Message

From: Ebbert, Laura [Ebbert.Laura@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/13/2016 6:27:42 PM
To: Heller, Zoe [Heller.Zoe@epa.gov]; Nelson, Cheryl [Nelson.Cheryl@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: Important Discussion - Laytonville for Damian
Attachments: Ahtna SOW for Laytonville Rancheria Environmental Assessment.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Ebbert, Laura" <Ebbert.Laura@epa.gov>
> **To:** "Willson, Damian" <WILLSON.DAMIAN@EPA.GOV>, "Allen, HarryL" <Allen.HarryL@epa.gov>
> **Subject: FW: Important Discussion - Laytonville for Damian**
>
> Damian,
> I called Dan back at his request today. And spoke with he and Bill Cornelius, Administrator.
>
> Harry, I received a concerning verbal report from the Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria (Mendocino County) about some testing they did recently after discovering a county-flagged "DANGER" sign on the Reservation near a now-closed, unlined landfill (links below). They engaged a third party to do a study, attached. I played phone roulette this afternoon with your team, but couldn't get anyone on the line, so I'm sending this to you and hope you can help me either assess and potentially act on it, or route me elsewhere as appropriate.
>
> Thank you!
>
> Report from Bill Cornelius, Tribal Administrator:
>
> Recently, tribe found areas of concern and did testing. Expressed concerns to BIA and called in a third party to verify. We have found high levels of hexavalent chromium and heavy metals in our soils and groundwater (in some spots hundreds of times the residential limits); we haven't tested our drinking water because it comes from Laytonville water district.
>
> In 1972 the county opened a landfill that bordered the reservation. That landfill was for general waste and was unlined. Closed between 1994 and 1998. There have been studies – a health assessment done finished in 2005 and earlier this year while we were doing a survey for boundaries of the reservation, we found a blackberry bush flagged with a skull and crossbones red tape that said DANGER, which caused us some concern because it was on the reservation, not off the reservation. We started soil samples to see if something was in the blackberry or the ground around it that might be poison.
>
> BIA said you need to do a scope of work with an independent third party, which we just completed and we just got the scope of work that BIA requested and they found the chromium hexavalent in the water and in the ground. They tested existing wells – closest to the landfill was higher. The other samples included as far away as we could get and both exceeded the residential limits.
>
> How close are people? 200 acres reservation – members are all over. In Willits, Remco a Chrome Plating enterprise dumped their wastes into the creek, a 10-year-old boy died. The concern is when they were cleaning that up the only open landfill was this landfill. We know PGE dumped transformers there, but we don't know if this facility dumped there.

This Tribe sits on the aquifer that feeds all of Laytonville community. The landfill was put on top of that aquifer.

Laura Ebbert
Manager, Tribal Section
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From: Dan [mailto:drodriguez@cahtotribe-nsn.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2016 3:50 PM
To: Ebbert, Laura <Ebbert.Laura@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Important Discussion - Laytonville for Damian

Hello Laura, thank you for responding so quickly. I would like to have a conversation with you if that is ok. It is of vital importance to the Tribe. If you could give us a call we would greatly appreciate it.

From: Ebbert, Laura [mailto:Ebbert.Laura@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2016 3:41 PM
To: Dan <drodriguez@cahtotribe-nsn.gov>
Cc: bcornelius@cahtotribe-nsn.gov; Willson, Damian <WILLSON.DAMIAN@EPA.GOV>
Subject: RE: Important Discussion - Laytonville for Damian

Dan,
I notice you misspelled Damian's email address (his first name has two a's in it); I am copying him here. He is off this afternoon, returning tomorrow. Let me know if your message is more urgent than that and I could call you shortly.

LE

Laura Ebbert
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From: Dan [mailto:drodriguez@cahtotribe-nsn.gov]
Sent: Monday, December 12, 2016 3:29 PM
To: willson.damien@epa.gov
Cc: bcornelius@cahtotribe-nsn.gov; Ebbert, Laura <Ebbert.Laura@epa.gov>
Subject: Important Discussion

Hello Damien, I was hoping to catch you as soon as possible to bring some information to your attention concerning the Tribe. Hopefully you receive this before the Winter Holidays. I would like to schedule a meeting at your earliest convenience. This matter is of great importance to the Tribe. Could you please contact me as soon as possible, or direct me to someone else that is available. Thank you for your time.

Larry "Dan" Rodriguez
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