



June 23, 2004

To: Senators and Representatives on the Joint Committee on Review of Administrative Rules
Re: **Support for Emergency Rule NR 1.1016, 1.105, 1.106, 1.107 and NR328 to implement Act 118, formerly known as the Job Creation Act.**
From: WLCV Political Committee; Bill Pielsticker, Chair

The Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters urges you to support the emergency rules issued by the DNR to implement Wisconsin Act 118. As you know, the League opposed the process that created this legislation as well as the legislation itself. Our opposition was based on our concerns regarding damage to the state's waters and the flora and fauna that rely on them. In response, the Governor and legislative leaders assured us that nothing in Act 118 would allow activities that would cause environmental harm.

The DNR, acting upon those assurances, spent considerable time and effort reviewing the provisions of Act 118 and writing a set of emergency rules that would both implement the new statute and at the same time protect the public's lakes and streams. The agency, with its water quality specialists, biologists, and policy analysts, produced the rules being reviewed today. We support these rules as a necessary step to insure that the general permits and other permits authorized by Act 118 do not harm the waters of the state.

We strongly encourage you to support these emergency rules. Leave them in place and let the DNR see how they work as the agency works on a package of permanent rules. If these rules need amendment, the appropriate place to make changes is in the permanent rules.

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The mission of the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters includes educating the voting public about key conservation issues. Our Scorecard Committee, composed of 15 conservation experts state-wide, assists in the production of our Conservation Scorecard presenting key votes on conservation and environmental legislation each year.

The *Wisconsin Conservation Briefing Book 2003-2004*, prepared in collaboration with more than 30 environmental and conservation groups, land trusts, government advisors and academics, serves as the basis for many policy positions taken by the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters. This resource, which provides background information on conservation issues, detailed policy recommendations, and resource directories was delivered to your office earlier this year. For an additional copy of the *Briefing Book*, please contact the WLCV office or visit our website at [www.conservationvoters.org](http://www.conservationvoters.org).

If you have any questions about this bill or any other Wisconsin conservation issue, please do not hesitate to contact the WLCV office at (608) 850-4585.

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