratory, Upton, Long Island, New York; and Mr. Jack Campbell, an attorney from Santa Fe, New Mexico. During the hearing, I sat near some AEC people among the observers. Frequently when questions were asked they would laugh to themselves in a superior sort of way and make side remarks. After the hearing was adjourned, I was standing behind a public relations man from AEC when Thomas Engelhardt, attorney for the AEC regulatory staff, rushed up to him and said something to the effect as to whether or not he thought they had convinced the Board. I was left with the impression that there was more interest in winning a case for the Northern States Power Company than there was interest and concern about the public welfare.

I hope that the enclosed will be helpful to you in some way.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Leland Powers
Water Resources Chairman

League of Women Voters of Minnesota, 555 Wabasha St., St. Paul, Minnesota
April 1969

Statement made by Mrs. O. J. Janski, President,
League of Women Voters of Minnesota before the Pollution Control
Agency, April 17, 1969

I am Mrs. O. J. Janski, President of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. We wish to speak to you today in support of the enforcement of the water quality standards which have been set up for the State of Minnesota and against the granting of variances from these standards.

When the Water Quality Act of 1965 was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson, he stated "The clear, fresh waters that were our national heritage have become dumping grounds for garbage and filth. They poison our fish, they breed disease, they despoil landscapes. No one has a right to use America's rivers and America's waterways that belong to all the people as a sewer . . . There is no excuse for a river flowing red with blood from slaughterhouses. There is no excuse for paper mills pouring tons of sulphuric acid into the lakes and the streams of the people of this country. There is no excuse - and we should call a spade a spade - for chemical companies and oil refineries using our major rivers as pipelines for toxic wastes. There is no excuse for communities to use other peoples' rivers as a dump for their raw sewage. This sort of carelessness and selfishness simply ought to be stopped; and more, it just must be reversed. And are we going to reverse it." That statement was made in 1965. We have fortunately moved toward some improvement since that time.

However, at the last hearing of the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, Mr. Badalich said that 60% of the polluters on those parts of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers being considered here had either begun to clean up or had concrete plans to do so. The twelve remaining polluters, according to Mr. Murray Stein of the FWPCA, were among the largest polluters originally cited by them. Their combined wastes reached totally unacceptable levels.

We wish to state today that we are emphatically in favor of conforming to the federal standards, with no variances. There is no excuse for these municipalities and industries to continue to throw their refuse into our water.

We appreciate what may be required to meet these standards in terms of research, experimentation and innovation. But we must insist that the goal be maintained.

We believe that pollution control is the cost of doing business, and we are prepared to work toward public acceptance of that cost. The members of this agency must be aware, as we are, of the great body of public opinion which supports this view.

As we stated to this Agency, April 8, Minnesota is fortunate in standing at the headwaters of the Mississippi. We receive our water pure. We have no clean-up problem except for what we ourselves produce. Of all states our water quality should be the easiest to guarantee. We have a social responsibility to send our water on to other states containing as few poisons as possible.

In Mr. Hickel's recent press statement, he said he favors "gradually upgrading clean water standards until such now polluted rivers as the Hudson and the Potomac flow as pure as mountain streams." "I think possibly in a period of ten years that could be obtained," President Johnson said in 1965 that they were going to reopen the Potomac for swimming in 1975. We dream of seeing the Mississippi River reopened for swimming in the Twin Cities. That cannot possibly happen to the water in Minnesota in ten years unless the Pollution Control Agency enforces the standards that now exist.

March 14, 1967

TIME FOR ACTION

FILE COPY

TO: Moorhead, Battle Lake, Fergus Falls, Crookston, International Falls

This is the time to write: Governor LeVander
Donald Sinclair, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
Richard Fitzsimons, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee

ABOUT:

Governor LeVander met with Governor Guy of North Dakota and Dr. Caulfield of the federal Water Resources Council to discuss Minnesota's participation in establishing a federal River Basin Commission for the Souris-Red-Rainy River Basin. Governor LeVander did agree to Minnesota's participation. This means that this legislature will have to appropriate \$95,000 as Minnesota's share. Each state will be entitled to one representative. There will be agencies represented also - probably about six from Minnesota. The Governor's office suggests that an expression of support at this time would be most appropriate.

This would be following through on the League's support of the federal Water Resources Planning Act. It also is the next logical step for the Red River Basin League. I recommend that these Leagues refer to their copy of the Red River of the North, pp. 33-36, Chapter VI, "What is the Future of the Red River Basin?"

From the review of the Planning Act, it would appear that this would coordinate federal-state-local planning efforts, aid in inter-agency communication plus being more adequately funded to carry out the intent of the Commission. The present Commission can only study and do some coordinating of agencies through Commission invitation. All members serve without any financial assistance, and this has proved a problem in obtaining members who will serve. I believe that the present Commission can continue to exist and be represented on the federal Commission.

This Commission was reported favorably out of the Water Resources Council to President Johnson. It has been on his desk for signing since the first of January. Apparently the action at the state level must precede his signing the Commission into existence.

STATEMENT PREPARED FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ADMINISTRATION ON POLLUTION OF THE INTERSTATE AND INTRASTATE WATERS OF THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES BY MRS. GRADY MANN, WATER RESOURCES CHAIRMAN, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA.

FILE COPY

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota would like to thank the Minnesota Water Pollution Control Commission for the invitation to participate in this Conference. That members of the League of Women Voters have had a continued interest in water resources for the past ten years is well-known to most of the people here today.

Recently, League members, nation-wide, participated in further study of water resources, focusing their attention on the problems of industrial pollution abatement. Study and discussion by local Leagues built up an impressive amount of information on what members think about the many aspects of water pollution control.

Realizing that there are over 6,000 women in local Leagues in Minnesota alone who are asking questions, going on tours and discussing water resource problems with their families and friends as well as with other League members, it could be said that there is an aroused public interest in this field. There was not a tendency to blame someone for pollution for members obviously recognized that the time for finger-pointing is past and the time for action is now.

As a result of member consensus, the following statement of position on federal financial assistance to industry to expedite control of water pollution was released by the League of Women Voters of the United States in January 1967.

"The League of Women Voters of the United States supports limited federal financial assistance to industry as a means of expediting abatement of water pollution.

"Although the League thinks that costs of pollution abatement are a responsibility of the polluter, it acknowledges that some help should be made available because of the urgency and immediacy of the problem and the immense costs involved. League members agree that:

- .. strict enforcement of anti-pollution measures should accompany financial assistance
- .. duration and scope of assistance should be limited
- .. criteria for assistance should include consideration of financial need of the company, economic base of the community, area stream standards, extent and complexity of the pollution problem of the company and region."*

From the comments of Minnesota Leagues, it was obvious that members were concerned that water quality standards be enforced and that the several levels of government work out the most effective manner possible for setting and enforcing standards.

A majority of the Leagues checked out their own communities to determine the status of local municipal and industrial waste treatment facilities. Some were pleased with the progress that had been made, others were not so happy. Members of the Red Wing League of Women Voters met the challenge of the local editor and took a trip by barge up the Mississippi to St. Paul. This was reported in a full-page newspaper article with pictures. It was probably a wise decision not to do this by canoe as was originally suggested. The Summary Report of the Task Force sup-

* National Voter, League of Women Voters of the U.S., Vol. XVI, Feb. 1967.

ported that decision.

In the metropolitan area, Leagues reviewed proposals for a metropolitan sanitary district. No decision was made about such details as how this should be financed. It was apparent, however, that League members recognized that there must be some coordinating body established. This same idea is expressed very well on page 22 of the Summary and Pollution Abatement Recommendations under Metropolitan Problems.

Because it is recognized that the enforcement of pollution control is a tremendous task whether it is done at the state or federal level, the League of Women Voters testified before Appropriations Committees of the Minnesota legislature supporting adequate funds for staffing the Water Pollution Control Commission. Until budget requests are realistically met, demands for improved water quality and stricter enforcement by the public and by law cannot be carried out. Even more basic to these decisions is a lack of information regarding alternatives. What effect the standards will have in respect to demands for recreational needs in the metropolitan area is an example. We turned to agencies staffed by engineers to take care of polluted water. Now we are beginning to ask about the total regional impact of pollution, the real economic and amenity costs of it. There has appeared to be little comprehensive analysis. Perhaps the engineers feel they have more than enough to answer without taking on these additional responsibilities, but who then is to provide this information?

There are increasing and varied demands for clean, open water that suggest far heavier demands in the years immediately ahead. There is a growing and deep-rooted concern about the quality of our environment and the threats to this quality from the wastes of an expanding technology. With the increased affluence of our society there has been a recognition of the values of preserved outdoor amenities and aesthetically attractive surroundings. To complicate the matter further, there is still a marked movement of the population to metropolitan areas, increased demands for material goods and increased leisure for recreational pursuits. The continued strengthening of pollution control legislation attests to the concern of the people that something has to be done. It appears it is time for effective action. We can no longer treat water as a free good that is used but once and discarded.

In the field of water pollution, people are in need of information, of alternatives. Public support behind pollution control orders will prove to be the most effective "sanction." It is in this arena of activity the League of Women Voters, through membership education and interest, will continue to contribute toward improvement of water quality.

STATEMENT PREPARED BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA FOR THE SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE MINNESOTA SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING ON THE 1967-9 BUDGET OF THE

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

The League of Women Voters of the United States has been concerned with the problems of water management since the topic was first placed on its national study agenda in 1956. Our members have worked to support comprehensive long-range planning for conservation and development of water resources and improvement of water quality. In order to better understand the intergovernmental problems of water resource planning, we have twice published studies in Minnesota surveying the work of the Water Pollution Control Commission [KNOW YOUR RIVER BASIN SURVEY, 1960; ON THE WATERFRONT, Mpls. League, 1965]. We have followed with interest the Commission's efforts to establish quality standards for our interstate waterways as required by the Federal Water Quality Act of 1965, for which our League lobbied in Washington.

Representing the 69 Leagues of Minnesota, we are today concerned with the problem of adequately financing the work of the Water Pollution Control Commission's staff in the Department of Health. In 1965, the staff's wide range of charges included study of the quality of waters in the state; review of plans and issuance of permits for construction and operation of municipal and industrial waste disposal facilities; investigation of pollution reports; administration of certain grant provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and cooperation with local, state and federal agencies concerned with state water pollution problems. Even at that time these duties proved too numerous for the budgeted staff of 35 to maintain frequent and regular surveillance of water quality conditions throughout the state.

With the passage of the Federal Water Quality Act of 1965, the duties of the Commission were expanded to provide for adoption and implementation of water quality criteria for interstate waters. Such criteria are to be established by June 30, 1967. Although the Water Pollution Control staff obtained money to support 5 new positions between 1965 and 67 from a Contingency Fund through the Legislative Advisory Committee, the enormous amount of time required to make background studies and conduct hearings for the establishment of water quality criteria has continued to deny coverage of the Commission's legislated range of activities. Standards have now been set for portions of the Mississippi River and for the Minnesota, Red, and Rainy Rivers, but much is left to be done to complete the job and the problem of implementing those standards which have been set has not been covered.

Data compiled in 1964 by the Public Administration Service, Chicago, under contract with the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare show that the minimum staff necessary to operate the Minnesota WPCC would number 58. Desirably, the staff should number 104. These figures were recommended before the 1965 Water Quality Act enlarged the Section's obligations.

In the requested budget of the Department of Health for the 1967-9 biennium, the Section on Water Pollution Control asks for funds to support a total staff of 65. The Governor's recommended budget grants funds which would support only the 35 persons employed by the Section in 1965. It would, according to the Section's Executive Engineer, not cover the 5 positions recently authorized by the Legislative Advisory Committee.

Of the 40 positions authorized at the end of 1966, 13 positions are now vacant, primarily because the Commission is unable to meet salary competition. Because of lack of budgeted funds, the Civil Service has not allowed flexibility in setting initial salaries at higher steps than classified, thus lowering the Section's competitive status in hiring professional personnel vis-a-vis both industry and pollution control agencies in other states.

According to the February 10, 1967 Minneapolis TRIBUNE, a long-awaited study of the Twin Cities area, Upper Mississippi River Basin by the Federal Water Pollution Control Commission will be published February 28 in conjunction with a federal pollution enforcement conference in Minneapolis. The study is reported to recommend a three-year timetable for cleaning up the rivers from Mankato and Anoka to Red Wing which are "now too polluted for even limited human contact activities such as boating... If this timetable is adopted by the conference and the Secretary of the Interior, it will be returned to the WPCC and its Wisconsin counterpart, which must then act to insure that the proposed water quality standards are met.".... "If the state agencies fail to act, the federal government can intervene."

The League of Women Voters feels that it is pointless to assign additional responsibilities to the Commission without increasing funds to hire the people to do the work. We urge that the Minnesota legislature grant the Water Pollution Control Commission and its staff the funds to enable it to properly accomplish its tasks, of the utmost importance to the health and welfare of our citizens and to the attractiveness of the state as a national recreation area.

LWV of Minnesota, State Organization Service, U of Minn., Minneapolis, Minn. 55455
October 1965

Statement prepared for the conference on Pollution of the Interstate Waters of the Red River of the North at Fargo, North Dakota, September 14, 1965, by Mrs. G. E. Mann, Water Resources Chairman, League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Chairman, conferees, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota welcomes the opportunity to express its interest in the water resources of Minnesota.

The Red River Basin has provided a basis for study which brought together women from Leagues in North Dakota and Minnesota. We became aware of the importance of water to this area. The boundary line did not divide the water but did allow for different interpretations of water use and water rights. League members concluded that a Red River Planning Commission would provide the means of communication between North Dakota and Minnesota. We have observed the progress of this Planning Commission with interest.

League members will be reviewing what has happened in the Red River Basin since their study was published in 1959. In Minnesota, there is a League in Fergus Falls, Battle Lake, Moorhead and a provisional League in Crookston. The three largest towns are located on the Otter Tail River, Red River and Red Lake River. These towns have been increasing in population in an outmigration area. They are interested in developing economic opportunities in this basin just as they are in North Dakota. Water resources is a vital key to the success of their planning.

We have been concerned when we hear of untreated sewage entering rivers that provide a water supply for towns downstream. We have been concerned when the Orwell Dam released water to supplement the downstream flow of the Red River. We have been concerned about the dangers of flooding in the Red River Valley. We have been concerned about industrial pollution that is allowed in order to keep the industry. We have been concerned about pollution of our lakes.

A form of action taken by the Leagues in Battle Lake and Fergus Falls was to work with other groups for a county planning commission. One of the main reasons the Board of Commissioners established this commission was because of the growing threat of pollution to the lakes of Otter Tail County.

For several years, the Leagues in the Red River Basin have been invited to meet with other organizations at the Crookston Winter Show for a seminar on Water Resources. Farmers, businessmen, government representatives and homemakers exchange information, questions and ideas about this natural resource. It is this challenge of understanding the importance of water to this region, the many problems and conflict of interests as well as what can be done that must be met by the citizen.

Information such as the Report of the Red River that was received today will help guide future decisions as informed citizens work to provide a safe and usable water supply adequate for the needs of the people of the Red River Basin.

TIME FOR ACTION

February 20, 1976

TO: Local League Action and EQ Chairpersons
FROM: Mary Poppleton, State EQ Chairperson
RE: HR 9560 - Damaging Amendments to the Federal Water
Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972

These amendments are being discussed in the House Public Works and Transportation Committee. Two Minnesota Congressmen are on that committee - Tom Hagedorn and James Oberstar. They should receive letters asking them to oppose any amendments which would weaken the Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.

Background:

Section 8 (state certification) - most important to defeat - would permit states to give out federal grants to cities for building sewage treatment plants, without the federal approval and scrutiny that has been required since the grants program began. This change would effectively bypass national standards, safeguards and citizen input.

The amendment would not require state officials to consider the potentially harmful environmental impact of a project.

Section 9 - would allow the Environmental Protection Agency to give municipal polluters an additional five years to meet water quality standards and achieve secondary treatment.

Section 12 (civil penalties) - would reduce the maximum penalty for spills of highly dangerous chemicals from \$5 million to \$50,000.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 • TELEPHONE (612) 224-5445

July 22, 1977

The Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
2113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Humphrey:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota urges you to defeat any amendments to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act which would:

1. weaken federal protection of wetlands and small streams;
2. relax the 1977 technology requirements for industry;
3. allow widespread waivers from the 1983 technology requirements for industry;
4. or substantially alter the user charge requirements for funding the operation and maintenance of sewage treatment plants.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sally Foley
Director of Natural Resources
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

Same letter to Senator Anderson

F:M

Water

AUG 1 1978

St. Paul League
of Women
Voters



Central Manor
26 E. Exchange Street
St. Paul, MN 55101
(612) 222-3178

July 25, 1978

TO: Minnesota Pollution Control Board

FROM: St. Paul League of Women Voters
Sally Patterson, President; Peggy Lynch, Vice-President

RE: Request for authorization to publish a negative declaration notice
for the Great Lakes Coal and Dock Company increase in coal throughput.

The St. Paul League of Women Voters recommends to the Minnesota Pollution Control Board that they reject the request by the MPCA staff for authorization to publish a negative declaration notice for the Great Lakes Coal and Dock Co. increase in coal throughput and coal storage.

We feel that there are many questions left unanswered and also misinformation in the Environmental Assessment Worksheet describing the GLCD Co. existing facility and operation and the effects projected for a 450,000 ton per year increase.

In 1976 when GLCD received an installation and operating permit for a system that would allow for unloading unit trains and directly loading barges, the Environmental Quality Board imposed a 1.5 million ton per year limit for this facility and indicated that they might require a "full environmental review" if the limit was raised. This full environmental review of GLCD total operation should be completed before any increase in throughput or storage is allowed.

The 1976 permit also imposed special conditions:

1. Great Lakes coal and Dock Company is not authorized by this permit to provide temporary or permanent on-site storage of materials. Great Lakes Coal and Dock Company shall apply to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for appropriate Installation and Operating Permits in the event it desires to provide on-site storage of materials, a truck loadout operation, or any other modification.

This permit does not differentiate between eastern and western coal - yet the company has continued to store coal on the premises - saying this condition only applied to western coal.

2. Great Lakes Coal and Dock Company is not authorized by this permit to install facilities to handle material in excess of 1.5 million tons per year. Great Lakes Coal and Dock Company shall apply to the

(2)

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for appropriate Installation and operating permits in the event it desires to install additional facilities or to handle in excess of 1.5 million tons of material per year.

According to the information submitted by the company the equipment is adequate to handle 3 million tons. When the GLCD Co. received St. Paul Port Authority financing for the equipment for this facility in 1976, it was stated by company representatives that the total capacity of the equipment was only 1.5 million ton. Attached to our statement are copies of the St. Paul Port Authority minutes of Sept., 1976 and Oct., 1976. The September minutes were amended in October to reflect Ray Haik, Counsel for Great Lakes, answers to questions that the permit provided for 1.5 million ton throughput and only that amount would be provided for in the equipment. Obviously, this was not the case.

The E.A.W. has not defined the total amount of coal storage to be allowed; will all the coal stored by western coal; if there is both western and eastern coal, is there going to be mixing of coal at this site?

In the section on the secondary energy use effects of the project, the problem of increased traffic on Warner Road and Child's Road has not been addressed.

The area in which this company is situated is a non attainment area. There have been violations of air quality standards at monitoring station 817 located southeast of Pig's Eye Lake in the river valley and at monitoring station 830 located behind the Federal Courthouse in St. Paul, which is northwest of GLCD, in 1975, 76, 77 and the first 3 months of 1978 (which were the latest figures available). We are talking about increasing the movement and storage of western coal which presents a particulate problem which we don't think has been adequately addressed considering the seriousness of the problem.

In the Assessment of Potential Environment Impact of the E.A.W., it is mentioned that there will be possible pressure to establish new fleeting areas. In the next five years, St. Paul expects to lose 3 fleeting areas which will result in a loss of 75 to 80 barge slips. This is a critical problem which must be planned for before business (is allowed to expand) which will increase the fleeting problems. Possible leasing of river front land from the St. Paul Port Authority to protect fleeting areas, has not yet been addressed by the fleeters in St. Paul.

The mitigative measure in the E.A.W. proposed by GLCD require further clarification.

1. Paving roads and parking areas and landscaping to suppress fugitive dust.

What roads are going to be paved? What landscaping is there going to be and where?

(3)

2. Reduce the unloading of Eastern coal which is an operation which creates more dust than the western coal operation.

We question this statement. Western coal is $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. to fines and is fraible. The recent experience with the Riverside plant should be a good example of the problems involved with western coal.

3. Treating coal piles with dust suppressant liquids.

Does this mean there is no treatment of the coal stored now?

4. Modification of other materials handling which occurs on site. At this time, the alternatives are conceptual and will be defined during the permitting process.

These alternatives should be specified now, so they can be evaluated.

Great Lakes Coal and Dock has listed the customers it presently has now for its western coal. Only one customer is a Minnesota company - NSP; two are Wisconsin companies - Dairyland Power Cooperative and Wisconsin Power and Light; one is a Iowa company - Interstate Power Co. The GLCD Co. has not listed its potential new customers; are these Twin Cities or metropolitan companies, Minnesota companies, or out of state companies? The four customers that are listed (two of whom want additional coal) are accommodated by direct rail to barge service. What customers will handle delivery by truck?

In the attachment section of the E.A.W. we question fugitive dust emissions of coke being estimated on the same basis as eastern coal. Again coke is very fine and fraible and eastern coal is hard.

Certainly the whole question of coal storage and transfer stations must be studied and guidelines and policies must be decided in advance of application to establish or expand these facilities. State agencies and citizens are now in the position of always reacting, rather than planning wisely and setting standards in advance.

As a citizen's organization which testified before both the EQB and the MPCA during the permitting process for GLCD in 1976, the League finds it quite disturbing that we were not notified in advance of the original hearing regarding the necessity of an EIS. We recommend that the MPCA Board establish a policy directing the staff to notify, in advance, interested citizens groups, certainly those which have testified at previous hearings on a facility.

As we stated at the beginning, because of what we feel is unanswered or misinformation in this E.A.W., we ask the Board to reject the negative declaration and require an Environmental Impact Statement.

PORT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21, 1976

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John L. Segl at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Port Authority at 1130 Minnesota Building, St. Paul, Minnesota.

"To facilitate the company's ability to take advantage of the investment credit a Public Sale Hearing Notice has been published to consider the option to acquire the equipment at the end of the term for \$1,000. The estimated life of the equipment installation is 10 years.

"The estimated increase in rentals not withstanding earnings on the debt service reserve funds, sinking funds, etc., will be 3¢ per ton on 1,500,000 ton, or \$45,000 per year.

"6. RECOMMENDATIONS

"Staff has reviewed the financial statements of Great Lakes Coal and Dock Company, Valley Camp Coal Company, and the Quaker State Oil and Refining Company. The activities of the tenant on this property since it was leased out of bankruptcy in 1974 have been satisfactory, and staff herewith recommends approval of the amendments to the lease and industrial revenue bond financing in the amount of \$3,375,000.00 to produce a construction fund of \$2,700,000.00.

"In addition to the equipment data presented herein, detailed preliminary plans are available for inspection at the Port Authority Engineering Department."

Commissioner Meyers asked Mr. Colombo and Mr. Haik, representing Great Lakes Coal, if the coal being handled on a thruput basis on the facility was completely covered, and, also, if this proposal contained any options to purchase the land. Mr. Colombo, Executive Vice President, stated that the coal was completely covered from the time it was discharged from the railroad hopper car; and Mr. Kraut indicated that the option to purchase to be considered under Resolution No. 1115, was an investment credit option on the equipment being financed by this bond issue but that the customary policy of not selling riverfront land was being adhered to and the option did not include any right to purchase the land.

Commissioner Winter asked what the annual thruput capacity of the facility would be and what the capacity was. Mr. Haik, Counsel for Great Lakes, indicated that the permit provided for 1,500,000 ton but that should the permit be expanded, it was possible to put through an additional million ton at a later date.

Commissioner Meyers asked what the taxes would be on this facility, and staff indicated that because the expansion pertained basically to equipment, they could not intelligently estimate what the real estate taxes might be. Great Lakes presently pays real estate taxes on the existing facilities and land of approximately \$60,000.00 per year.

RESOLUTION NO. 1114

"WHEREAS, the purpose of Chapter 474, Minnesota Statutes, known as the Minnesota Municipal Industrial Development Act (hereinafter called "Act") as found and determined by the legislature is to promote the welfare of the state by the active attraction and encouragement and development of economically sound industry and commerce to prevent so far as possible the emergence of blighted and marginal lands and areas of chronic unemployment and to aid in the development of existing areas of blight, marginal land and persistent unemployment; and

"WHEREAS, factors necessitating the active promotion and development of economically sound industry and commerce are the increasing concentration of population in the metropolitan areas and the rapidly rising increase in the amount and cost of governmental services required to meet the needs of the increased population and the need for development of land use which will provide an adequate tax base to finance these increased costs and access to employment opportunities for such population; and

MINUTES OF MEETING

OCTOBER 19, 1976

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John L. Segl at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Port Authority at 1130 Minnesota Building, St. Paul, Minnesota.

The following Commissioners were present:

John L. Segl, Chairman
Arthur N. Goodman
Louis H. Meyers
Patrick J. Roedler
G. Richard Slade
George W. Winter

The following Commissioner was absent:

Rosalie L. Butler

Also present were the following:

Robert F. Sprafka
Eugene A. Kraut
Donald G. Dunshee
James F. Faue
Clifford E. Ramsted
Richard A. Gierdal
Roscoe C. Brown
William E. Mc Givern
Thomas M. Sipkins, Assistant City Attorney
Michael J. Galvin, Jr., Briggs and Morgan
Peter S. Popovich, Bond Consultant
Byron Carlson, Electric Cords, Inc.
D. Tschida, Electric Cords, Inc.
George Beran, St. Paul Pioneer Press
John Kelley, St. Paul Dispatch
Peggy Lynch, League of Women Voters
Mary Lou Wheeler, League of Women Voters
Michael Jeronimus, Briggs and Morgan
Warren Preeshl, Miller & Schroeder Municipals
Richard W. Wiessner, Novatron, Inc.

PRESENTATION OF PLACQUES

Action on Resolution No. 1111 commending John Nash and John Christensen was laid over to a future meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Winter asked that the minutes pertaining to the Great Lakes project be amended on Page 17 thereof as follows: Commissioner Winter asked what the annual thru-put capacity of the facility would be and what capacity was planned. Mr. Haik, Counsel for Great Lakes, indicated that the permit provided for 1,500,000 ton and only that amount

- 1 -

would be provided for in the expansion.

Commissioner Winter moved approval of the minutes of September 21, 1976, as amended.



FEB 7 1976

Freeborn County

The League of Women Voters of ~~Albert Lea~~, Minnesota

401 Maurice Ave.

Albert Lea, MN 56007

February 26, 1976

copy

The Honorable Tom Hagedorn
Conners Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Hagedorn:

The LWV of Freeborn County are asking you to vote no on any amendments which would weaken the Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972.

Especially do we object to Section 8, which permits states to give federal grants to cities for building sewage treatment plants, without the federal approval that has been required since the grants program began.

We also object to Section 9, which allows the EPA to give municipal polluters an additional five years to meet the water quality standards before achieving the secondary treatment.

We also object to Section 12, which would reduce the maximum penalty for spills of highly dangerous chemicals from \$5 million to \$50,000.

We hope you will comply with our request.

Sincerely,

Mrs. M. Grotenhuis, Coordinator

MILLERS FALLS
EZERAS
COTTON CONTENT

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

March 31, 1976

The Honorable Wendell Anderson
Governor of Minnesota
State Capitol
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Anderson:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota urges you to maintain Minnesota's firm stand in opposition to the construction of a new Locks and Dam at Alton, Illinois.

In our opinion, the current Corps of Engineers' proposal is no compromise. There will still be two locks built. While the 1200 foot lock is built, studies of a second lock will proceed and be constructed upon completion of the first lock.

Also, we believe it is necessary to complete a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Even if construction were begun immediately, the new lock would not be operational for eight years. If the Corps can maintain Locks and Dam 26 during that period of time, continued maintenance should also be possible for the additional time needed to complete the EIS.

We believe the proposed construction of Locks and Dam 26 is only the beginning of a massive reconstruction which would ultimately affect Locks No. 1 in Minneapolis. The end result would be the loss of the River forever to recreational users and wildlife.

Please continue to join with us in asking for repair of Locks and Dam 26, not replacement.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jerry Jenkins, President
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

cc: Peter Gove, Director
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency



FILE COPY

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

June 20, 1974

The Honorable Ancher Nelson
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Nelson:

You were recently identified as leading the effort to strike federal enforcement from the federal drinking water standards bill (HR 12005).

We are greatly concerned over the present laxity in protecting our drinking water. Just a little over a year ago, 97 cases of typhoid occurred in a migrant labor camp south of Miami and residents of Miami Beach were forced to boil their water because of the high bacterial count!

Surely every person has a right to expect that the drinking water be safe and free of disease causing substances. If states do not adopt federal standards and there is no EPA enforcement, what protection is guaranteed for the people?

In our own state the situation of asbestos fibers in the drinking water should make us all aware of the importance of the provision for grants "where there are known public health hazards which require advanced technology for the removal of particles which are too small to be removed by ordinary treatment technology."

We urge the passage of this bill and would encourage you to support full provisions for federal enforcement if individual states refuse to comply.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Watson
Environmental Quality Chairman
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

cc: E.Q. Chairman
LWV of U.S.



MW/km

TELEPHONE 224-5445

McCoy Elliott, Bng

fel

To: Action Chairmen, Second District, copy to Elna Ponto
From: Mary Watson, E.Q. Chairman
Re: Time for Action on Safe Drinking Water
Date: June 20, 1974

HR 12005, legislation to establish federal standards for safe drinking water with subsequent adoption by the states is presently in the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. Anchor Nelson, a member of the committee, led the effort to delete standby federal enforcement; he has stated that he has had no mail on the bill from his district! The bill has been passed by the Senate with EPA given the power to enforce federal standards if the states refuse to act to adopt the standards. Presently, only water used on interstate carriers is required to meet federal bacteriological standards; these standards are recognized as minimum standards and less than half the states have adopted them and few vigorously enforce them.

The bill, in addition to establishing standards, authorizes funds for grants "Where there are known public health hazards which require advanced technology for the removal of particles which are too small to be removed by ordinary treatment technology." This section was added by Rep. Blatnik and obviously refers to situations such as Duluth's. Also included is a consumer information section requiring that the public be notified every three months of any violations of water standards.

ACTION TO TAKE

Review Facts and Issues, LWV of US, THE WATER YOU DRINK for more background. Write to Rep. Nelson to let him know his constituents are concerned over safe drinking water and that EPA enforcement is necessary to protect the health of the people if states fail to adopt the standards.

TIME FOR ACTION ON SAFE DRINKING WATER SENT TO 2nd CONG. DISTRICT
ACTION CHAIRMEN AS FOLLOWS:

Albert Lea	Frances Skovlund - 319 Meredith Rd., 56007
Austin	Helen Wheeler - 1011 N.W. 4th, 55912
West Dakota Cty.	Mary Ann Mahan - 11204 River Hills Dr., Burnsville 55378
Chaska	Ruth Jensen, - R.R. 2, Box 165, 55318
Fairmont	Mary Slherer, Pres. - 1022 Holden Pl., 56031
Hutchinson	Ruth Osborne - 324 Charles, 55350
Mankato	Aileen Eick - 215 Clark, 56001
New Ulm	Candy Hansen - 211½ N. Jefferson, 56073
St. Peter	Jan Jen sen - 609 Austin Dr., 56082
Wayzata	Helen Reindel - 15714 Holdridge Rd. E., 55391
Wells	Jean Kraus - Kiester, 56051
Westonka	Elizabeth Taylor - Rt. 3, Box 450, Mound, 55364
Excelsior-Deep Haven	Kay Thompson - Rt. 3, Box 80, 55331
	Shirley Rice - Rt. 6, Box 234, Excelsior, 55331
Coordinator	Elna Ponto - RR 1, Albert Lea, 56007

Borg - Ebbott - McCoy

FILE COPY

March 15, 1972

The Honorable Donald M. Fraser
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Fraser:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota strongly endorses the Dingell-Reuss-Saylor Clean Water Amendments to the House Water Pollution Control Bill (H.R. 11896) and urges you to do anything within your power to contribute to their passage. Along with the League of Women Voters, the following other Minnesota organizations are actively supporting these amendments:

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Clean Air, Clean Water, Unlimited
Minnesota Conservation Federation
MECCA
Minnesota Environmental Defense Council
Minnesota Public Interest Research Group
Northern Environmental Council
Save Lake Superior Association
The Wilderness Society

We are also concerned that the proposed House and Senate bill would require much weaker boat toilet standards than the ones currently in force in Minnesota. We would like to urge you to consider an amendment to allow our strong no-discharge standards to supercede the proposed weaker national standards.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Ann McCoy
State President
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

This letter also sent to: Albert Quie, Ancher Nelsen,
William Frenzel, Joseph Karth, John Zwach, Robert Bergland

cc: LWVUS, McCoy, Ebbott, Brascugli

FILE COPY

March 15, 1972

The Honorable John A. Blatnik
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Blatnik:

I'm sure there is no need to remind you of the strong support of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota for the Dingell-Reuss-Saylor Amendments to the Water Pollution Control Bill (H.R. 11896).

We certainly hope you will do everything in your power to insure their inclusion and a favorable vote on the House floor.

We are also as concerned (as is our Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) that the states having strong boat toilet regulations be allowed to supercede the proposed weaker national ones.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Ann McCoy
State President
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

cc: LWVUS, Mary Ann McCoy, Liz Ebbott, Mary Brascugli

March 17, 1967

TIME FOR ACTION

FILE COPY

TO: Moorhead, Fergus Falls, Battle Lake, Crookston, International Falls

This Is the Time to Write: Governor LeVander

Donald Sinclair, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee

Richard Fitzsimons, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee

ABOUT:

Governor LeVander met with Governor Guy of North Dakota and Dr. Caulfield of the federal Water Resources Council (see enclosed clipping) to discuss Minnesota's participation in establishing a federal River Basin Commission for the Souris-Red-Rainy River Basin. Governor LeVander did agree to Minnesota's participation. This means that this legislature will have to appropriate \$95,000 as Minnesota's share. Each state will be entitled to one representative. There will be agencies represented also - probably about six from Minnesota. The Governor's office suggests that an expression of support at this time would be most appropriate.

This would be following through on the League's support of the federal Water Resources Planning Act. (Under the provisions of the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965, the Water Resources Council advises the President on national water policy, maintains a continuing study of national water needs, coordinates the activities of federal water resources agencies, and reviews the relationships of regional or river basin plans to national requirements. In addition, it administers a program of financial grants to the states to encourage increased participation in water resources planning by states on a comprehensive and continuing basis. By checking in National Board Reports, 1965 and 1966, you will find further background material on League action taken at the national level concerning this Water Resources Planning Act.) It also is the next logical step for the Red River Basin Leagues. I recommend that these Leagues refer to their copy of the "Red River of the North," pp. 33-36, Chapter VI, "What is the Future of the Red River Basin?"

From the review of the Planning Act, it would appear that this would coordinate federal-state-local planning efforts, aid in inter-agency communication plus being more adequately funded to carry out the intent of the Commission. The present Commission can only study and do some coordinating of agencies through Commission invitation. All members serve without any financial assistance, and this has proved a problem in obtaining members who will serve. I believe that the present Commission can continue to exist and be represented on the federal Commission.

This Commission was reported favorably out of the Water Resources Council to President Johnson. It has been on his desk for signing since the first of January. Apparently, the action at the state level must precede his signing the Commission into existence.

LWV of Minnesota, State Organization Service, U of Minn., Minneapolis, Minn. 55455
October 1965

Statement prepared for the conference on Pollution of the Interstate Waters of the Red River of the North at Fargo, North Dakota, September 14, 1965, by Mrs. G. E. Mann, Water Resources Chairman, League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Chairman, conferees, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota welcomes the opportunity to express its interest in the water resources of Minnesota.

The Red River Basin has provided a basis for study which brought together women from Leagues in North Dakota and Minnesota. We became aware of the importance of water to this area. The boundary line did not divide the water but did allow for different interpretations of water use and water rights. League members concluded that a Red River Planning Commission would provide the means of communication between North Dakota and Minnesota. We have observed the progress of this Planning Commission with interest.

League members will be reviewing what has happened in the Red River Basin since their study was published in 1959. In Minnesota, there is a League in Fergus Falls, Battle Lake, Moorhead and a provisional League in Crookston. The three largest towns are located on the Otter Tail River, Red River and Red Lake River. These towns have been increasing in population in an outmigration area. They are interested in developing economic opportunities in this basin just as they are in North Dakota. Water resources is a vital key to the success of their planning.

We have been concerned when we hear of untreated sewage entering rivers that provide a water supply for towns downstream. We have been concerned when the Orwell Dam released water to supplement the downstream flow of the Red River. We have been concerned about the dangers of flooding in the Red River Valley. We have been concerned about industrial pollution that is allowed in order to keep the industry. We have been concerned about pollution of our lakes.

A form of action taken by the Leagues in Battle Lake and Fergus Falls was to work with other groups for a county planning commission. One of the main reasons the Board of Commissioners established this commission was because of the growing threat of pollution to the lakes of Otter Tail County.

For several years, the Leagues in the Red River Basin have been invited to meet with other organizations at the Crookston Winter Show for a seminar on Water Resources. Farmers, businessmen, government representatives and homemakers exchange information, questions and ideas about this natural resource. It is this challenge of understanding the importance of water to this region, the many problems and conflict of interests as well as what can be done that must be met by the citizen.

Information such as the Report of the Red River that was received today will help guide future decisions as informed citizens work to provide a safe and usable water supply adequate for the needs of the people of the Red River Basin.

FILE COPY

March 5, 1965

The Honorable Albert Quie
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman Quie,

Early last fall I wrote you about the Water Resources Planning Act hoping that the bill would be passed during the last session.

Your reply indicated that you concurred with the members of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota in the need for this legislation.

We have heard that the Water Resources Planning Act of 1965 (H.R. 1111) is almost the same as the final version of the bill reported by the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee in the 88th Congress.

The bill should come up for action soon. Your continued support will be appreciated for this legislation sets up much needed machinery for state-federal coordination in the development of water and related land resources. We in Minnesota all appreciate the importance of the preservation and development of one of our most important natural resources.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William Whiting
President

Same to all Congressmen

This letter sent to all representatives.

file - water
FILE COPY

September 2, 1964

Mr. Albert H. Quie
1218 House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Representative Quie:

I have just received word that the Irrigation and Reclamation Subcommittee of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs reported S1111. Water Resources Planning Act favorably.

The members of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota appreciate the fact that your interest in and efforts on behalf of this important legislation no doubt helped bring the bill before the Subcommittee for its consideration.

We are hoping that Speaker McCormack appreciates the importance of this bill not only to Minnesota but to the entire United States and therefore will schedule it for consideration this session. This could give you an opportunity to vote in favor of this bill that will mean so much to the preservation and development of one of Minnesota's most important natural resources.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. William W. Whiting
President

Water
FILE COPY

September 1, 1964

Honorable Speaker of the House
John McCormack
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Speaker McCormack:

The members of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota are anxious for our Minnesota Congressman to have the opportunity to vote on the Water Resources Planning Act S.1111 this session.

We realize the press of legislation at this late hour in this session but we do believe that the Water Resources Act is of such general national interest that you in your key position will want it brought to the floor and approved before the end of the session.

Our members, located in 64 communities throughout Minnesota, appreciate the importance of comprehensive planning, development and management of the water resources in our river basins. In the last session of our Minnesota legislature many bills relating to water resources were introduced which is further evidence of interest in water resources in our state.

The more we study and work in the field of water resources the more we appreciate the importance of coordination of federal, state, interstate and local development of water and related land resources. S.1111 sets up much needed machinery for state-federal coordination. We believe the bill should be passed this session so that the benefits of better coordination will be immediately available not only to Minnesota but to all 50 of our United States.

Your cooperation in scheduling this legislation before the close of this session will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wm. W. Whiting
President

ATW/mc

221 Wildwood Road

Birchwood, Minnesota

August 14, 1964

AUG 25 1964
The Honorable Joseph Karth

426 House Office Building

Washington D. C. 20515

FILE COPY

Dear Sir:

This is a letter supporting action on the Water Resources Planning Act of 1964 (S. 1111) to set up a water resources council, river basin planning commissions, and grants in aid to states for water resource planning. The Water Resources Planning Act (S. 1111) was passed in the Senate in December 1963. The bill is now being considered by the Irrigation and Reclamation Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. If it is held up much longer in the Subcommittee, time will be too short to get house action on this bill. If you feel you could support this bill, I and the Mahtomedi Area League of Women Voters, would appreciate it if you, Mr. Karth, would vote favorably for this bill when it comes to the floor, but before that for you to talk to members of the Irrigation and Reclamation Subcommittee of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee and tell them how eager you are to get a chance to vote on the Water Resources Planning Act in THIS session. The bill has support, but unfortunately it does not have the human appeal of some other pieces of water legislation.

The Water Resources Planning Act is Important for... 1. It can advance comprehensive planning, development, and management of the water resources in a river basin or a group of basins. Each river basin commission is to develop coordinated plans, keep them up to date, recommend long-range schedules of priorities for projects, and undertake studies of water problems in its region. Each commission is to serve as the principal agency for coordination of federal, state, interstate, and local development of water and related land resources. S. 1111 should reduce conflict between the federal agencies in a river basin since the bill authorizes

the Water Resources Council to establish "principles, standards, and procedures" for the guidance of federal participants in preparation ~~of~~ of comprehensive regional or river basin plans. In these commissions state and federal agencies will plan together from the early stages. Where differences between several interests cannot be settled as the commission works along, true alternative choices are to be developed and included in basin plans.

2. It can bring about better coordination at the federal level. The Water Resources Council (composed of the Secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, Army, HEW, and the Chairman of the Federal Power Commission) will be established by law. This Council includes all the leading agencies in water resource activities and is on a high enough level to have the power gradually to eliminate inconsistencies and conflicts in policy among federal agencies.

3. It can build up states' part in water resource development planning. S. 1111 authorizes a ten year program of grants to encourage states to develop intra-state and interstate comprehensive water and related land resource plans. The formula for allotment of federal funds considers a state's population, land area, need for such a planning program, and per capita income. Federal help to a state, to be at least one-third and not more than two-thirds of the cost of its water resource planning program, must be Council-approved.

The river basin commissions will be clearly state-federal commissions for S.1111 is a compromise worked out (1) to create machinery that can foster coordinated multipurpose planning for river basin development and (2) at the same time allay fear that river basin commissions will lead to federal dominance. Each state in a basin will have a member on the river basin commission. Each state member will be appointed according to state law or by his Governor and will be paid by his state. State representatives on the one hand and federal representatives on the other will have equality in the commissions. Where state and federal interests fail to agree during the planning process, all individual views and the position of the chairman (representing the federal members) and the vice-chairman (representing the state members) are to be recorded in the commission report.

Each river basin commission will be financed by a joint state-federal budget. A majority of the basin states or the federal Water Resources Council can terminate a commission.

S. 1111 does not affect state jurisdiction over water as the bill deals only with planning, not at all with water rights. The bill states clearly that nothing in it affects the status-quo of federal-state relations. Federal and state responsibility, rights, and jurisdiction over water resources are "neither enlarged nor diminished." No interstate compact, no joint agency of two or more states, no federal-interstate agency will be displaced or limited.

Federal water programs should continue as nothing in this bill limits Congress' authority to authorize or fund ~~of~~ projects. S. 1111 does not change or repeal existing laws under which federal agencies are authorized to develop water and related land resources.

YOU, Mr. Karth, will still make ^{THE} decisions! For authorization and appropriation for projects will still be made by Congress and the state legislatures, who will therefore have final decision on basin plans. However, Congress and the legislatures will consider alternative proposals or a single plan agreed to ~~by~~ many state and federal agencies instead of a single plan from the Corps of Engineers or the Bureau of Reclamation.

Every river basin will not be required to have a river basin commission. The bill states that it does not "limit the use of other mechanisms" for river basin planning and development. Also, at least one-half of the states in the basin must concur in writing before a river basin commission is established.

Why does the Water Resources Planning Act offer hope for our childrens future?

The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations puts it this way:

"...the concept of Federal-State cooperation in river basin planning and development, as proposed in the bill, is not only desirable but consistent with sound principles

"of intergovernmental relations in our Federal system. Success of the proposed program of course would depend on the way in which both levels of government react to their responsibilities. By having an active role in the planning process, the States would have an added incentive to undertake developmental and construction projects contained in the plans developed by basin commissions."

With the fondest of hopes that you feel you can support this important piece of legislation I remain,

Yours very truly,

Mrs. William Butler

Mrs. William Butler

President of the Mahtomedi Area League of Women Voters

Letter to all other representatives also

FILE COPY

August 11, 1964

Hon. Representative Ancher Nelsen
1533 House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Re: Water Resources Planning Act (S.1111)

Dear Representative Nelsen:

The members of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota urge you to vote favorably for S.1111 when it comes to the floor but before that we urge you to get in touch with the members of the Irrigation and Reclamation Subcommittee and with the rest of the members of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee telling them you are eager to get a chance to vote on the Water Resources Planning Act in this session.

Our members, located in 64 communities throughout Minnesota appreciate the importance of comprehensive planning, development and management of the water resources in our river basins. In the last session of our Minnesota legislature many bills relating to water resources were introduced which is further evidence of interest in water resources in our state.

The more we study and work in the field of water resources the more we appreciate the importance of coordination of federal, state, interstate and local development of water and related land resources. S.1111 sets up much needed machinery for state-federal coordination.

Minnesota has shown by its activities in this area that we are ready to take advantage of this Water Resources Planning Act. We believe the bill should be passed this session so that the benefits of better coordination will be immediately available to our state whose economy is so directly related to its water resources.

We urge you to do all you can in the last busy days of this Congress to pass this legislation that will benefit not only today's voters but generations to come. Our water is one of our most precious natural resources and you are in a position to preserve it.

Sincerely,

Mrs. William W. Whiting
President

ATW/mc