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Date: November 22, 2106

To: Paul Peronard
USEPA, Emergency Removal Program

From: Robert Flying Hawk
Yankton Sioux Tribal Chairman

Danielle Zephier *DZ*
YST-EPP Brownfields Program

RE: St. Joseph's Building/Marty Indian School Campus
St. Katherine's Building/Marty Indian School Campus

Dear Mr. Peronard,

The YST-EPP Brownfields Program is contacting you to request the U.S. Environmental Protection Agencies assistance to cleanup hazardous substances and contaminants associated with properties owned by the Yankton Sioux Tribe.

The Yankton Sioux Tribe receives limited funding from EPA's Brownfields Program for the assessment of possible contaminated properties.

We are formally requesting USEPA's assistance to abate and demolish 2 structures located on the Marty Indian School campus. Both abandoned properties are being vandalized resulting in the release of hazardous substances and contaminants to the environment and potential impacts to human health.

The USEPA tasked the Weston Solutions, Inc. Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team to assist the EPA in conducting a Phase I and Limited Phase II Environmental Site Assessment at the St. Katherine's building and the St. Joseph's building located on the Marty Indian School campus. The imminent threat to human health is a concern due to the 9 month residency of students attending school and living in the dormitories on campus.

The Phase I and Phase II ESA for **both buildings** confirms the evidence of Recognized Environmental Concern (REC's) in connection with the property:

- Two previous asbestos inspections at St. Katherine's and St. Joseph's have confirmed the presence of asbestos containing material (ACM).
- Based upon the age of the buildings, the potential for the presence of Lead-Based Paint (LBP) is high.

- Based upon the apparent age of light fixtures observed in the subject buildings, the potential for presence of PCB's is high.
- Based upon the extensive water damage observed throughout the building, the potential for the presence of mold in the building is high.
- Based on the age of the building, the potential for thermostats to contain mercury is of potential environmental concern.
- The potential for lithium batteries in emergency and exit lighting is of potential environmental concern.

St. Katherine's Building

- Based on the site visit, ash contained within a chimney chute located in the basement of potential for metal is high.

St. Joseph's Building

- Live pigeons are roosting within the building and dead pigeons and pigeon guano covers the floors, walls and building materials throughout the building. The guano (biological) is an environmental concern.
- Based on the structural integrity of the building and extensive contamination with mold and pigeon droppings, START personnel determined that the limited Phase II ESA sampling would be focused on external components and a walk-through of the building for photograph documentation.

This letter is intended to be a general description of the recognized environmental conditions (REC) identified as a result of the Phase I and Limited Phase II ESA sampling.

The YST-EPP Brownfields Program on behalf of the Yankton Sioux Tribe is requesting EPA assistance to abate and demolish these structures to protect human health and the environment from these hazardous contaminants.

We look forward to working with your agency on these issues. If you have any questions, please contact Danielle Zephier, YST-EPP Brownfields Coordinator at (605) 384-5012.

Respectfully



Mr. Robert Flying Hawk,
Yankton Sioux Tribal Chairperson

Cc: Ms. Christina Wilson, USEPA Region 8 Brownfields Program
Mr. Greg Phillips, USEPA Region 8 Tribal Assistance Program