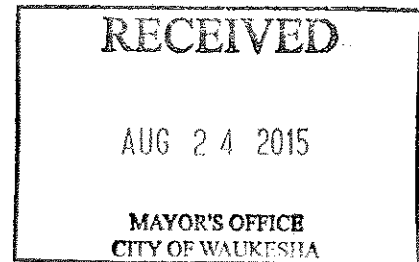


Catholic Memorial

HIGH SCHOOL

August 20, 2015

Ashley Hoekstra
DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater
P. O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921



Dear Ms. Hoekstra:

I write today with great interest in the deliberations being undertaken as to the application by the City of Waukesha for access to safe, fresh, and affordable water from Lake Michigan.

I have been connected to civic life and activities in the City of Waukesha for more than thirty years – since my family first became involved at Catholic Memorial High School (CMH). For the last seven years I have had the honor and joy of returning as President of this, my alma mater.

I am proud of this city and feel it important to add my thoughts to the deliberations now taking place. As a Catholic priest and head of a not insignificant religious non-profit, I believe that I can bring forward some unique insights. I hope that they will be shared, and will be impactful upon the decision makers in this matter.

In my work at CMH, and at the local Catholic parishes, I am aware of the social and economic diversity of this community. Greater diversity than I think most outsiders expect. All citizens of Waukesha want a stable source of safe and affordable drinking water. But, those in lower economic ranges (sadly more numerous than many see) are especially sensitive to the increasing costs of water in their homes and at the business where they are employed.

Additionally, as there is a known correlation between poverty and health, it is not a false presumption to be concerned that the poor in Waukesha are being disproportionately impacted by continued, cumulative exposure to the questionable qualities of this area's somewhat tainted well water sources. It is important to note that in the same way that poverty in the City and County of Waukesha often goes unseen, so too do the voices of these families risk going unheard in a government deliberative process such as this.

CMH is, essentially, a \$10M a year business. Like other charitable non-profits, we depend on a strong community of other businesses large and small. These are the venues of our working families; these are the resources of local philanthropy; these are the lifeblood of a community.

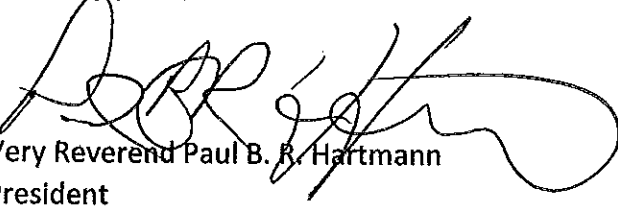
Whether for stability, and hopefully growth, in employment and charity in Waukesha there needs to be a stable source of affordable water. Even I understand economics enough to know that to the same extent that "as go the major cities so go their regions", it is also the case that as go the medium cities so go the suburbs, exurbs, and rural areas.

My science teachers (and others I trust) tell me that the water science and technical aspects of the application make sense. I personally understand that for the people of Waukesha and the business community, the application makes sense. And, blessed with roles in the wider Church that take me regularly throughout the region and the nation, I believe that for wider and greater goods, the application makes sense.

Please know of my appreciation for you, the DNR, and the work of so many who must stand in judgment in this process. I trust that your mandate to do what is best will embrace what just seems to make so much sense.

Thank you for your considerations.

Sincerely yours,



Very Reverend Paul B. R. Hartmann
President

C: Mayer Shawn Reilly