

Michael Lewis

From: David Weirens (BWSR) [David.Weirens@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2009 8:20 AM
To: Michael.Lewis@state.mn.us; Steve.Mihalchick@state.mn.us
Subject: FW: Comments on Minnesota R. 8420
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FYI

From: Elanne Palcich [mailto:epalcich@cpinternet.com]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2009 10:48 PM
To: David Weirens (BWSR)
Subject: Comments on Minnesota R. 8420

Comments on proposed amendments to Minnesota R. 8420

May 11. 2009

I am concerned about the net loss of wetlands in Minnesota per year, which goes against state law. My concerns include the following:

- Many losses are incremental and difficult to monitor.
- Local governments tend to overlook loss of wetlands, because they are more concerned about tax money gained through development of land.
- Wetland loss is prevalent on lakeshore property, due to gradual build up of land surface.
- Local government encourages horticultural peat mining, even though the companies involved are from out-of-state and ship the product globally. Consumers are unaware of the impacts of peat mining.
- Power line expansion disrupts wetlands.
- Development along highway corridors destroys wetlands.

In summary, I believe there are too many exemptions and many of these exemptions do not even need to be reported.

There should be something within these rules which addresses future transportation, energy, and development planning and placement in regard to avoiding the destruction of wetlands.

I see much need for both public and governing agency education on the value of wetlands as defined in the purpose statement: To achieve no net loss in the quantity, quality, and biological diversity of Minnesota's existing wetlands.

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There is also need for education in regard to wetland function in maintaining water quality of watersheds, and in sequestering carbon and mercury.

Thank you.

Elanne Palcich

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