

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item**

SUBJECT: Request Board approval of department recommendation to initiate a strategic analysis of the industrial sand mining industry in Wisconsin.

FOR: January 2015 Board meeting

TO BE PRESENTED BY: David Siebert, Director, Bureau of Environmental Analysis and Sustainability

SUMMARY:

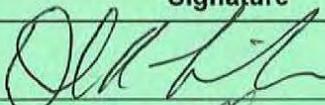
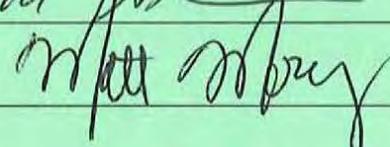
In 2011, the department presented to the Board a study of air-related matters concerning the mining of silica sand, and in 2012 the department prepared a detailed summary document of information regarding the industry. At the October 2014 Board meeting, Midwest Environmental Advocates presented a "Petition for a Strategic Analysis of Frac Sand Mining", that requested the Board to "direct the DNR to exercise its discretion under 150.10 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code to conduct a strategic analysis of frac sand mining."

The department proposes to update the 2012 report with more current information, as part of a "strategic analysis" pursuant to s. NR150.10, Wis. Adm. Code. The department would initiate the analysis with a public scoping process to help identify potential issues to address in the report.

RECOMMENDATION: Initiate a strategic analysis of the industrial sand mining industry in Wisconsin.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS (check all that are applicable):

- Background memo
- Type name of attachment if applicable
- Type name of attachment if applicable
- Type name of attachment if applicable

Approved by	Signature	Date
David Siebert Bureau Director		1/8/15
Pat Stevens, AWaRe Division Administrator		1/8/15
 Cathy Stepp, Secretary		1/12/15

cc: Board Liaison – AD/8