UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

AUG 24 2009

Mr. Larry Silvestri

[redacted]
Exemption 6

Dear Larry:

I am writing regarding the P.I.N.E.S. community group's recent request for funding under the terms of the Technical Assistance Plan (TAP) agreement with the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) for the Pines Groundwater Superfund Site. I am pleased to assist in this manner.

Beginning in 2005, per the TAP agreement, the PRPs provided P.I.N.E.S. with $50,000 for technical assistance and community outreach. It is our understanding that the initial $50,000 funded to P.I.N.E.S. under the TAP was used primarily for document review by the P.I.N.E.S. technical advisor.

EPA has asked the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) for the Pines Site to make available an additional $50,000 to the P.I.N.E.S. community group. The PRPs have responded that before they make the additional funds available, P.I.N.E.S. should demonstrate that they are current in their status as a non-profit domestic corporation and generate a budget with a description of the work to be performed with the new funding. EPA considers these reasonable requests and will look for P.I.N.E.S. to submit these documents to the PRP with copies to EPA.

A critical element to being an effective community group is to communicate information about the Superfund process as it applies to the Town of Pines Site to the broader community. It is our hope that P.I.N.E.S. will embrace this obligation and use some of these new funds toward that goal.

As the Remedial Project Manager for the site, I would like to assist P.I.N.E.S. in effectively utilizing these new funds and to discuss the potential for using a portion of these funds for any expenses that may have been incurred by P.I.N.E.S. between the funding periods. For that purpose, I would like to schedule a meeting with you in the

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Town of Pines. Please contact me at (312) 353-4367 or at drexler.timothy@epa.gov in order for us to arrange a meeting time and date. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Tim Drexler
Remedial Project Manager