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## Voters Overwhelmingly Oppose Rollback of Environmental Protections for Foxconn; Support More Examination and Study

As State Legislators considers a massive package of tax breaks and rollbacks to long-standing environmental protections to lure Foxconn to Wisconsin, they should consider how their constituents responded to a recent poll commissioned by River Alliance of Wisconsin. The poll of 739 Wisconsin voters from August 4-6, 2017 (MoE +/- 3.6), shows some striking results:

- More than two-thirds of voters--68%--support retaining long-standing environmental protections versus only 25% who think environmental protections should be eliminated for the Taiwanese electronics giant.
- Fewer than one-in-three voters—31%--believe Foxconn will live up to Wisconsin's high environmental standards; 61% do not believe Foxconn will live up to high environmental standards. Poll participants were not asked or informed of Foxconn's environmental record.
- A nearly identical **58% of voters do not believe Governor Walker's claims** that the environment will be protected under the Foxconn deal. Only one-in-three (33%) believe the governor.
- Nearly seven-in-ten (69%) of voters think more examination and study is needed; only 24% support fast-tracking the Foxconn deal.
- A majority of voters disapprove of Governor Walker (53%) and the State Legislature's (51%) job performance.

"The governor told skeptics of the proposed Foxconn giveaway to 'suck lemons.' Now we know why—he's trying to sell us a lemon and the public knows it," said River Alliance of Wisconsin Executive Director Raj Shukla. "Voters don't trust the governor, the legislature or Foxconn to hold themselves accountable to Wisconsin's high environmental standards. Instead of rushing through a bad deal for Wisconsin taxpayers, maybe the governor and legislature ought to work on earning our confidence by insisting that long-standing environmental protections stay in place for local businesses and multi-national corporations alike."

## **About the River Alliance of Wisconsin:**

Formed in 1993, River Alliance of Wisconsin is a statewide non-profit, non-partisan citizen advocacy organization that works to protect and restore Wisconsin's rivers and watersheds. The organization's membership includes more than 2,500 individuals and businesses and more than 80 local watershed groups - one of the largest memberships of statewide river groups in the country. For more information, visit www.wisconsinrivers.org.