

For Immediate Release: June 29, 2020 For More Information Please Contact: Scott Suder at: (608) 514-3254 or via email at: <u>Suder@wipaper.org</u>

Wisconsin Paper Council Announces New Addition to its Executive Leadership Team

Mr. Pat Stevens Hired as Vice President of Environment and Regulatory Relations

Madison...The Wisconsin Paper Council (WPC) is pleased to announce a new member of the 52-year-old trade association's growing leadership team. Mr. Pat Stevens has joined the WPC as its Vice President of Environment and Regulatory Relations.

"Our statewide trade association is thrilled to welcome Mr. Pat Stevens to the Wisconsin Paper Council's team of professionals as our new Vice President," stated WPC President Scott Suder. "Pat's impressive environmental experience and legal background will bring us to a new level of strategic capability for our members. We are very pleased to have a professional of such magnitude as a member of our team."

The WPC is the premier trade association which advocates for the paper, pulp and forestry industries before regulatory bodies, state and federal legislatures and elected officials. The WPC also works to educate the general public and the media about the importance of paper, pulp and forestry production in Wisconsin and throughout the Midwest. Over 30,000 men and women work in Wisconsin's paper and pulp industries and our state has led the nation in papermaking production for over 50 years.

"I'm excited to begin work on behalf of an industry that is one of the economic engines of Wisconsin which supports thousands of family-supporting jobs throughout Wisconsin," Stevens stated. "I look forward to the challenge of assisting with the Wisconsin Paper Council's resurgence and strengthening its advocacy presence throughout the regulatory community."

Prior to joining the WPC, Pat Stevens was a partner at Axley Law Firm. He has extensive experience working for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) where he recently served as Assistant Deputy Secretary for the Department. In this role, Pat oversaw the departments of Environmental Management, Forestry, Fish, Wildlife and Parks divisions as well as the WDNR Law Enforcement Bureau. Pat also served as Air, Waste and Remediation & Redevelopment (AWRR) Division Administrator as well as the Environmental Management Division Administrator at WDNR.

Pat also brings trade association experience to the WPC having worked for a number of trade organizations throughout his career, including WMC. He received his law degree from the University of North Dakota School of Law, graduating with distinction and also holds a B.S. degree in business management from Arizona State University.

Stevens currently resides in Lake Mills with his wife Chris Nolan and his daughter Ruby, who will be returning to college in the fall. Pat enjoys fly fishing and spending time at the family cabin. He will begin his new VP role with the WPC on July 6, 2020.

You can learn more about the Wisconsin Paper Council by visiting our website at <u>www.wipaper.org</u>.