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Physical Development Division

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Office of GIS
Parks Department
Office of Planning
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Transit Office
Transportation Department
Water Resources Office

Mr. Tom Montgomery
Public Works Director
City of Hastings
101 4th St E
Hastings MN 55033

Dear Tom:

I am writing this letter in support of the City of Hastings' efforts to promote renewable energy through a run-of-the-river hydroelectric project on the Mississippi River. We understand that this project generates electricity using the river's current and that the facility has a relatively small environmental footprint.

Over the past year Dakota County facilitated a visioning process to update the County's Comprehensive Plan. Through that process, our Advisory Panel, consisting of city representatives, businesses, non-profits, and school districts, enthusiastically supported efforts to promote renewable energy. This coming year, Dakota County will participate with Hastings and other cities in a High Performance Partnership (HiPP) to advance sustainability projects. Many of these projects will result in an increased investment in energy conservation and renewable energy. In fact, Dakota County is currently experimenting with renewable energy through the construction of a small wind generation facility at Scharr's Bluff that will provide electricity to the new visitor center.

In summary, we believe that there is a groundswell of interest in renewable energy and that the City of Hastings is demonstrating public leadership through the run-of-the-river hydroelectric project on the Mississippi River. We support your efforts and look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Greg Konat

