

## Anna Larsson

I support the efforts of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to identify and list impaired water bodies, including sulfate-impaired wild rice producing waters, in the state. Additionally, I urge the MPCA to take rapid and forceful action to restore the listed waters to a healthy status.

The MPCA needs to start acting on behalf of the people of Minnesota and not the business interests, which may or may not be based in Minnesota, that want to use our state's natural resources. For too long, businesses have been allowed to make money from our state's natural resources without the responsibilities of good citizenship and without treating our common environment with respect.

I have spent my career in business, and I have seen firsthand that big business prioritizes its earnings over the common good. Businesses aren't bad, they are just responding to the incentives inherent in the game they are playing. Pollution and negative environmental impacts are externalities that the business doesn't care about unless it is made to. The MPCA needs to do its job and protect the Minnesota environment. Until we place strong regulations on businesses and have credible enforcement mechanisms in place to support those regulations, businesses will continue to run roughshod over our environment and our common interests. Business is playing its role in the game by focusing on making money, and the MPCA needs to start playing its role by looking out for Minnesotans and our environment.

The fact that the list of impaired waters is growing and new water bodies are being added highlights the MPCA's lack of effective action in this area. I look forward to seeing a shorter list, with no new additions, the next time the impaired waters list is evaluated in 2025.