

## Fw: Opposition to MMSD proposal for Badger Mill Creek

Tanya Sime <tanyas@capitalarearpc.org>

Tue 7/9/2024 11:35 AM

To: Nick Bower <nickb@capitalarearpc.org>

Tanya Sime  
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**From:** Kathleen Falk <kathleenfalk@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 9, 2024 10:19 AM  
**To:** Tanya Sime <tanyas@capitalarearpc.org>  
**Subject:** Opposition to MMSD proposal for Badger Mill Creek

Dear CARPC Commissioners,

For many years, Dane County, WI DNR, MMSD and important local organizations such as the Sugar River Watershed Restoration Association, Southwestern WI Trout Unlimited, Friends of Badger Mill Creek, and many individuals, have worked together collaboratively and in partnership to improve Badger Mill Creek -- so successfully that BMC is now a thriving cold water fishery. The discharge of clean effluent from MMSD into BMC is a key piece in this successful water quality improvement work.

So it is was a complete surprise when MMSD staff announced in 2023 that it recommended that MMSD discontinue discharging clean effluent. Given the immediate concerns raised by the WI DNR fish biologists and water quality experts, along with the almost unanimous input from almost 100 people and organizations (including me, former County Executive Parisi, the Verona and Madison mayors, the SRWRA, SWTU, Friends of BMC, it was a complete surprise and disappointment when the MMSD Commission adopted that recommendation.

I write as the former Dane County Executive who has been both proud and appreciative of the historic collaboration, and am chagrined about what the breakdown of this partnership means for the future on other potential work (or lack thereof ) by all these leaders and organizations with MMSD.

I note also that it is very rare ( perhaps never before?) that the *elimination* of a discharge to a creek has occurred,,,,, a creek whose improvement *depends upon the discharge*. Given this novel situation, I urge CARPC to do an Environmental Impact Statement on the topic of *this* withdrawal and what the water quality issues are for any *future* such proposal and how they should best be addressed.

Consequently, for all these reasons, I respectfully and sincerely urge you to reject the MMSD proposal at this time.

Kathleen Falk  
Dane County Executive (1997-2011)

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