



To: Otter Tail County  
Board of Commissioners

Date: 2/16/2017

RE: Star Lake Township (SLT) Supervisors Position on Proposed Shooting Star Casino Project.

Star Lake Township (SLT) recognizes that the proposed casino project is complex and controversial, with many stakeholders involved. We have followed with keen interest the unfolding of the Limited Area Star Lake Comprehensive Plan, and the on-going procedural and regulatory processes.

SLT currently has very little statutory jurisdiction over these matters, and scarce financial resources to expend on the issue; so it is that we must trust in our county officials and elected representatives to represent and protect us in these matters to the greatest extent possible.

Amidst all the activity, meetings, public comment/emotion, and barrage of information on this subject; we believe it is important to revisit our core responsibilities as elected officials. To that end, it is our belief that our primary responsibility is to Star Lake Township residents (i.e. voters), the people & families that live and thrive here on a year-round basis, those that call Star Lake Township "home". Secondly, we must also do what we can to protect the rights of "all" of our property owners/tax payers – those new and old.

Integral to our efforts to care for our citizens must be a strong and unwavering commitment to good stewardship of our natural resources. Those of us from a farm background, know & understand the adage of "take care of the land, and the land will take care of you".

It is with these thoughts in mind, that the SLT Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that you insure that this matter receive the most stringent level of environmental review, as well as a review of the socio-economic and public safety concerns involved. It is our understanding that to do so, requires completion of an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**. We believe to do anything less would be a disservice to our citizens, property owners, and our stewardship of the natural resources of Star Lake Township. We thank you for your careful consideration.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lee Mindemann – Chairman

Ron Peterson – Vice Chmn

Vic Johnson - Supervisor