



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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December 3, 2015

Mr. Les Lemm
Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

RE: Request for Comments on Possible Amendment to Rules Governing Wetland Conservation,
Minnesota Rules, Chapter 8420; Revisor's ID Number R-04356

Dear Mr. Lemm:

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is very interested in this rulemaking to revise Minnesota's wetland conservation rules. This rulemaking provides an opportunity to consider both wetland and water quality protection and improvement activities in the creation of wetland replacement credits.

We have worked with the Board of Water and Soil Resources through the Interagency Northeast Mitigation Siting Team to consider the high demand for compensatory wetland mitigation in that region. We look forward continuing to collaborate with you as you work to implement some of that team's recommendations in rules. In particular, we are interested in working with you and our other partners, such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to develop replacement credit strategies and ratios related to high priority areas for wetland replacement and new actions eligible for wetland replacement credit in the Northeast area of the state.

We welcome the opportunity to be involved in the process as you form your advisory committee and move forward with developing the rules.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine Neuschler".

Catherine Neuschler
Supervisor, Agency Rules Unit
Environment and Energy Section
Resource Management and Assistance Division

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