

Dennis Kaleta

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important issue. I believe the MPCA should enforce the 10ppm wild rice sulfate standard without exception, as that has been found to be the threshold for wild rice impairment. The Clean Water Act should be enforced across the state. The protection of our waters is of the utmost importance. I live in northeastern Minnesota where sulfate levels in our waters are relatively low and they should be kept at that level, without degradation. I depend on the state to manage our waters so that these low levels of sulfates and our wild rice are protected. In that regard, I ask that the MPCA use the best science when protecting our waters. Any site-specific exception should be scientifically proven that it will not harm wild rice waters. Finally, no site-specific standards for discharge of sulfates in wild rice waters should be approved without tribal consultation and consent, and formal and public rulemaking process.

Thank you.
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