

The Wisconsin State Legislature

May 9, 2012

Senator Neal Kedzie Representative Jeffrey Mursau Chairs, Senate and Assembly Natural Resources Committees State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Kedzie and Rep. Mursau:

We are writing to express concern about a recent <u>Wisconsin State Journal</u> report that Governor Walker's chief environmental appointees put as many as 40 families at risk of drinking water contaminated with human waste to help a political donor. As Chairs of the Natural Resources Committees in the Legislature and respected individuals in the natural resources community, we ask that you schedule a joint committee hearing to explore this potential legal and ethical violation.

Herr Environmental has a history of significant violations of laws designed to protect public health and the environment. Department of Natural Resources administrators protected them from potential prosecution by the Department of Justice. Administrators blocked the recommendations of professional staff to refer the case and test the drinking water wells where human waste was spread at 300% the legal limit.

If you share the public's discontent, we ask that you also join us in calling on Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen to conduct a full investigation into political interference with science-based law enforcement as reported by the Wisconsin State Journal.

This follows on the <u>Wisconsin State Journal story</u> showing a more than 50% decline in enforcement actions over the last year.

We are open to any productive discussion with you on how to help restore integrity to our Department of Natural Resources and sincerely hope for your cooperation.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Brett Hulsey State Representative

Fred Clark State Representative Louis Molepske, Jr. State Representative

Chris Larson State Senator Mark Pocan State Representative

Tamara Grigsby State Representative Kelda Roys State Representative

Frederick Kessler State Representative Gordon Hintz State Representative

Terese Berceau State Representative Penny Bernard Schaber State Representative

Lena Taylor State Senator



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