



## Board of Commissioners

Lake County Service Center

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Derrick (Rick) L. Goutermont, Commissioner District 2

Richard (Rick) C. Hogenson, Commissioner District 3

Jeremy M. Hurd, Commissioner District 4

Rich Sve, Commissioner District 5

March 14, 2023

**RE: Support for St. Louis County Leachate Treatment at the Landfill in Virginia, Minnesota & Support for the Initial Development of the Canyon Landfill Funding Request**

To Whom it May Concern:

We write to you today to urge your support for funding for the Leachate Treatment at the Virginia Landfill and the initial development of the Canyon Landfill. Lake County depends on the Virginia Landfill for the disposal of solid waste from Fall Lake Township and the City of Superior Landfill for approximately 7,000 tons of solid waste annually for the remainder of Lake County. The Superior Landfill is estimated to reach capacity in 2026. There is a significant need to develop a new landfill in the region. The Canyon Landfill would provide an ideal alternative for Lake County disposal needs.

\$20 million is sought to support the planning, funding, and development for the establishment of a state-of-the-art integrated waste management campus in New Independence Township, near Canyon, Minnesota. The Canyon facility has been identified as a long-term municipal solid waste (MSW) management solution in the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan for Northeast Minnesota.

Further, the Regional Landfill in Virginia, MN is in need of \$4.5 million to expand and relocate their leachate management ponds. St. Louis County is investing in advanced filtration technologies, including an engineered wetland treatment system to reduce PFAS through use of this system.

In the 2023 legislative session, St. Louis County is requesting \$24.5 million to proceed with the these initiatives. These projects are critical for water quality and responsible solid waste management in Northeastern Minnesota. Lake County supports the inclusion of \$24.5 million in the 2023 Legislative Session for St. Louis County Leachate Treatment at the Virginia Landfill and initial development of the Canyon Landfill Funding Request.

Sincerely,

Rich Sve  
Chairperson, Lake County Board of Commissioners  
Laurel D. Buchanan  
Clerk of the Board of Commissioners  
[laurel.buchanan@co.lake.mn.us](mailto:laurel.buchanan@co.lake.mn.us)