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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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**DESIGN UPDATES FOR PROPOSED KOHLER CO. GOLF COURSE**

**Wetland impact less than four acres**

*\* Wetland impact reduction of more than 85% from original plan; rare interdunal wetlands will be preserved*

*\* Company commits to restoring and enhancing additional ridge and swale wetlands in same watershed*

**KOHLER, Wis.** – Kohler Co. today submitted permit applications for its proposed Sheboygan County golf course to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, including an updated course design that reduces direct wetland impact to 3.69 acres and protects rare interdunal wetlands. The design updates – including a wetland impact reduction of more than 85 percent from the original plan – involve adjustments for some holes and other features.

Project spokesman Jim Richerson said the changes were based on further design review, public feedback from hearings and other comments on the golf course proposal. The goal is to develop a world-class course that protects the natural environs, removes invasive species and opens private land to public use.

“Our initial plan could have directly impacted up to 25 acres of wetlands, and as the process has moved forward, we’ve been able to significantly reduce that to 3.69 acres, with no impact to the rare interdunal wetlands on the site,” said Richerson, Group Director of Golf for Kohler Co.’s Hospitality and Real Estate Group. “We have been listening. We look forward to reviewing it with the DNR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as the approval process continues.

“Our company has owned this land for more than 75 years,” Richerson added. “We care what happens here, which is why the principles of avoiding, minimizing and mitigating potential impacts have guided our efforts from the start. It’s clear there is a lot of excitement about our plans, and public input has helped us identify enhancements – such as leaving the interdunal wetlands completely untouched – that will make our project even better.”

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According to an economic impact study conducted by a national expert, the golf course would create the equivalent of 227 new, full-time jobs and generate a \$20.6 million impact for Sheboygan County when fully operational.

In addition to the design updates, Richerson said Kohler Co. is offering a wetland mitigation plan to restore and enhance additional ridge and swale wetlands in the same watershed as the project.

“This mitigation plan provides an opportunity to go beyond our project to increase protected wetlands in Sheboygan County, ultimately resulting in a net increase of protected wetlands in the region,” Richerson said. “Our company has always believed that good business and environmental sustainability go hand-in-hand.”

Following a DNR process, Kohler Co. has submitted applications for wetland permits for the new golf course. The DNR is continuing its review of the proposal, which has included public hearings and a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), an extensive science-based analysis reviewing the balanced approach Kohler Co. has taken to respect the land, protect the environment and boost the local economy.

More information on the proposed golf course and the DNR’s draft Environmental Impact Statement can be found at [www.ProposedGolfCourse.com](http://www.ProposedGolfCourse.com). A link to the permit filing will be added as soon as it is posted to the DNR website.

### **About Kohler Co.’s Proposed Golf Course**

Kohler Co. has introduced plans to create an 18-hole, public golf course on land the company has owned in Sheboygan County for more than 75 years. Building on its long history of quality, innovation and sustainability – as well as its track record of success at Whistling Straits and Blackwolf Run – Kohler Co. has approached the project thoughtfully, with public feedback helping to inspire a minimalist design that embraces the land’s natural contours. The goal is to have a world-class, public destination that creates jobs and other economic benefits for the region, and to do it in an environmentally responsible manner that will serve the community and enhance the land for generations to come. More information is available at [www.ProposedGolfCourse.com](http://www.ProposedGolfCourse.com).