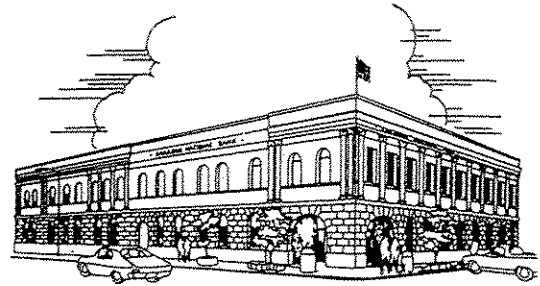


THE BARABOO NATIONAL BANK

(608) 356-7703

BUILDING
WITH BARABOO
SINCE 1857



101 3RD AVENUE • P.O. BOX 50 • BARABOO, WI 53913

February 10, 2006

Gentlemen:

The purpose of my letter is to respond to the recent OCC Bulletin #2006-2 regarding concentrations in commercial real estate lending and sound management practices. On the first page of the bulletin it indicates that comments will be accepted regarding these guidelines through March 16, 2006.

Although there may be a need for additional examination procedures, be careful in what will be required, specifically, from community banks regarding these matters. Community banks are seeing our historic sources of loans to manufacturing facilities being eroded. Many manufacturing activities are being outsourced to overseas locations and/or consolidated into more centralized production facilities. We are, therefore, having less opportunity to finance either new or existing manufacturing enterprises. We also have less of an opportunity to finance retail establishments. Our communities are now being served by larger retail stores who obtain financing and other services from a central corporate location. Therefore, retail lending also continues to be a challenge in terms of those organizations actually seeking this financing on a local level.

We also happen to be a banking organization that specifically serves a very robust tourist and recreation market. We may, therefore, have more loans in the categories that are being discussed than other banks not in high tourism areas. Placing limits too harsh on a community bank such as ours may make it difficult to generate adequate loan volume to remain viable as a community banking organization. Therefore, be very careful when setting the limits, regulations and requirements which you place, in general, on community banks.

If you would like to further discuss these matters, feel free to contact me at The Baraboo National Bank, tel. #(608) 356-7703 or my e-mail address at glindner@baraboonational.com.

Sincerely,

THE BARABOO NATIONAL BANK


Greg L. Lindner
President