

R5-16-000-4898



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

MAR 15 2016

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Robert Blanchard, Chairman
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians
P.O. Box 39
Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Dear Chairman Blanchard:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) acknowledges receipt of your February 12, 2016, letter requesting government-to-government consultation regarding the draft Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination Permit (WPDES) for Kretzschmar Holsteins, Inc. (Kretzschmar) in the Potato River watershed of the Lake Superior Basin. This consultation process will be conducted in accordance with the May 2011 EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes found at <http://www.epa.gov/tribal/epa-policy-consultation-and-coordination-indian-tribes>.

On February 24, 2016, EPA notified Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) of our intent to review the proposed permit for Kretzschmar prior to final issuance by WDNR. A copy of this correspondence is enclosed. In addition, EPA has been in contact with WDNR to discuss the state's timeline for a proposed permit and preparation of response to comments submitted to the state during the public participation process for the draft Kretzschmar permit.

As discussed during a February 19, 2016, conference call between various members of our staff, we will work together to confirm a date for consultation. Julianne Socha, CAFO Coordinator, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Programs Branch, Water Division, has been assigned as the program lead for this consultation and will contact your staff within the next two weeks to arrange consultation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert A. Kaplan".

Robert A. Kaplan
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure