

If Consolidated Papers can be at .67 mg/l so can the other mills. I have attached for your review the final Determination of WDNR on this hearing.

On another related Algae issue: Why was Ore-ida Foods permitted to operate at 47 mg/l? And why is Ore-ida Foods permitted to operate at 25 mg/l? Is this a case of WDNR not being a Department of Natural Resources?

The PCPOA labored long and hard for NR 217 and had great expectations for cleaner water until WDNR started handing out variances. We were advised by DNR expert Jim Kreitlow that if all paper mills came to 1 mg/l our lakes would clean up in five years. He was right on target. Following the enactment of NR 217, our lakes saw a great reduction in algae and one could see their own feet in the water while wading waist high.

The situation reversed itself when WDNR started handing out variances like candy canes at Christmas. The PCPOA is bound and determined to pursue whatever avenue is necessary to bring these polluters in line with NR 217. Is the DNR going to ride on our coat-tails again !!! Or take action? By granting variances for phosphorus, Petenwell and Castle Rock Lakes have become the #1 and #2 cesspools in our state if not the USA.

The people using our lakes these past few years are complaining of sore eyes, sore throats and rashes, it is the recommendation of PCPOA that these lakes be closed to swimming, water skiing and other related water contact sports until the situation is remedied.

- 2) Carp. Carp cannot be harvested from Petenwell - Castle Rock because the dioxin levels in the fish exceed the Federal Standards for consumption. Commercial Carp Harvesting ended in 1983 when John Diehl pulled his nets and went back to LaCrosse on the Mississippi River, REASON: dioxin in the carp.

Whose to blame for the dioxin, the Paper Mills; WDNR has done nothing that we know of to try and reduce industry's polluting of our fish. The PCPOA recommended several ways to reduce the carp population but was met with a stone-wall by WDNR on all issues. The WDNR came up with a plan to reduce the population of carp but it was greeted by a stone-wall from WI Dept. of Ag. The WDNR estimate of carp per acre is approximately 265, PCPOA estimate is closer to 350 carp per acre, in any event there are just too many carp in our lakes and too many excuses from WDNR on why we can't do something about it. Does WDNR have a plan to remove carp from our lakes?

Our opinion is it is now time for Industry to "pony up to the bar" and pay for the removal of carp from our lakes. They created the problem and they can help solve the environmental mess they created. Carp can be burned with no harm to the environment and there are incinerators within driving distance that can handle all the carp in our lakes.

- 3) Mercury. Petenwell - Castle Rock was closed for swimming, fishing and other related water activities in the year 1972 and as stated previously our lakes should be closed again for the same reason. Enclosed is the report on Wisconsin's 20 largest mercury polluters. Together the 20 businesses unload 3,335.30 pounds of mercury into our air, of the 3,335.30 pounds of mercury the WDNR has permitted two polluters, Vulcan Materials Co. and Domtar Paper Mill to unload 1,111.2 pounds of mercury and 25.5 pounds of mercury respectively. Adding the two together the total polluted pounds is 1,136.70. This represents 34% of the total pollution of the top 20 companies.