

East Troy Times
P.O. Box 274,
East Troy, WI 53120
5/9/05

Dear Editor,

I applaud the East Troy Village Board for their May 4th, 2005 letter to the editor. The Lake Beulah Management District whole-heartedly supports the concept of fostering an open and honest public discussion of the environmental and regulatory issues tied to the high-capacity well to be located adjacent to Lake Beulah. The East Troy Village Board members are invited to participate in a Town Hall Meeting on the subject, now being organized for mid-June.

The East Troy Village Board has proposed that "Over the next few months, the East Troy Village Board will provide area residents with short overviews and updates of current water issues facing the community." Providing the community with the facts behind the controversial high capacity well will allow the citizens a chance to objectively weigh the environmental evidence and decide for themselves whether an alternate location should be chosen. I am confident that both the members of the Lake Beulah Management District and the East Troy Village Board want a solution that provides safe drinking water for the village while not threatening the area lakes and rivers village residents enjoy for fishing, swimming, boating and spending time with family.

The Town Hall Meeting in mid-June will be hosted by area lake groups such as the Lake Beulah Protective and Improvement Association, the Phantom Lake Management District, the Lake Beulah Management District and others. Invited guests will include experts on environmental planning, hydro-geology, and water regulations. We expect that state and local officials representing the area will be eager to participate in this event considering the amount of interest this issue has generated.

If the East Troy Village Board members are sincere in wanting to "set the record straight," and we believe they are, they should present their case to the community at the Town Hall Meeting in June.

The issue is not whether the Village needs a well or not. The issue is how to select a well location that will not cause irreparable harm to area lakes and rivers. In the same issue as the Village's letter to the editor, the paper ran a story about the recent state lakes convention (Lake Beulah Reps Attend State Lakes Convention, 5/4/05). The story quotes the Wisconsin Attorney General's message at the convention in which she states, "I remain concerned about the potential effects on our navigable lakes and streams from high-capacity well pumping of our groundwater...One such case is Lake Beulah...We are monitoring this action carefully, and are cognizant of the state's public trust duty to protect lake water from the adverse effects of high-capacity well pumping."

The state's "Top Cop" responsible for enforcing environmental regulations is concerned about the high-capacity well adjacent to Lake Beulah just as the community that enjoys this wonderful lake is concerned.

Sincerely,
David Skotarzak, Chairman
Lake Beulah Management District
(414) 510-7603