



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

December 18, 2017

Sen. Rob Cowles, Chair
Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committee
118 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Rep. Cody Horlacher, Chair
Assembly Committee on Regulatory License Reform
214 North, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Chairmen Cowles and Horlacher,

We ask that you postpone the joint hearing scheduled for Thursday, December 21st on Senate Bill 600/Assembly Bill 547 which eliminates protections for isolated wetlands in Wisconsin. From the time of its release, this bill has been extremely controversial and deserves careful thought and scrutiny. We believe that you agree with this, as discussions and negotiations with the bill authors, committee chairs and some interested parties have been occurring behind closed doors for the past several weeks.

While we would appreciate being included in these conversations, it is the decision of the authors who to speak with about changes to their bill. However, because it appears that multiple amendments or a substitute amendment will be introduced as a result of your negotiations, it would be beneficial to the public and minority members of the committee to hold a public hearing when revised bill language is available. Holding a public hearing on a bill where substantial changes have been agreed to, but where the public and minority have not seen language, is not a fair representation of what legislation is truly being considered by the committee.

We are always ready and willing to participate in any discussions on legislation and would welcome the opportunity to be included in your negotiations. We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Sen. Mark Miller
16th Senate District

Sen. Dave Hansen
30th Senate District

Rep. Jimmy Anderson
47th Assembly District

Rep. Jonathan Brostoff
19th Assembly District

Rep. Eric Genrich
90th Assembly District