

Attachment 2

I write in response to the December 2 article, "Commission Report Backs Waukesha Lake Water Bid." The article references a socioeconomic study of SEWRPC's water supply plan conducted by the UWM Center for Economic Development. As the project manager for that study, I would like to make an important clarification. Our study found major socioeconomic imbalances in the Milwaukee region, which we expect will continue whether or not Waukesha receives Lake Michigan water. The consensus by geologists who have studied this issue extensively is that Waukesha's groundwater supplies, if properly managed, are sufficient to support planned development through the year 2035. Waukesha may prefer Lake Michigan water to its current supply, but it does not need Lake Michigan water to realize its development plans, at least not through the year 2035.

Joel Rast

**Associate Professor of Political Science and Urban Studies
Director, UWM Center for Economic Development**