

Q: What is WISA's position on enforcement of environmental regulations against industrial sand companies in Wisconsin?

A: WISA supports environmental regulations and appropriate enforcement of those regulations. To that end, WISA has supported additional staff positions in DNR to provide DNR needed resources to inspect facilities and assure compliance. We believe industrial sand mining can and should be done in a way that is environmentally responsible. That's what we expect of ourselves and what we strive to deliver.

WISA holds its members to very high environmental performance standards. In order to become a WISA member, an industrial sand company must become a participant in the DNR Green Tier program. That means several things: first, to be eligible to participate in Green Tier, the company has to have a clean enforcement record; second, each Green Tier company puts an Environmental Management System (EMS) in place to make monitoring, tracking and reporting environmental performance an integral part of daily operations; third, Green Tier companies commit to go "beyond compliance", that is, not just to meet the minimum regulatory requirements but to do better than that; fourth, Green Tier companies conduct annual compliance audits and address any issues identified; and fifth, it means we make continuous improvement a part of our daily operations.

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