Message

From: Nancy Schuldt [NancySchuldt@FDLREZ.COM]
Sent: 4/13/2018 3:38:43 PM
To: Konickson, Chad S CIV USARMY CEMVP (US) [chad.konickson@usace.army.mil]; Desiree.L.Morningstar@usace.army.mil; Johnson, Bradley A CIV CEMVP CEMVD (US) [Brad.A.Johnson@usace.army.mil]; Eggers, Steve D CIV CEMVP CEMVD (US) [steve.d.eggers@usace.army.mil]
CC: Kevin DuPuis [KevinDuPuis@FDLREZ.COM]; Sean Copeland [SeanCopeland@FDLREZ.COM]; Anne D. Noto (ANOTO@SONOSKY.COM) [ANOTO@SONOSKY.COM]; John Coleman (jcoleman@glifwc.org) [jcoleman@glifwc.org]; Calkins, Samuel L COL USARMY CEMVP (US) [Samuel.L.Calkins@usace.army.mil]; Swenson, Peter [swenson.peter@epa.gov]; Melgin, Wendy [melgin.wendy@epa.gov]; Burdick, Melanie [Burdick.Melanie@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Fond du Lac request for meeting with the USACE re PolyMet wetland delineation

Chad:

I'm not certain with whom I should be working to schedule a meeting, but I am suggesting several dates that Fond du Lac could host a meeting to discuss the status of wetland delineation work for the PolyMet project:

April 24
April 26
April 27
May 8
May 10
May 11

I look forward to confirming a meeting date for this important discussion.

Nancy Schuldt
Water Projects Coordinator
Fond du Lac Environmental Program
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720
218.878.7110

-----Original Message-----
From: Calkins, Samuel L COL USARMY CEMVP (US) [mailto:Samuel.L.Calkins@usace.army.mil]
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2018 1:49 PM
To: Kevin DuPuis
Cc: Nancy Schuldt; swenson.peter@epa.gov; Melgin, Wendy MVS External Stakeholder; Burdick.Melanie@epa.gov; Konickson, Chad S CIV USARMY CEMVP (US); Morningstar, Desiree L CIV USARMY CEHQ (US); Johnson, Bradley A CIV CEMVP CEMVD (US); Eggers, Steve D CIV CEMVP CEMVD (US)
Subject: RE: Fond du Lac request for meeting with the USACE re PolyMet wetland delineation

Dear Chairman Dupuis -

I have received Ms. Schuldt's email transmitting your letter dated April 2, 2018, which conveys Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's on-going concerns about potentially inaccurate and incomplete accounting of wetland impacts from the proposed PolyMet NorthMet project. I understand from Ms. Schuldt's email and your letter that you would like to meet with the Corps on this matter soon.

Please see attached for a letter on this topic that I sent you on March 9, 2018. This letter was sent via regular mail, and I regret you did not receive a copy sooner. In the future, I will provide letters to you via both email and regular mail to help ensure you receive correspondence more quickly.

As described in this letter, the Corps takes very seriously the information that Dr. Coleman submitted to us about areas that were not delineated as wetlands. Information in my March 9th letter answers some of the questions in your recent letter of April 2nd. For example, the Corps decided what areas to visit in September by identifying signatures on the landscape that were potential wetlands but had not been delineated as wetlands by the applicant. To clarify, Barr did not participate in this selection of areas to be investigated. Also, when we provided results from our site investigation to the applicant, they indicated they would undertake an analysis of the entire site in order to provide additional information on wetlands in the project area.

Since my letter to you on March 9th, PolyMet's consultant submitted a technical memorandum to the Corps dated March 14th, which provides a summary of their evaluation of Dr. Coleman's analysis. However the memo only provides the end-result in terms of acreage/percent change in wetland areas mapped. On April 2nd, the Corps requested the details of the analysis to facilitate our review.

Information submitted by the applicant will be evaluated by my staff, along with the information Dr. Coleman submitted and information my staff collected in the field in September 2017. I understand you would like my staff to meet with your staff to discuss how our site visit was done, how Barr is analyzing the collected data and how we will evaluate any report that Barr produces. I have asked my staff to schedule a meeting with your staff. Please let me know if you plan to attend that meeting, as I would absolutely make arrangements to be there as well.

I personally place great value on our government-to-government relationship with the Fond du Lac Band, as does my staff, and we appreciate the time you have taken to raise issues of concern and provide important information for our review.

Thank you for continuing to engage with us, and I look forward to seeing you again soon.

Respectfully,

Sam Calkins

Colonel Sam Calkins
Commander, St. Paul District
US Army Corps of Engineers

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