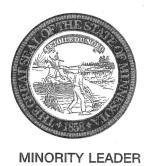
Paul Thissen State Representative

District 63A Richfield and Minneapolis



Minnesota House of Representatives

January 4, 2012

Representative Kurt Zellers Speaker of the House 463 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 Senator David Senjem Senate Majority Leader 121 Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Speaker Zellers and Majority Leader Senjem:

Citizens on the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) have raised concerns regarding the unilateral dismissal of Susan Thornton as Executive Director of the LCCMR.

In a December 22, 2011, letter to Speaker Zellers, citizen co-chairs Nancy Gibson and Jeffrey Broberg detailed their concern that the Chair and the Director of the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC) lack the statutory authority to unilaterally dismiss Ms. Thornton without input and consent from the LCCMR. I understand that they asked that the issue be addressed in a public hearing. To my knowledge, Ms. Gibson and Mr. Broberg have not yet received a response regarding their request.

Since that letter was sent, it is my understanding the LCC has hired an attorney to represent it in this matter. I also understand that Representative Hackbarth is attempting to cancel the LCCMR meeting scheduled for January 10, 2012.

In light of the public attention on the decision to terminate Ms. Thornton, the LCCMR should meet on January 10 to transparently address the questions and concerns raised about Ms. Thornton's termination.

I also request as a member of the LCC that you provide the commission members with information about whether an attorney has, in fact, been hired to represent the LCC and the



anticipated costs and potential outcomes of such litigation. I also request that Senator Senjem convene a meeting of the LCC in the near term to more fully discuss these issues.

Sincerely,

Paul Thissen

House Minority Leader

CC: Legislative Coordinating Commission Members

Senator Tom Bakk, Senate Minority Leader

Representative Matt Dean, House Majority Leader

Representative Mary Liz Holberg

Representative Morrie Lanning

Representative Tom Tillberry

Senator Michelle Fischbach

Senator Michelle Benson

Senator Gary Dahms

Senator Barb Goodwin