DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

190 FIFTH STREET EAST

ST. PAUL, MN 55101-1638

April 7, 2008

Planning, Programs and Project Management Division Environmental and Economic Analysis Branch

SUBJECT: Sturgeon Lake WWTF Rapid Infiltration Basins and Wastewater Collection Force Main Project, Pine County, Minnesota, Section 569 Program

Mr. Dennis Gimmestad Government Programs and Compliance Officer State Historic Preservation Office Minnesota Historical Society 345 Kellogg Boulevard West St. Paul, Minnesota 55102-1906

Dear Mr. Gimmestad:

The city of Sturgeon Lake (City) is proposing to add wastewater rapid infiltration basins (RIBs) within the City's existing, recently constructed wastewater treatment facility site in the SW¼, Section 14, Township 45 North, Range 20 West, Pine County (Figures 1, 2 and 3). The City is also proposing to construct 5360.27 linear feet of wastewater collection force main pipeline in the highway right-of-way along the north side of County State Aid Highway 46 (Laketown Road) between General Andrews Drive and Interstate 35 in the SE¼, Section 13, Township 45 North, Range 20 West and the S½S½, Section 18, Township 45 North, Range 19 West, Pine County (Figures 1 and 4-7). The City requested the assistance of the St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) under Section 569 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, the Northeastern Minnesota Environmental Infrastructure and Resources Protection and Development Program. Under Section 569, the Corps will fund 75 percent of the project and the City the remaining 25 percent, thus Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act comes into play as this becomes a federal undertaking. Previous work at the recently constructed wastewater treatment facility and on the wastewater collection system was coordinated by LHB Engineers and Architects, Inc. for the City under SHPO number 2006-2482.

As of April 1, 2008, there are no National Register of Historic Places listed or eligible properties in either the proposed RIBs or force main project areas. A check of the archeology and standing structure files at the State Historic Preservation Office on April 4, 2008, revealed no previously recorded archeological sites or standing structures in either of the project areas. No previous cultural resources surveys have been conducted at either construction area. The proposed location of the RIBs at the wastewater treatment facility is within a former gravel pit. The proposed location of the force main is in existing highway right-of-way. Both of these areas have been previously disturbed with little to no potential for intact cultural resources.

The Corps believes that there will be no effect on historic properties if the rapid infiltration basins and the wastewater collection force main pipeline are constructed where proposed. The Corps requests your concurrence in this no effect determination. Please provide your comments by May 12, 2008. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Virginia Gnabasik, Corps archeologist, at (651) 290-5262 or by email at virginia.r.gnabasik@usace.army.mil.

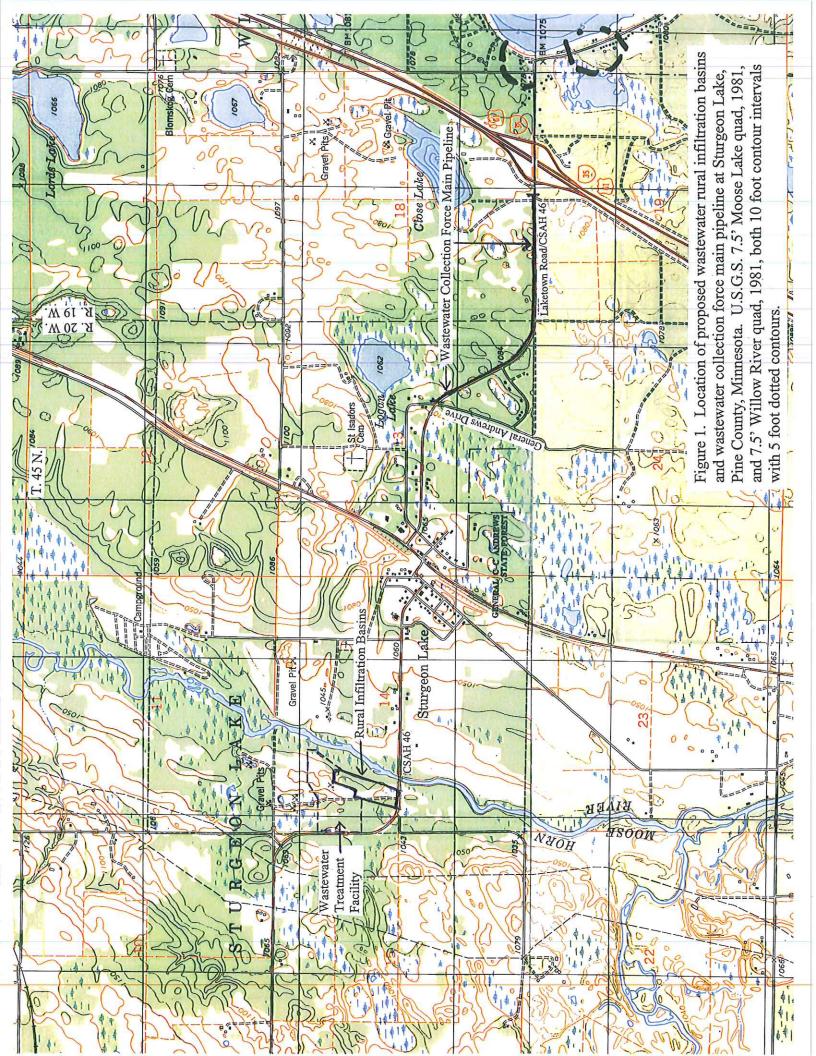
Sincerely,

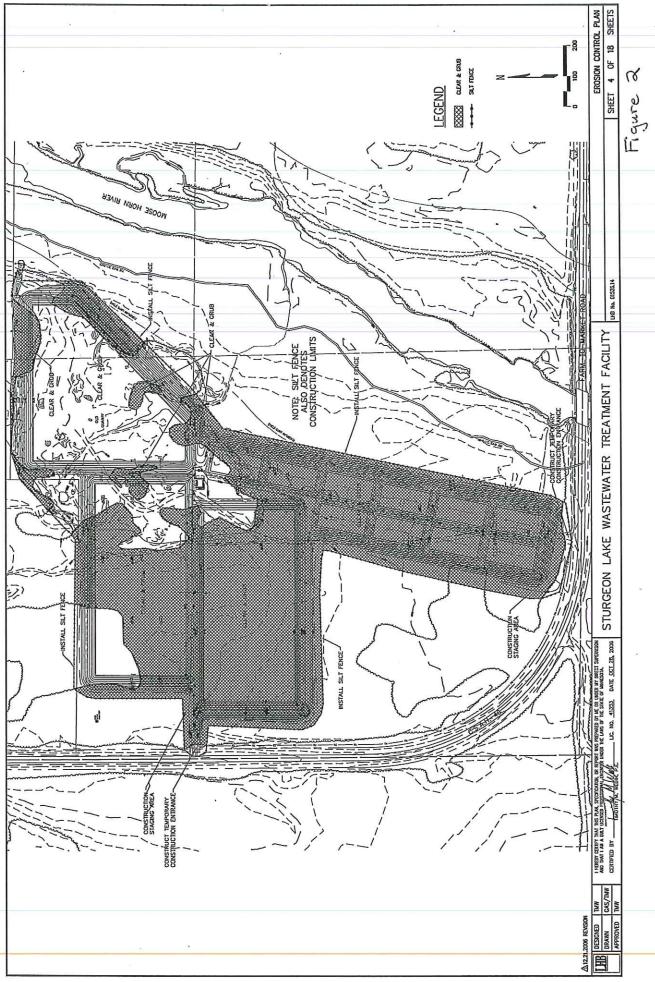
Terry J. Birkenstock

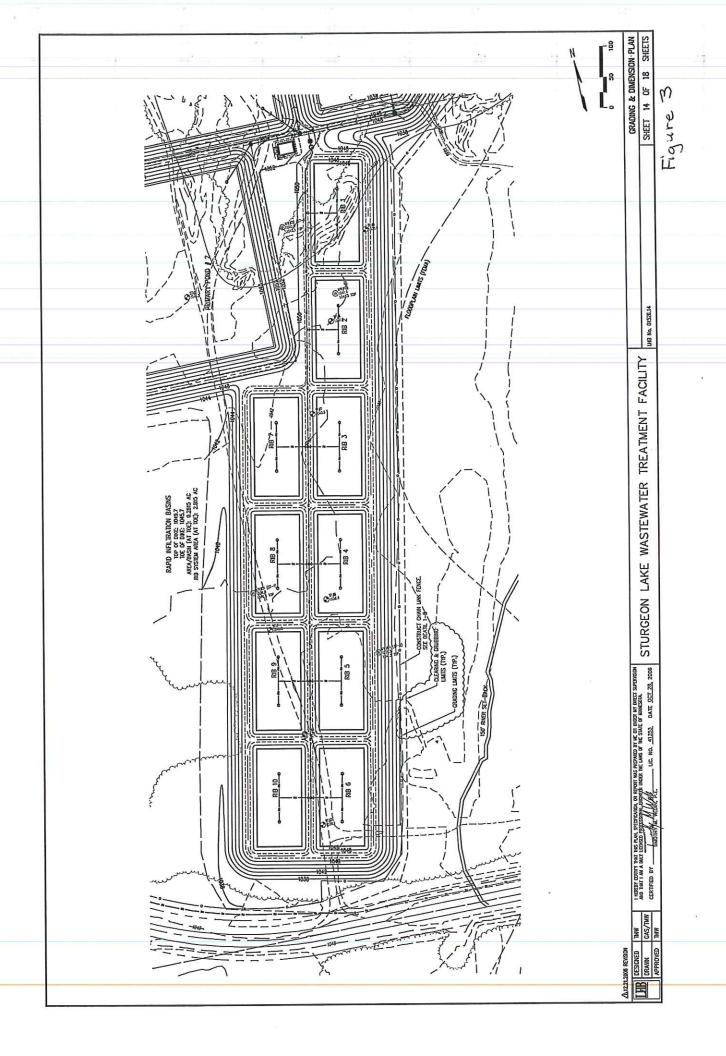
Chief, Environmental and Economic

Analysis Branch

Enclosures 7 figures







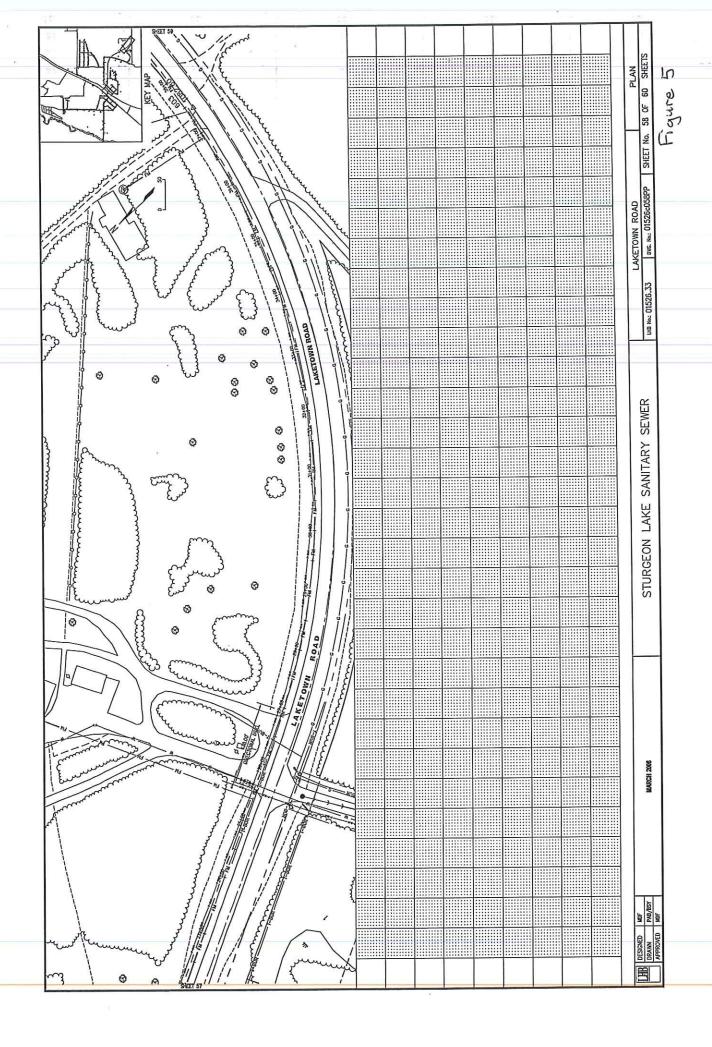


Figure 6

