

October 24, 2006

To: Bill Kalar, Land and Resource Director  
Land and Resource Management  
540 Fir Ave. West  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

RECEIVED  
OCT 26 2005  
LAND & RESOURCE

From: Mervin and Phyllis Freeman  
34147 Freeman Beach Road  
Richville, MN 56576

Re: Public response to EIS Scoping of Blue Heron Bay proposals.

We are long time property owners on Dead Lake and Otter Tail County residents. As such we have observed many changes over time to the Dead Lake environment. The current proposals by Bue Heron developers greatly concerns us. Because of it's many inherent problems Dead Lake was named a Natural Environment Lake for good reason.

For many years we have been involved with water quality testing on the lake. We have seen the water clarity decline, the suspended phosphorus reach alarming levels at times, and the Trophic State Index (TSI) which indicates water quality, average in the high 40's and low 50's. These levels indicate that Dead Lake is in potential serious trouble. Additional development pressure on this lake, if not done in an environmentally friendly way, could mean the death of the lake as we know it. Higher TSI levels would mean increased green algae blooms, less oxygen, and fish kills. Those of us who live on Dead Lake are aware of this, and are rightly concerned about the impact of a large development on this lake.

Of particular concern are statements which we have recently heard which state very little needs to be added to the facts presented in the EAW. The Court of Appeals was very clear that the adverse environmental effects of the project were not adequately identified and evaluated. The Dead Lake Association has identified several of the areas of concern, none of them sufficiently evaluated in the EAW. We feel strongly each of those areas must be addressed in the EIS.

The Dead Lake Ass'n. also recommended that a consultant be named to assist in the development and collection of data required for the EIS. County officials seemed to agree, but thus far none has been named. We strongly urge that action in that regard be taken quickly. The blueprint for the EIS is of utmost importance and persons knowledgeable in that field are invaluable resources. We also endorse the recommendation to form of a committee to review and monitor progress on the EIS.

Otter Tail County has more lakes than any county in this nation. Because of this, the leadership of this county has the obligation to use this precious resource wisely to preserve it for future generations. We therefore respectfully ask that for the sake of Dead Lake, a comprehensive EIS be undertaken.

Sincerely,



Mervin and Phyllis Freeman

cc: Commissioners Syd Nelson, Malcolm Lee, Bob Block, Dennis Mosher, Roger Froemming