



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Brenna Sadler  
414-270-7266 or bsadler@laughlin.com

**GOVERNOR'S BUDGET PROPOSAL WILL HELP ENSURE RESPONSIBLE SAND MINING  
CONTINUES TO BENEFIT WISCONSIN'S ECONOMY**

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**Wisconsin Industrial Sand Association praises addition of two DNR positions  
to monitor and ensure industry's compliance with stringent state regulations**

*Rich Budinger, president of the Wisconsin Industrial Sand Association, today released the following statement in response to Governor Scott Walker's 2013-15 state budget proposal:*

"We are pleased that Governor Walker has recommended adding two full-time positions to the state Department of Natural Resources to increase compliance with Wisconsin's sand mining regulations. As sand mining continues to be an important part of the Badger State economy, it's important that it be done in strict compliance with DNR regulations, with a demonstrated commitment to strong communities and a healthy and sustainable environment.

"Sand mining in Wisconsin is a highly regulated industry, and WISA members work closely with DNR staff and others to operate responsibly in full compliance with all laws and regulations. As the number of sand mining operations in the state has nearly doubled over the past 18 months, it makes good sense to add DNR staff to ensure that sand mining all over Wisconsin is being performed in compliance with the law, and to provide the public with confidence that the WDNR has the resources to protect Wisconsin's environment.

"By supporting responsible sand mining in Wisconsin, Governor Walker is supporting an industry that creates jobs, generates tax revenue and provides other significant economic benefits to the state. We are pleased that the governor shares our view that with a proper balance between sound operations and responsible regulations, good sand mining companies can operate safely, protect the environment and be an economic asset to Wisconsin."

**About the Wisconsin Industrial Sand Association**

The Wisconsin Industrial Sand Association (WISA) is a statewide organization formed in 2012 to promote safe and environmentally sound sand mining standards. The group promotes a fact-based discussion and works to create a positive dialogue among the industry, citizens and government officials. WISA's membership consists of North American industrial sand companies with mining and processing operations in Wisconsin that follow a strict Code of Conduct that guides the association's efforts to be a leader in fostering a healthy, safe and environmentally responsible sand mining industry in Wisconsin. Members also support the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Green Tier program. For more information, visit [www.WisconsinSand.org](http://www.WisconsinSand.org).