

September 21, 2018

Mr. Jim Stark, Director  
Legislative Water Commission  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Input to Legislative Water Commission (LWC) recommendations on drinking water from the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC)**

Dear Mr. Stark and Members of the Legislative Water Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC), to respond to your request for stakeholder input on Legislative Water Commission recommendations on groundwater.

We would like to thank you for your leadership on Minnesota's water supply challenges. As noted in our letter supporting your groundwater recommendations, we value the Legislative Water Commission as a vital resource to promote informed and effective water policy that protects drinking water in the Twin Cities metropolitan area and the State of Minnesota.

Through MAWSAC and its technical advisory committee (TAC) local governments, water supply utilities and water agencies work together to identify water supply priorities in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Our focus benefits over 3 million people in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, over half of the state's population.

**The Twin Cities master water supply plan, which was approved by MAWSAC on September 16, 2015, identifies strategies related to these LWC groundwater recommendations:**

- **Increase investments in public drinking water infrastructure:** Provide additional financial assistance to communities in need of replacing aging infrastructure.
- **Continue to support and increase support for source water protection:** For groundwater and to initiate a source water program for surface water that are a source of drinking water. Prepare and implement emergency preparedness plans to respond to spills, storms, harmful algal blooms, and other disruptions.
- **Improve monitoring, public information and education and the mitigation of contaminants in drinking water:** Monitoring and understand risks to private wells from land use activities and naturally occurring contaminants and prepare strategies to reduce risks.
- **Expand comprehensive real-time surface and groundwater monitoring:** To detect potential threats to water supplies, develop early responses, and provide public reporting.
- **Embrace new technology:** Encourage ideas, partnerships, and cost-effective emerging technologies and materials that hold promise for more efficient water and energy use, recovery of resources, and improvement of environmental and public health outcomes.

Please consider this input as your Legislative Water Commission finalizes its recommendations for the 2019 legislative session.

**As you move forward, MAWSAC is interested in continuing to provide input on recommendations. We look forward to opportunities to contribute to this important work.**

**MAWSAC Members**

- Sandy Rummel, *Chair*
- Patty Acomb, *City of Minnetonka*
- Mark Daleiden, *Wright County*
- Georg Fischer, *Dakota County*
- Glen Gerads, *Minneapolis Water Works*
- Todd Gerhardt, *City of Chanhassen*
- Phil Klein, *City of Hugo*
- Dean Lotter, *City of New Brighton*
- Michael Robinson, *Chisago County*
- Steve Schneider, *St. Paul Regional Water Services*
- Jamie Schurbon, *Anoka County*
- Lisa Volbrecht, *St. Cloud Public Utilities*
- DNR, MDH, MDA, and MPCA also sit on this committee; members abstain from legislative recommendations.

**TAC Members**

- Mark Maloney, *Chair, City of Shoreview*
- Kristin Asher, *City of Richfield*
- Scott Anderson, *City of Bloomington*
- Dale Folen, *City of Minneapolis*
- Robert Ellis, *City of Eden Prairie*
- Bruce Westby, *City of Ramsey*
- John Dustman, *Summit Envirosolutions*
- G. H. Crystal Ng, *University of Minnesota*
- Lih-in Rezania, *MDH*
- Matt Saam, *City of Apple Valley*
- James Stark, *USGS/LWC*
- Jamie Wallerstedt, *MPCA*
- Jim Westerman, *City of Woodbury*
- Ray Wuolo, *Barr Engineering Company*

On behalf of the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee, thank you for your ongoing support to protect the water that allows our region, and our state, to thrive.

Best regards,



Sandy Rummel, Chair  
Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee

cc. **Leisa Thompson**, General Manager  
Metropolitan Council Environmental Services

**Mark Maloney**, Chair  
Technical Advisory Committee

**Patricia Nauman**, Executive Director  
Metro Cities