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Subject: LHS Newsletter - 11/21/03
Date: Thursday, November 20, 2003 11:05:37 PM

Barb Thalacker (64) windrowtsr@aol.com writes:

Hi all. I live in the Sacramento area right now (Elk Grove, actually), and work for the California Department of Education where I am the State Director of Education Technology...lots of fun, but the pull of photographing exotic places, visiting golf courses along the way is hastening my retirement date. Hope not more than a couple of years to go. Just wanted to tell Judy that the golf course near Plover is "Thal-Acres Links and Lanes" owned by a distant cousin of mine, thus the name. I have played that course several times as we hold our big family reunion there on the third Sunday in August every year. There is a hotly contested tournament, which brother Brent has won more than once. I remember our high and college summer days of golf in the Rapids. I still have long drives and very bad scores. I am really looking forward to the class reunion next summer. It will be the first time to see many of you all since graduation. I am working at home today trying to clean my garage, ready for the move in January back to my former house at 8 River Garden Court, Sacramento, CA 95831. Thanks for the work that the editor puts in on the newsletter. We appreciate hearing from everyone.

Marcia (Olson) Ziarko (65) writes:

Sorry! After a month of trying to get Earthlink DSL to work, the powers that be have decided that my small Chicago suburb of only 72,000 is unable to sustain a DSL signal. Can you believe that? What happened to technical advancement? Guess the phone company only got to 103rd street, I'm at 108th. NO DSL! I have switched servers and have set up a mail box with Yahoo.
New address: zerkeezia@yahoo.com

I again have my charter e-mail address for personal e-mails.

genehafermann@charter.net (same as about 3 months ago)

New contact information:

Gene Hafermann (65)

705 Forest Edge Drive

Mazomanie, WI 53560

PH: 608=795=2287(won't be hooked up until Nov 24)

CELL: 608-219-8824

WORK: 608-266-0112

A satellite picture of the recent snows in the Rockies. Yes I realize this class is about the age of heading for retirement in the sunbelt, but a few of us as waxing our skis.

<http://terra.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/images.html>

Don Wylie (65) don.wylie@ssec.wisc.edu



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Regulations hinder state's paper industry advances

By JOHN TONIUS

Last Updated: Nov. 15, 2003

Wisconsin, the leading paper producing state in the union, has not added a new paper machine in 10 years. That, in a nutshell, is why regulatory reform is on a fast track in Madison.

Republicans call Assembly Bill 655 the Job Creation Act, and while that might be a stretch for parts of the 292-section bill, it is bang on for the parts that streamline the regulatory process.

Private conversations with paper industry executives make it clear that the sclerotic Wisconsin regulatory process is at the top of the list for why we are losing duels over where to place new paper machines. The hassle factor tips the scales to other states.

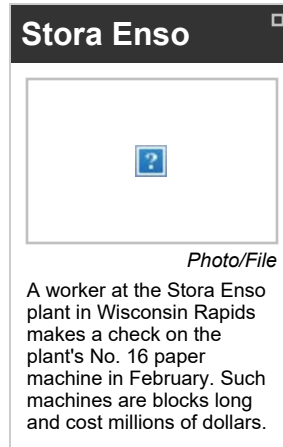
The room in the Capitol for the Joint Finance Committee's hearing on the bill was packed with interest groups as Pat Schillinger of the Wisconsin Paper Council made the most compelling case for reform. "We are losing out to other states because we cannot maintain the most efficient and most modern equipment," he testified.

Although no new machines have been brought online here, he cited the recent case of a new dryer installation that took nine months to approve. Meanwhile, he said, two major machines that Wisconsin lost were approved in 90 days in other states.

Requesting responsive process

As with other industries, the paper council is not asking for any reductions in pollution standards. It is just pleading for a certain and responsive process. Is that too much to ask?

Not when you understand that a new paper machine can be an investment of \$500 million to \$1 billion, easily the equivalent of the new car assembly factories that are the darling of recruiting derbies. Wisconsin has never won one



of those contests, losing out to central and southern states. We don't even go after them anymore.

But there is no good reason for Wisconsin to be losing time and again on paper machines, given that we have 16 million acres of forests. Admittedly, the paper machines don't require as many workers as a car assembly plant. Each highly automated paper machine generates about 150 jobs. But they are highly paid jobs, and the huge investment also generates supporting jobs in construction, in the forests, at suppliers and at utilities and professional firms.

The ripple effect is powerful. So powerful that each contest for a new machine ought to be a matter of cabinet-level concern.

The paper companies, many now global, have multiple options on where to place their next half-billion-dollar investment. And they don't need to give a second thought to states where the business climate is less than receptive.

Fortunately for the state, the Doyle administration is working with Republican legislators to put the reforms on a fast track. Unfortunately, a lot of interest groups inside the Madison beltway will fight for the status quo every step of the way.

There are plenty of issues with the bill, not the least being rule changes that affect permits for projects on bodies of water. Builders and Realtors cite case after case of excruciating delay, while the Department of Natural Resources maintains that most of the 5,000 permits issued every year are done so on a timely basis.

Exactly which streams, creeks, rivers, lakes and ponds are subject to permit will be a matter of major debate in the next few weeks, and may be subject to a Doyle veto. Environmental voices said the fast-track process had short-changed their ability to react. But no one at the hearing made the case that the timelines didn't need to be made clear and certain.

In the air permit arena, the bill would take an uncertain process that can take 200 days, or longer if the agency decides to sit on the application, to one that would have a deadline of 120 days. What's unreasonable about that? Industry has a right to know in that kind of time frame whether it can bring in a new piece of equipment.

The bill does not contain the controversial concept of "presumptive approval," which would result in a go-ahead if an agency didn't act by a deadline. That'll require some political compromise.

It does contain provisions for more stringent review of new rules, such as requiring an economic impact study, scrutiny by the Department of Administration and a sign-off by the governor. Again, hardly unreasonable steps when the regulatory climate has such an important impact on such decisions as the placement of new paper machines.

We have to listen when the spokesman for the state's largest industry says the regulatory process is "entirely too cumbersome." He means what he says. The CEOs in his group aren't talking much. They just take their new machines and go elsewhere.

John Torinus is chief executive officer of Serigraph Inc. of West Bend. Contact him at jbt1@serigraph.com.

From the Nov. 16, 2003 editions of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Linda (Meier) Tavener (65) adnillee@charter.net writes:

Kent,

Received this from a friend. Thought it had a little different twist from others I have seen.

Enjoy !

Subject: 57 Chevy

For the senior set

[Click here: 57 Chevy](#)
