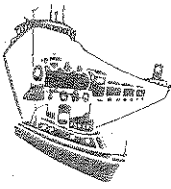


Representative MIKE BEARD



CITY OF TWO HARBORS

522 First Avenue • Two Harbors, MN 55616
(218) 834-5631 • FAX (218) 834-2674

LEE A. KLEIN
Administrator

April 21, 2011

The Honorable Representative Michael Beard
417 State Office Building
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Representative Beard:

Please be informed that the City Council, at their meeting held on April 11, 2011, passed a motion supporting your bill, HF182, and SF196, which will place a two-year moratorium on new water testing rules from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and would require several State agencies to conduct studies identifying and analyzing the cost impact of rulemaking related to various types of water use.

The City of Two Harbors strongly favors a study such as that called for in HF182 and SF196. The City is currently working through a process to meet a more stringent mercury reduction mandate. We do not know what the ultimate cost will be, however, we have seen other cities plan to incur costs of between \$5 million to \$106 million to meet this mandate. The City has just hired an engineer and expects to have firmer cost estimates in the near future.

The City does not intend to argue for or against the inclusion of particular substances on the list of contaminants that must be removed from drinking water or wastewater, however, elected and appointed officials should be provided with information that will help focus attention on the dramatically increasing costs of clean water. This information will, hopefully, lead to wise policy decisions.

Thank you for sponsoring HF182.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee A. Klein".

Lee A. Klein
Administrator

CC: Representative David Dill