

November 28, 2006

Dear Senator Kedzie, Members of the Special Committee on Great Lakes Water Resources Compact, and John Stolzenberg – Chief of Research Services:

Thank you for this opportunity to address the Great Lakes Compact Study Committee in regard to the “surface water divide” versus “deep groundwater/tributary groundwater” argument regarding the definition of the Lake Michigan Basin that been forwarded by the City of Waukesha.

Please allow me to provide a bit of background about myself to the committee members. Elected to the Office of Mayor in 1989, one of my immediate focuses became the growth and refinement of the Manitowoc Public Utilities (MPU). MPU is a huge community asset and its continued expansion promotes both lower electric and water rates for our customers and larger profits and more opportunities for our commercial and manufacturing industries. By virtue of office, the Mayor is a member of the seven-person commission that sets policy and conducts business for MPU.

Manitowoc is home to the two solid fuel electric generating facilities most recently built in Wisconsin. The newest, built over the past two years, has not yet gone “commercial”, although we are currently selling 20MWH of power in the wholesale market place. This is a “mercury free”, clean coal technology plant, which has dramatically reduced our electric utility’s emissions and impact on the Lake. The other plant, also employing clean coal technology, was commissioned in 1990.

By mid 2007, Manitowoc will become home to the largest micro-filtration plant in North America. Micro-filtration provides an absolute barrier to cryptosporidium, giardia and other water borne bacteria.

My passion for safe, low cost drinking water for the people of Manitowoc has evolved into a focused effort to reduce pollutants entering Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes, and to work to assure the sustainability of the largest fresh water resource on our planet. For this reason, I am very concerned about the effort of Waukesha to convince committee members that “their” definition of what constructs the Lake Michigan/Huron Basin is better and more accurate than the definition already provided for in the Great Lakes Compact itself.



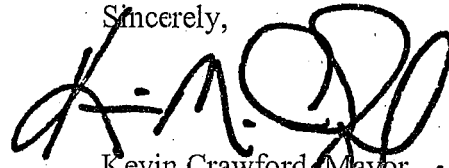
OFFICE OF MAYOR



Waukesha clearly resides outside of the Lake Michigan/Huron Basin as defined by the science employed by the drafters of the compact and a political decision by the members of the Joint Legislative Council Special Committee on the Great Lakes Water Resources Compact cannot change this fact.

It has always been the intent of those holding the fiduciary responsibility for the sustainability of the Great Lakes to return water once diverted from the basin back to the basin. Waukesha simply cannot accomplish this basic element of sustainability for the Lake Michigan/Huron Basin and all of the Great Lakes.

Sincerely,



Kevin Crawford, Mayor
City of Manitowish