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**DNR review nearing completion on Waukesha diversion application**

*Documents expected to be ready for regional review in 30 to 60 days*

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is completing its review of the city of Waukesha’s water diversion application.

Within 30 to 60 days, the department intends to forward the technical review, a preliminary final environmental impact statement and application materials to the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Water Resources Regional Body, which is composed of the other Great Lakes states and Canadian provinces of Quebec and Ontario for regional review.

This summer, DNR invited the public to provide input on the draft documents through written comments for more than 60 days and received public testimony at three hearings held on August 17 and 18. The department has reviewed the comments, and is incorporating the comments and responses into the technical review and environmental impact statement.

“To those who took the time to provide input, thank you,” said Eric Ebersberger, deputy division administrator for DNR’s environmental management division. “We received approximately 3,600 comments. The feedback demonstrates the public’s strong interest in this extensive process and we appreciate the involvement. As we work with the other Great Lake states and provinces on a regional review, there will be additional opportunities for input.”

If the application is approved by the Great Lakes states through the regional review process, the city of Waukesha would begin the necessary steps to obtain the required state permits for diverting Lake Michigan water. The city of Waukesha has applied to withdraw up to an annual average of 10.1 million gallons of water per day with a maximum of 16.7 million gallons per day to serve the water supply service area. The city proposes to obtain water from the Oak Creek Water Utility and discharge treated wastewater to the Root River.

General information on the city of Waukesha’s diversion application can be found at [DNR.wi.gov](http://DNR.wi.gov), search “[Waukesha diversion application](#).” More information about the [Great Lakes Compact](#) is also available.

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