

**Subject:** Request for Environmental Study Regarding Permit Application for Sewage Treatment Plant, Wells, and Related Development

Katherine And Douglas Faltesek  
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Hugo, MN 55038  
4-30-2025

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Members of the MPCA,

I am writing to raise significant concerns regarding the permit application submitted by Liberty Classical Academy to construct a sewage treatment plant, drill three new wells, and develop associated facilities near the Goggins Lake wetland area and the headwaters of Browns Creek. This region holds immense ecological importance as Browns Creek supports a designated trout habitat and includes sensitive wetland ecosystems.

In addition to the potential impacts on water quality and aquatic habitats, I am deeply concerned about the environmental effects of other aspects of the proposed development. Goggins and several surrounding water bodies already have green scum and algae starting to cover the surface and it is not even full summer. The construction of drain fields, treatment ponds, parking lots and ball fields will inevitably introduce extensive hard surfaces, leading to a heat island with increased runoff and the potential for pollutants to enter the wetland and waterway systems. Fertilizer use on the fields raises further alarm due to the potential for nutrient runoff, which will further harm water quality and completely clog water surfaces with more scum. Additionally, the day-to-day operations of the school, including janitorial chemical use, present another avenue for harmful substances to enter and degrade the local environment and pollute well water.

To safeguard these crucial ecosystems, I respectfully request that the MPCA conduct a comprehensive environmental impact study to thoroughly assess the potential effects of the proposed development on aquifer water levels, water quality, wildlife habitats, and overall environmental health. Such a study will ensure that all potential risks are fully evaluated and addressed. I am very skeptical of the impact work done thus far by the DNR, Browns Creek Water Shed and the MPCA because of historical damage allowed to occur to the aquifers and lakes in the metro area. Aside from contaminated and depleted water Aquifers and contaminated lakes, loopholes in your permitting allowing for construction

and habitat destruction have now largely rendered shorelines un-inhabitable by native wildlife in the name of progress and furthering taxpayer base.

Protecting what is left of any natural area, the lakes, habitat, surrounding wetlands and the headwaters of Browns Creek is a shared responsibility that we owe not only to the community but also to future generations. I trust the MPCA will take these concerns into careful consideration and act with due diligence in conducting a thorough long-term environmental impact study before reviewing this permit application. Let us not have to enter into litigation and write grants to raise money to restore/fix in retrospect, which you can prevent now!!!

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We welcome the opportunity to provide Pictures of the already floating scum or provide further input. We can be reached at 612-816-0328 or kfalty@gmail.com.

Sincerely,  
Katherine and Douglas Faltsek