

**PORT AND SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT**

*Brown County*

2561 SOUTH BROADWAY  
GREEN BAY, WI 54304

PHONE: (920) 492-4950 FAX: (920) 492-4957

CHARLES J. LARSCHEID

PORT AND SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

**HARBOR**

**PROSPERITY.**

**RENARD ISLAND CLOSURE PLAN MOVES AHEAD**

*Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approves plan*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2008

(Green Bay) – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has given conditional approval of the Renard Island Closure Plan. The plan was submitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Brown County.

Upon satisfactory completion of the closure activities conducted by the Corps of Engineers, Brown County will take ownership of the island and its long-term maintenance responsibilities.

The Closure Plan was last revised in February 2008 after the DNR requested further environmental testing at the facility. The DNR found that the plan met all Wisconsin regulatory and statutory requirements. “This approval confirms that the DNR agrees that the Closure Plan is comprehensive, protective of human health and promotes the public use of the closed island,” stated Neil McKloskey, President of the Brown County Harbor Commission. “We are very pleased to have an approved plan.”

The Harbor Commission and the Brown County Board’s Planning, Development and Transportation Subcommittee will hold a special meeting to accept Brown County’s new responsibilities in the approved plan tonight. “I’m excited to have the support and approval of the DNR,” stated Bernie Erickson, Chair of the Planning, Development and Transportation Committee. “We will continue to work closely with the Harbor Commission, DNR and Corps of Engineers to further clarify the specifics of the approval and comply with the Closure Plan conditions.”

*(more)*

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The Renard Island Closure Plan will cap the existing island with clean dredged material and create an engineered soil cover to contain in-place sediments that will provide a barrier to protect human health and the environment. The engineered soil cover will allow future use of Renard Island as a public recreational facility.

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**Media Contacts:**

Dean Haen  
Manager, Port of Green Bay  
(920) 492-4953  
[www.harborprosperity.com](http://www.harborprosperity.com)

Kristen Paquet  
Leonard & Finco Public Relations  
(920) 965-7750  
[kpaquet@LFpublicrelations.com](mailto:kpaquet@LFpublicrelations.com)  
[www.LFpublicrelations.com](http://www.LFpublicrelations.com)