

RE: Petition on Deer Lake

From: **Gregg Downing** (Gregg.Downing@state.mn.us)

Sent: Fri 6/02/06 1:59 PM

To: Holly Newton (hknewton@hotmail.com)

Holly,

Here is my reply to the points/questions in your email:

1. It is true that the threshold for a mandatory EAW for a commercial/institutional project such as a youth camp is 100,000 square feet of gross floor space in an unincorporated area. Further, Gross floor space is a defined term meaning "the total square footage of all floors but does not include parking lots or approach areas." As I indicated, historically we count all floors of all buildings on site, except parking areas. A "building" means a structure with a roof and walls, even partial ones.
2. It is true that we would include the gross floor space of the 6 buildings which the proposer is already entitled to build.
3. The protected waters and wetlands EAW category only applies if the project would physically encroach on one or more acres of protected waters. This means something would need to be placed permanently into the water covering at least one acre.
4. The natural areas EAW category only applies to encroachments on the specific types of areas in the list. Types of sensitive areas not on the list don't count.

I hope this helps.

Gregg Downing