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of CHIPPEWA INDIANS
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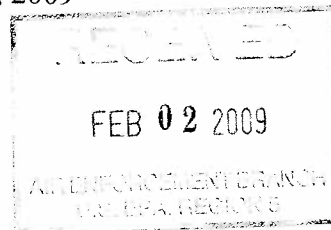
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January 29, 2009

Cheryl L. Newton, Director
Air and Radiation Division (A-18J)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590



FEB 09 RECD

RE: Designation Recommendation on the 2008 Revised Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards for the Red Lake Reservation


Dear Director Newton,

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians (Band) is providing a designation recommendation for the 2008 revised ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) within the exterior boundaries of the Red Lake Reservation (Reservation).

The Red Lake Reservation encompasses over 837,000 acres of north-central Minnesota and is the largest Reservation in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5. The Band is working hard to develop a successful tribal air program, but unfortunately monitoring data do not exist on the Reservation for any ambient air pollutant, including ozone. Nor do air monitoring data exist in the northwest and north-central regions of Minnesota which creates a data gap for criteria pollutants on and around the Reservation. The three nearest monitors in the ambient ozone network neighboring the Reservation are located approximately 80 to 110 miles away: Detroit Lakes, MN (80 miles), Fargo, ND (100 miles), and Brainerd, MN (110 miles). Due to the lack of local data on and adjacent to the Reservation, the Band recommends the Red Lake Reservation be designated as "unclassifiable" for the revised ozone standard of 0.075 ppm.

The Band looks forward to continuing collaborative efforts with the EPA on investigating and protecting air quality. If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Cody Charwood, our Air Quality Specialist at (218) 679-3959 x1328 directly.

Sincerely,



Floyd Jourdain, Jr., Chairman
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians

CC: Ben Giwojna, EPA Region 5 Tribal Air Coordinator