



Town of Prairie du Sac

March 16, 2013

To: US Army

US Dept of Agriculture

Wisconsin Public Service Commission

Merrimac Town Board

Sumpter Town Board

From: Prairie du Sac Town Board

Re: Petition to establish a utility district to provide a municipal water system in the Towns of Merrimac, Sumpter, and Prairie du Sac.

The Town Board of Prairie du Sac is requesting the Town of Merrimac and Town of Sumpter Boards join informally asking that any petition to establish a utility district be put to a referendum to be voted on by all the property owners affected by the formation of the district. While we understand that the Wisconsin State Statutes provides several different methods for petitioning the formation of such a district, we do not believe that the current method being used by two majority land owners (the Department of the Army and the USDA) is at all appropriate in this particular situation. This process allows 2 of the 300+ affected property owners to solely determine the need for the system although all the property owners in the proposed district are impacted by this decision and yet are not allowed a voice. It is also unusual, if not unprecedented, that two government agencies that have no long term vested interest in the establishment of the district, other than terminating a public trust obligation, can be the sole judges of the benefits of the system, without the input of local residents of the proposed district.

We ask that the Merrimac Town Board reject any petition by the majority property owners (US Army and USDA) and instead request that these interested parties place a referendum on the ballot so that a democratic process is followed that allows all affected property owners in the district their due process.