



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER  
DIRECTOR

April 8, 2005

Mr. Roger Elkins, City Manager  
City of Ewart  
200 South Main Street  
Ewart, Michigan 49631

Mr. Gregory H. Fox, Natural Resources Manager  
Ice Mountain Mecosta Plant  
19275 Eight Mile Road  
Stanwood, Michigan 49346

Dear Mr. Elkins and Mr. Fox:

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm has asked the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to evaluate the Nestles Corporation's (Nestles) proposed use of the city of Ewart's water for purposes of bottling water. It is our understanding that Nestles and the city are currently pursuing the necessary approvals for this proposed water use.

To prepare our evaluation of the Nestles/city of Ewart proposed project, and pursuant to authority vested in the DEQ including MCL 325.1001 et seq. and its rules, and MCL 324.1701 et seq., I am requesting the city and Nestles jointly provide the following information:

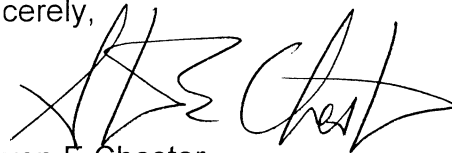
1. A description of the city of Ewart's water supply, including capacity and present volume, and the specific use Nestles will make of the city's supply.
2. A description of the Nestles' bottling operation currently and after the agreement has been completed.
3. A description of the use of the city of Ewart's water prior to the Nestles proposal.
4. A description of the legal arrangement(s) between Nestles and the city of Ewart providing the legal authority for the project. If there are agreements with other entities regarding the proposed project, please provide a description and copies of those agreements.
5. The means of accessing the water supply, including a description of multiple wells or pump sites if they are to be used.
6. Method of and point of measurement of both the Ewart withdrawal and the Nestles component of the withdrawal.
7. Annual schedule of withdrawal including monthly projections and identification of the maximum use for any 30-day period.
8. Anticipated market area for Nestles' distribution of the product.

9. Information developed by either Nestles or the city of Evert examining potential significant adverse impacts to the quantity or quality of the waters and water-dependent natural resources of the area as a result of the proposal.
10. Information developed by either Nestles or the city of Evert to incorporate environmentally sound and economically feasible water conservation measures to minimize the withdrawal by either Nestles or the city of Evert.
11. Information indicative of resource improvement measures, if any, associated with the project.
12. Any information developed by either Nestles or the city of Evert ensuring that the facility is in compliance with all applicable county, state, and federal laws, including permits and other authorizations incident to the proposal.
13. Any information developed by either Nestles or the city of Evert regarding local approvals required for the proposed facility, including copies of any required actions.
14. Any information developed regarding future anticipated water needs of both Nestles and the city of Evert.

In addition, we request that you provide any available information regarding the economic impact of the facility to the local area and the State of Michigan.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in providing the above information. I have asked Mr. Richard Overmyer to coordinate the DEQ's actions regarding this matter. Please feel free to contact him at 517-241-1368 if you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Steven E Chester  
Director  
517-373-7917

cc: Governor Jennifer M. Granholm  
Ms. Dana Debel, Governor's Office  
Mr. Ken DeBeaussaert, Director, Office of the Great Lakes, DEQ  
Mr. Stanley F. Pruss, Deputy Director, DEQ