

Lorraine Rovig

Dear Staff Members of MPCA,

I insist you make immediate changes in line with your lawful purpose. When I was a child in this state we did not have any lakes or rivers that had the necessity to warn people the water was dangerous to our health for drinking, swimming in, or fishing in. I totally agree with the following talking points:

> MPCA must control sulfate pollution, complete Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies, and commit to restore sulfate and mercury impaired waters in Minnesota:

> MPCA has made no commitment to limit sulfate loads and restore Minnesota wild rice waters impaired due to sulfate by any date.

MPCA must update taconite permits, add sulfate limits, and penalize violations of permits that have sulfate limits. These actions alone could restore half of Minnesota's 55 wild rice waters listed as impaired due to sulfate pollution.

> MPCA has planned no individual TMDL studies of 75 percent of Minnesota waterbodies impaired by excessive mercury. In fact, they only plan to start TMDL studies for 4 percent of Minnesota mercury impaired waters.

MPCA must accept the science that sulfate, among other factors, exacerbates mercury contamination from air emissions and complete individual and rigorous mercury TMDL studies that protect fish, public health, and the exercise of treaty-reserved rights.

THEREFORE, MPCA Staff, I pray and insist you work swiftly to correct these huge failures to safeguard our Minnesota water and, thereby, the health of all living things in our state. Living today in "The Land of 10,000 Lakes" with over 6,000 no longer classified as clean water is nothing to be proud of.

I'll be watching,
Lorraine Rovig