



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Voyageur's National Park Clean Water Joint Powers Board (VNPCWJPB)

FROM: Sara Christenson, Randy Jenniges, and Gary Cerkvenik

DATE: March 16, 2016

RE: VNPCWJPB Update Information - March 2016  
Koochiching and St. Louis Counties, Minnesota  
STLCO 124128

### **Board Meetings**

The last meeting held was at 10:00 A.M. at the St. Louis County Land Department building on January 20, 2015. See the attached draft meeting minutes for details.

Action Requested: Motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting.

### **Kabetogama**

The construction portion of the project is taking shape. The preconstruction meeting was held on February 26, 2016 and the minutes are attached.

On March 14, 2016 the DNR executed a lease agreement for the treatment site, cover letter attached.

A meeting with the DNR on March 28<sup>th</sup> will be held at 10:00 AM to discuss Kabetogama connection and Ash River project.

### **Ash River**

The soil analysis from Matrix Soils is complete for the potential treatment site and the data looks favorable. We request that the land swap between the County and DNR continue to proceed based on this information. SEH will provide further analysis to the County from our wastewater department before the DNR meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District**

Crane Lake is moving forward with two projects, State Bonding and Legacy.

State Bonding: Phase 1 is 98% complete with the extension down Handberg Road. Punch list items remain for this spring. Phase 2 will include connections and extensions as funding dollars allow along Handberg Road in Area T. The first connection is planned to be Handberg Marina which the district is pursuing.

The district is completing the CAR for Area T and the initial findings of compliance/non-compliance are attached.

Legacy: The district is continuing down the path of managed ISTS systems within the district and have set up ordinances and will review areas of compliance.

### Island View

With the \$4.5 m from Army Corp recently approved for the project the County is working towards moving the project forward. There is numerous items that need to be done and the following is the anticipated schedule.

March 15, 2016	County Board approve Agreement for Professional Services
Early April 2016	Island View Sanitary Sewer Committee meeting
End of April 2016	Complete estimate of project costs, assessments, and project financials
Early May 2016	Island View Sanitary Sewer Committee meeting
May 2016	Send Preliminary Public Hearing information to paper and property owners
Early June, 2016	Preliminary Public Hearing
June 2016	Island View Sanitary Sewer Committee meeting Mail Service Locations to Property Owners
July 2016	Preliminary Utility Meeting Island View Sanitary Sewer Committee meeting
August 2016	Island View Sanitary Sewer Committee meeting Advertise for Bids, Pre-Bid Meeting
Early Sept. 2016	Bid Opening
Mid-Sept. 2016	Public Hearing

### Project Funding Status

The State Bonding request HF 2675 for \$6 million request. See Project Funding Letter that was sent to USACE attached.

Gary Cerkenik to discuss via phone.

### Advisory Board Representative Updates

- Voyageurs National Park
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- MN Department of Natural Resources
- Bear Island Association

### Meeting Dates

- Action Requested: Propose and approve an upcoming meeting date for April or May.

### Invoices

- Action Requested: Propose and approve the SEH Inc. and Costin Group Invoices.

If you have any questions regarding these items, please do not hesitate to contact any of us.

Sara Christenson 218.322.4513 <a href="mailto:schristenson@sehinc.com">schristenson@sehinc.com</a>	Randy Jenniges 320.229.4378 <a href="mailto:rjenniges@sehinc.com">rjenniges@sehinc.com</a>	Mike Larson 218.305.4722 <a href="mailto:mlarson@sehinc.com">mlarson@sehinc.com</a>	Gary Cerkenik 218.741.0139 <a href="mailto:gcerk@me.com">gcerk@me.com</a>
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Cc: VNPCWJPB Advisory Committee, Koochiching and St. Louis County Environmental Services staff, Project Area residents (upon request)  
Att: VNPCWJPB Minutes from January 20, 2016, Kab Precon Meeting Minutes, DNR Cover Letter, Funding Letter, SEH Invoice, The Costin Group Invoice  
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## **VNP CLEAN WATER JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING January 20, 2016**

The monthly meeting of the VNP Clean Water Powers Board was held at the Cook Land Department on November 18, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Pavleck. Board member present were commissioners Rukavina, and Pavleck; Commissioner McBride was available via telephone. There were no comments from the public.

A motion by Commissioner Rukavina and seconded by Commissioner McBride to approve the November 18, 2015 minutes, all voted in favor.

**Project Funding:** The 569 Application has \$55 million nationwide annual funding. It has been asked of Representative Nolan to ask the secretary to fund the project (\$4.5 million) with the additional money.

**Kabetogama:** The application for Legacy Funds has been submitted to Mike Kennedy at MPCA and is under review. Contracts will need to be signed. The PFA recommended delaying loan application (MN Rural Waters Fund) until funds are needed to prevent unnecessary financing charges. Contracts have been secured with all 3 contractors. In the Winter, 2015/2016 easement documents will be prepared – joint effort between SEH and the Township’s attorneys. Easements will be mailed to District members for signature. Work with DNR to secure capital contribution and determine schedule for hookup. From May – July, 2016, construction of pretreatment and dispersal systems will take place. From September – November 2016 the construction of collection system and completion of pretreatment and dispersal systems will take place.

**Koochiching.** Dale Olson reported that there is a “lull” in the action awaiting funding. The JPB has requested that Koochiching provide a package of the support letters received to date to have the Chair forward them under JPB cover to our elected officials and interested parties.

**Ash River.** The Soil Testing with Matrix said that the soil looks promisable in on the parcel that is most suitable for the project.

**Crane Lake.** The Handberg Road expansion is complete. Contractor has been paid everything but the 5% retainage. Once the punch list items are done in the spring the district will issue final payment. District is continuing to work on the Community Assessment Report for Handberg Road area and will pursue connections or replacements of the noncomplying systems. Work continues with the DNR on Special Use permits for the two DNR landings. The District is working with the USFS regarding the recreational residences in East Bay having the option of a managed ISTS installed. Work is in the early stages to expand the CLWSD by annexation of the Kicker Boulevard area on Sandpoint Lake.

DNR: The Woodenfrog campground in Kabetogama is currently School Trust Fund Land and will be leased to Kabetogama for the sewer project. It was discussed by Commissioner Rukavina that Kabetogama should sign the lease, but going forward, the county should work with the DNR to do a permanent land exchange for this area, with revocable money from the lease.

Gary Cerkvenik discussed the proposal for bonding money and that it should be lowered to a 25% Match. The proposed bill is asking for \$6.2 Million, with flexibility for any project within the VNPCWP.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am, the next meeting is set for 10:00 am at the Cook Land Office building on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by: Sara Christenson, SEH



# Preconstruction Conference Minutes

**RE:** Sanitary Sewer Collection System  
Wastewater Dispersal  
Wastewater Pretreatment  
Kabetogama Township, MN

**Date of Meeting:** February 26, 2016

**Project Manager:** Colin Marcusen, PE  
St. Cloud, MN

**Time of Meeting:** 10:00 a.m.

**SEH No.:** KABET 114902 / 119468

**Location:** SEH Virginia Office

<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<b>I. Purpose of Meeting</b>	Coordination only, does not alter Contract Documents.
<b>II. Introductions &amp; Attendance List</b>	Roster attached.
<b>III. Project Personnel</b>	
A. Owner Representative	Kabetogama Township
1. Clerk	Mary Manninen
2. Board Supervisor	John Stegmeier
3. Board Member	Paul Kiner
4. Board Member	Marlene Tomczak
B. Engineer Representatives	SEH
1. Project Manager	Colin Marcusen           320.229.4359
2. Project Engineer	Dave Blommel           320.229.4349
3. Resident Project Representative	Dan Shannon           218.322.4515
4. Survey	Bill Herschbach       715.559.3012
5. Electrical Engineer	Tom Honer               651.490.0434
6. Consultant - Matrix Soils & Systems, Inc.	Robert Whitmyer       218.728.6171
C. Funding	
1. MN PFA	Nancy Johnson           651.259.7467
2. Clean Water Legacy	MPCA – Mike Kennedy   218.302.6629
D. MPCA	Brian Fitzpatrick       218.316.3859
E. 2016 Sanitary Sewer Collection System - General Contractor Personnel	Utility Systems of America, Inc.
1. Project Manager	Jim Pucel               218.750.6641 Cell 218.744.4342 Office
2. Project Superintendent	Kenny Huismann       218.780.4809 Cell
3. Crew Foreman	Contractor needs to submit.
4. Erosion Control Officer	Contractor needs to submit.
5. Authorized Signature	Contractor needs to submit.
6. Emergency Phone Number	Contractor needs to submit.
7. Safety Representative	Contractor needs to submit.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>
8. Safety On Site	Contractor shall be solely responsible for initiating, maintaining, and supervising all safety precautions and programs in connection with the Work.
9. Subcontractors	See attached.
10. Suppliers	See attached.
11. Testing Lab	<b>Contractor needs to submit.</b>
F. 2016 Wastewater Pretreatment - General Contractor Personnel	Wex Companies, Inc. DBA Septic Check
1. Project Manager	Brian Koski 320.428.0391
2. Project Superintendent	Brian Koski
3. Crew Foreman	James Hoffman 320.362.0566
4. Erosion Control Officer	Brian Koski
5. Authorized Signature	Brian Koski
6. Emergency Phone Number	320.983.2447
7. Safety Representative	Brian Koski
8. Safety On Site	Contractor shall be solely responsible for initiating, maintaining, and supervising all safety precautions and programs in connection with the Work.
9. Subcontractors	See attached.
10. Suppliers	See attached.
11. Testing Lab	
G. 2016 Wastewater Dispersal - General Contractor Personnel	Viita's Excavating
1. Project Manager	Jeff Schanche 218.969.7936 Cell
2. Project Superintendent	Rick Viita 218.780.3765
3. Crew Foreman	James Fincher 218.780.8928
4. Erosion Control Officer	James Fincher
5. Authorized Signature	
6. Emergency Phone Number	218.780.8921
7. Safety Representative	James Fincher
8. Safety On Site	Contractor shall be solely responsible for initiating, maintaining, and supervising all safety precautions and programs in connection with the Work.
9. Subcontractors	See attached.
10. Suppliers	See attached.
11. Testing Lab	
H. Kabetogama Township Fire Department	Larry Warrington 218.875.2141
I. Mike Musich, International Falls Police Department	Mike Musich 218.283.4416
J. Sheriff's Deputy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sheriff: Ross Litman, Duluth 218.726.2340</li> <li>• Supervising Deputy: Shannon Schultz, Hibbing 218.262.0134</li> <li>• 911 Emergency Communications: 218.727.8770 non-emergency</li> <li>• In Case of Emergency: 911</li> <li>• <a href="mailto:County-Sheriff@stlouiscountymn.gov">County-Sheriff@stlouiscountymn.gov</a></li> </ul>

<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<b>IV. Project Schedule</b>	
A. Wastewater Pretreatment System	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bar Chart (written format)</li> <li>2. Notice to Proceed (expected)</li> <li>3. Work Sequence/Phasing</li> <li>4. Completion Dates -</li> <li>5. Substantial</li> </ol>	<p>See attached.  After funding and lease agreements signed.  See Section 01 11 00.</p> <p>November 16, 2016 – For this Work, Substantial Completion is defined as “All mechanical and electrical equipment, tanks, media, building, piping, and controls acceptably installed. Testing and startup of the system may be delayed until spring/summer, 2017”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Milestone: Meter manhole and pipe stubbed out to north to be installed by June 30, 2016.</li> <li>• Milestone: Drainfield dose and effluent pipe stubbed out by August 26, 2016.</li> </ul> <p>June 30, 2017</p>
B. Sanitary Sewer Collection System	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bar Chart (written format)</li> <li>2. Notice to Proceed (expected)</li> <li>3. Work Sequence/Phasing</li> <li>4. Completion Dates -</li> <li>5. Substantial</li> </ol>	<p><b>Contractor needs to submit.</b>  After funding and lease agreements signed.  See Sections 01 11 00 and 01 12 16.</p> <p>November 23, 2016 – For this Work Substantial Completion is further defined as “Installation of grinder stations. Includes connection to existing services where specified. Connection to treatment system.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work around cabin/resort areas shall not proceed until after September 2, 2016.</li> <li>• Milestone: Dispersal force main to be constructed between August 30 and September 23, 2016 (as noted above, effluent pipe will not be stubbed out from dose tank until August 26, 2016).</li> </ul> <p>Contractor would like to start in April and work until May, and then leave until fall.  June 30, 2017</p>
C. Final	
D. Wastewater Dispersal	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bar Chart (written format)</li> <li>2. Notice to Proceed (expected)</li> <li>3. Work Sequence/Phasing</li> <li>4. Completion Dates -</li> </ol>	<p>See attached.  After funding and lease agreements signed.  See Section 01 11 00.</p>

<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>
5. Substantial	<p>October 28, 2016 – For this Work Substantial Completion is further defined as “All three mound and at-grade dispersal systems constructed. Squirt-height test performed on all-season mound closest in proximity to the Pretreatment System.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pipe work may not proceed until dispersal force main has been installed by collection system contractor. Anticipated start date is September 26, 2016 (as noted above, dispersal force main will not be installed until September 23, 2016).</li> <li>• Tree clearing may be allowed to commence sooner. June 30, 2017</li> </ul>
E. Final	
F. Progress Monitoring	
1. Schedule Progress Meeting	Monthly or biweekly as needed based on construction schedules.
G. Substantial Completion Meeting	
H. Spring Start-Up Meeting	
<b>V. Preliminary Information</b>	
A. Status of Contracts	Submitted to Owner.
B. Performance and Payment Bonds	In order.
C. Insurance Certificates	In order.
D. Additional Sets of Documents	CD will be given to Contractors if desired.
E. Status of Permits/Approvals	
1. MPCA NPDES	Each contractor must send Project Sign/Letter to SEH when they receive it from MPCA.
2. St. Louis County, Mark St. Lawrence	SEH to submit County Utility and Road ROW work permit. PRETREATMENT PROJECT (WEX COMPANIES)
3. Building Permit (County/Township)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LGU is County.</li> <li>• Land use application permit can be found on St. Louis County website.</li> </ul>
4. State Electrical Permit	Contractor must submit and sent notice to SEH when received.
5. DNR Dewatering Permit	Contractor to obtain if needed. The DNR lease boundaries are the property lines. SEH has survey information for this and tree clearing limits will be staked.
6. Easements/Rights of Entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual property owners as related to collection system work around cabins/resorts. Township will obtain temporary construction and permanent utility easements prior to construction.</li> <li>• DNR land lease – property on which pretreatment and dispersal systems will be constructed is currently DNR school trust property. A land lease agreement between DNR and Township is expected to be signed shortly. Contractors for all three projects.</li> </ul>
F. Related Work at the Site	
<b>VI. Utility Information</b>	
A. Owner	
1. Electric	North Star.
2. Telephone	Frontier.



<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Other</li> <li>4. Gopher One Call &amp; Utility Notification</li> <li>5. Conflicts/Relocations</li> </ul> <p>B. Gopher One Call &amp; Utility Notification</p>	
<b>VII. Contract Procedures</b>	
<p>A. Shop Drawings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval (Contractor's review and stamp)</li> <li>2. Sequential numbering</li> <li>3. Review time</li> </ul>	<p>Submit electronically to <a href="mailto:mblommel@sehinc.com">mblommel@sehinc.com</a>. See Section 01 33 00 for submittal procedures.</p>
<p>B. Payment to Contractor</p>	<p>10 days required by Engineer. Same submittal will only be reviewed 2 times. Contractor to submit erosion control inspection reports with each application for payment. Drawdown schedule. 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. 5% on Work, 10% on stored materials. 1st Tuesday of the month.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cutoff Date</li> <li>2. Retainage</li> <li>3. Township meeting dates</li> </ul>	
<b>C. Contract Modifications</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Requests for Information (RFIs)</li> </ul>	<p>Email form ok, but put in writing if there may be a change needed to the construction documents or disagreement about construction.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Field Orders</li> <li>3. Change Orders (timely)</li> </ul>	<p>Must be approved by the Township Board prior to proceeding.</p>
<b>D. Funding Agency Requirements</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prevailing Wage Rates: Sharon Decker, Decker Planning and Research</li> </ul>	<p>Promptly submit wage reports to Decker Planning and Research (monthly): <a href="mailto:sharon.decker309@gmail.com">sharon.decker309@gmail.com</a>. SEH to assist with on-site interviews of contractor's employees.</p>
<b>VIII. General Requirements</b>	
<b>A. Staking Requirements</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contact RPR</li> <li>2. Scope of staking</li> </ul>	<p>2 days advanced notice. Staking to be provided by Engineer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sanitary sewer offsets on-line for directional drilling intervals, once</li> <li>• Pump tanks, two sets</li> <li>• Top and edge of dispersal bed media, once</li> <li>• Structure and pad corners, once</li> <li>• Septic, pump, and treatment tanks, two sets</li> </ul>
<b>B. Materials Testing</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tests Performed</li> </ul>	<p>Contractor's responsibility to hire a lab. See Section 01 45 00 for required testing. Copies of test results to Contractor, Engineer, RPR, and Owner.</p>
<b>C. Construction Limits</b>	<p>Minimize disturbance. Leave a buffer strip of trees between road and pretreatment system.</p>
<b>D. Material and Equipment Storage</b>	<p>On leased property near Pretreatment area after tree removal. Materials may be stored prior to start of construction as long as proper insurance in place.</p>
<b>E. Water, Power, Sanitary Facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEH checking with DNR on available property.</li> </ul> <p>Contractor's responsibility.</p>

<u>Item</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>F. Construction Water</li> <li>G. Owner's Requirements</li> <li>H. Major Equipment Deliveries/ Priorities</li> <li>I. Security Procedures</li> </ul>	
<b>IX. Project Closeout</b>	
A. Substantial Completion Letter	Contractor to submit to SEH when they feel project is substantially complete.
B. Punch List	
C. Submittals	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. IC-134 Forms</li> <li>2. Lien Waivers - SEH Form</li> <li>3. Consent of Surety</li> <li>4. Warranties</li> <li>5. O&amp;M Manuals</li> <li>6. Record Drawings</li> </ul>	<p>Contractor and subcontractors providing labor.  Contractor, subcontractors, and suppliers.  Required.</p> <p>Prime contractor and all subs.</p>

djg

Enclosures

- c: Colin Marcusen, SEH
- Dave Blommel, SEH
- Dan Shannon, SEH
- Bill Herschbach SEH
- Tom Honer, SEH
- Robert Krahn, SEH
- Robert Whitmyer, Matrix Soils & Systems, Inc.
- Mary Manninen, Kabetogama Township
- John Stegmeier, Kabetogama Township
- Paul Kiner, Kabetogama Township
- Marlene Tomczak, Kabetogama Township
- Mark St. Lawrence, St. Louis County
- Larry Warrington, Kabetogama Fire Department
- Mike Musich, International Falls Police Dept.
- Nancy Johnson, PFA

- Brian Fitzpatrick, MPCA
- Jim Pucel, Utility Systems of America
- Kenny Huismann, Utility Systems of America
- Brian Koski, Wex/Septic Check
- James Hoffman, Wex/Septic Check
- Jeff Schanche, Viita's Excavating
- James Fincher, Viita's Excavating
- Rick Viita, Viita's Excavating
- Sharon Decker, Decker Planning & Research
- Larry Warrington, Arrowhead Lodge
- Terry Anderson, EBI Drilling
- Ben Vitek, Ground Effects
- Craig Lanyk, Lanyk Electric

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TRAFFIC CONTROL INSPECTION CHECKLIST

PROJECT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

1. Are any traffic control devices missing?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	How Many? _____
2. Do any traffic control devices need repair?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	How Many? _____
3. Were any traffic control devices replaced or repaired?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	How Many? _____

4. Are any lights/flashers not functioning?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	How Many? _____
5. Were any lights/flashers replaced or repaired?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	How Many? _____

6. Are any traffic control devices improperly placed?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	How Many? _____
7. Were all traffic control device positions corrected?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	

8. Do any traffic control devices need cleaning?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	How Many? _____
9. Were all traffic control devices cleaned?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	

THIS TRAFFIC CONTROL INSPECTION WAS PERFORMED BY:

of

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Title) (Name of Contractor)

ON \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ AT \_\_\_\_ (AM PM)

ADDITIONAL  
COMMENTS:

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March 14, 2016

Town of Kabetogama  
Town Clerk - Mary Manninen  
Box 191  
Kabetogama, MN 56669

**LEASE FINAL APPROVAL**

RE: Miscellaneous Lease # LMIS010056  
Land Description: S8, T69N, R21W  
St Louis County

Dear Lessee,

Enclosed is a completed copy for the above lease. Please keep this lease as a record of your agreement with the State. This lease will expire on December 31, 2035.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the above address or call me at 218-328-8921.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Debra Filipovich', written over a faint circular watermark.

Debra Filipovich,  
Sr. Realty Specialist  
Division of Lands and Minerals

Enclosure

CC: Forestry - St Paul  
St Louis County Auditor  
St Louis County Assessor  
St Louis County Tax Division

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy  
Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works  
108 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-0108

Dear Assistant Secretary Darcy:

Thank you for your response on December 14, 2015 to our letter regarding funding for the Voyageurs National Park (VNP) Clean Water Project under the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Army Civil Works program budget. With the passage of appropriations legislation for FY 2016, we again urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to support the VNP Clean Water Project as it allocates funds for environmental infrastructure projects.

VNP was authorized by Congress in 1971 and formally established in 1975. It is a national treasure, with 84,000 acres of water and 134,000 acres of land enjoyed annually by thousands of visitors from across the United States, Canada, and other countries. As elected officials representing Minnesota, we are rightly concerned about protecting the water quality of our nation's premier water-based Park. Unfortunately, these waters can be contaminated by wastewater from existing developments. The water quality degradation threatens the long-term health of the ecosystem and the economic health of the tourism industry upon which a considerable share of the local economy is based.

The VNP Clean Water Project is critical for Minnesotans in the rural areas of Koochiching and St. Louis Counties where poverty far exceeds the statewide rate. In addition to the jobs and regional economic impact accompanying this project, it would provide higher water quality and long-term wastewater treatment solutions.

In the FY 2016 omnibus, Congress provided an additional \$55 million for environmental infrastructure projects such as the VNP Clean Water Project. Furthermore, Congress instructed to USACE to prioritize environmental infrastructure projects with great economic impact, projects in rural communities, and projects in counties with high poverty rates. Based on these factors and the numerous benefits to Minnesota's environment and rural economy, we ask you to allocate environmental infrastructure funding to this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to your response and to working with you to move the VNP Clean Water Project forward.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar  
U.S. Senate



Al Franken  
U.S. Senate



Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress



Timothy J. Walz  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress