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MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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March 11, 2008

The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor of Michigan  
Ground Floor – Romney Building  
P.O. Box 30013  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Granholm,

I would like to express the collective concerns of the district I represent regarding the waste water injection well application that was recently approved by your administration. In doing so, I respectfully ask that you take all necessary actions to revoke this permit immediately.

Last week I attended a public forum concerning the injection well that has been approved in Star Township, Antrim County. Hundreds of concerned property owners, community leaders and residents of northern Michigan packed the hearing room to convey their displeasure with the actions taken by the Environmental Protection Agency and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality over this permit.

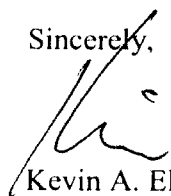
Having reviewed the approved permit, I find it concerning that the bonding level set for this project will cover little if any of the potential reclamation costs associated with an unexpected well-head leak(s) or further ground water contamination that could result from this permitted activity. As you are too well aware, Antrim county residents are already dealing with the devastation associated with Tar Lake, where millions of tax-dollars are being used to clean up contaminated ground water that contains benzene and 2, 4-dimethylphenol above acceptable levels.

While residents of northern Michigan are overwhelmingly opposed to this injection well, we feel your administration's action in approving this well, just miles away from Tar Lake, with a bonding level of \$40,000 is a direct insult. We believe the approval of this permit and the insufficient bonding level illustrates a lack of environmental stewardship to protect the well being of northern Michigan's precious groundwater resources and adjacent watersheds.

I have maintained all along throughout the application period that this decision should rest in the hands of the state's environmental experts. I still believe that the Legislature shouldn't be making geological and or environmentally scientific decisions about the placement of such wells. Having said that, I cannot in good conscience stand idly by as the environmental concerns of the district I represent are ignored and environmental bonding standards that would provide a community with tools for safekeeping its water resources are marginalized.

I ask of you today, not as a politician, nor as a lawmaker, but rather, as a concerned steward of our state's precious natural resources to use powers vested in you under the Constitution to revoke this permit. Thank you for listening to these concerns. I anxiously await your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin A. Elsenheimer', written in a cursive style.

Kevin A. Elsenheimer  
State Representative  
105<sup>th</sup> House District