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February 2, 2010

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District is committed to a leadership role in protecting, improving and managing the surface waters and affiliated groundwater resources within the District, including their relationships to the ecosystems of which they are an integral part. We achieve our mission through regulation, capital projects, education, cooperative endeavors, and other programs based on sound science, innovative thinking, an informed and engaged constituency, and the cost effective use of public funds.

Gregg Regimbal
Minnesota Department of Agriculture-PFMD
625 Robert Street N
St. Paul, MN 55155-2538

RE: Comments for Atrazine Special Registration Review.

Dear Mr. Regimbal:

In the technical review document *Impacts of Atrazine on the Environment*, the MPCA recommends changes to the Atrazine label content to emphasize the need to avoid application of Atrazine the year before establishment of vegetated BMPs like buffer strips, filter strips, and grassed waterways. Atrazine is persistent enough in the environment that a previous-year application could prevent good establishment of buffer vegetation adjacent to a treated field, and thus could affect BMPs planned for nutrient TMDL implementation.

We support MPCA recommendations in the MDA Special Registration Review of Atrazine as they relate to vegetated BMPs. Such BMPs are important to the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District goal of reducing nutrient impairment in lakes and streams within the Minnehaha Creek watershed, and the MPCA recommendation for Atrazine labeling and increased outreach and BMP promotion would protect these important practices.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Special Registration Review of Atrazine.

Sincerely,

Natalie White
District Technician