

From: Brodzeller, James
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 4:17 PM
To: Hilbert, Hans; Holloway, Rachel; Kodl, Curt
Cc: Violante, Todd; Hicklin, Laura; Balousek, Jeremy; Minks, Kyle
Subject: RE: Contact for a rezone
Attachments: Vienna Pothole Flyover_062009.pdf

Hi all,

Here's a synopsis of LWRD's concerns regarding the proposed rezone and intended use on Parcel 090921180003:

Following flood mitigation work on the Madison Sand & Gravel property to the east, the Vienna Pothole wetland complex now serves as an outlet for what used to be one of the largest internally drained areas in the county at approximately 7,000 acres. The water quality and flood abatement benefits this area provides to the Upper Yahara River and Chain of Lakes are significant, but these services have diminished with a decrease in water storage and residence time as a function of local flood management. Furthermore, point source monitoring has revealed high levels of pollutants entering this wetland, which now have less time for treatment as water is more directly conveyed to the headwaters of Wheeler Wilcox Creek, a cold water tributary of the Upper Yahara. This is especially concerning with DNR recently classifying the Upper Yahara as trout water, and the Village of DeForest and other partners investing notable resources in improving fish habitat and public lands along this stretch of the river.

As shown in the attached aerial photo from June 2009, the subject parcel (denoted by an orange X) is partially inundated during periods of high water. Developing this parcel for commercial/industrial use would likely introduce a new suite of potentially harmful inputs to the surrounding wetlands and downstream waterbodies, with little upland buffer to capture them in the event they aren't properly contained. A heightened pollutant load would not only increase strain on downstream waters with the wetland now behaving more like a flow through system, but may also have localized adverse impacts on public lands owned by LWRD and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

As an adjoining landowner and county-wide water steward, we appreciate your consideration of our concerns in your review of the rezone proposal.

Regards,
James



James Brodzeller

Watershed Coordinator

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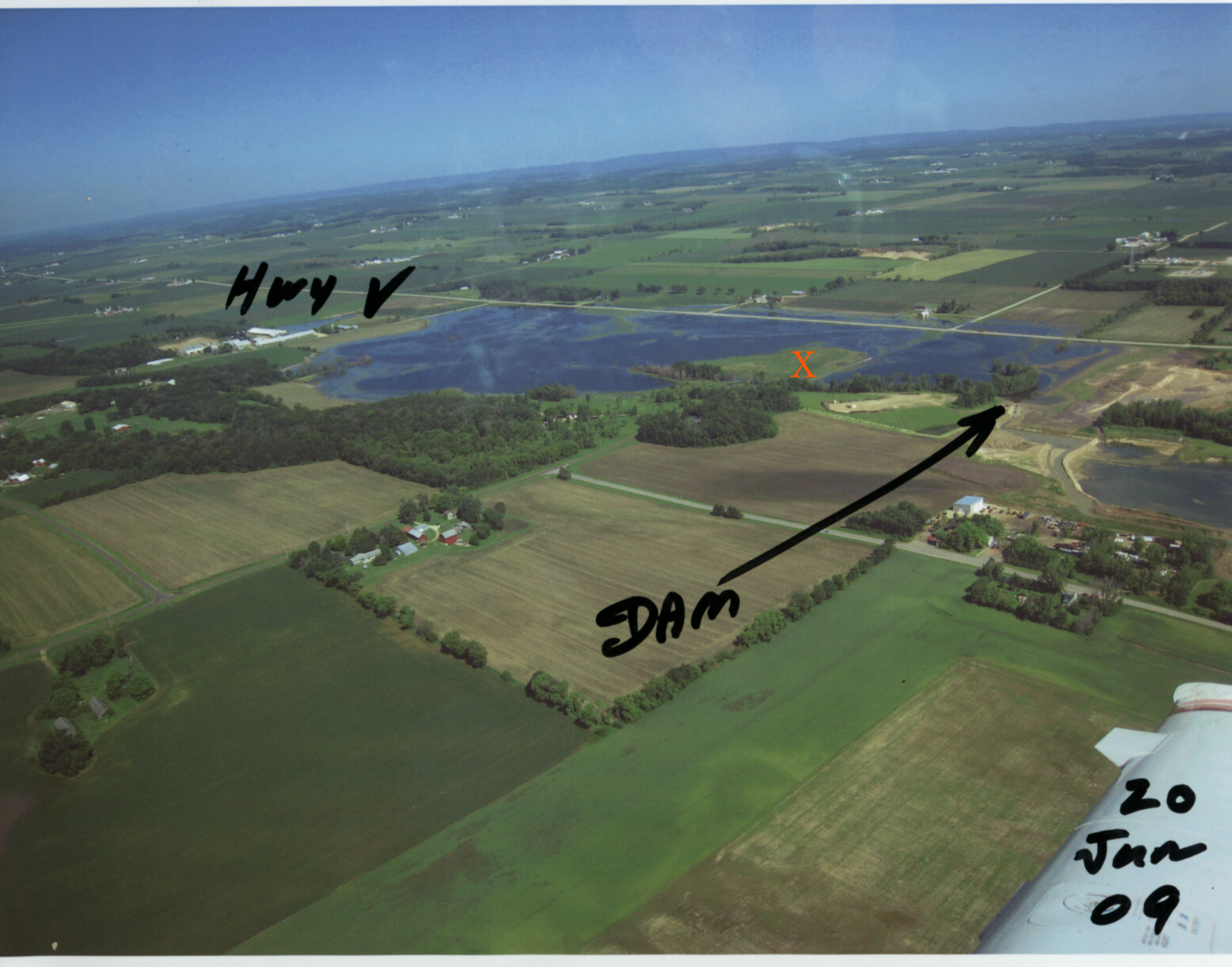


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