



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JUN 26 2009

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
R-19J

Eugene Bigboy, Sr., Chairman
Tribal Chairman, Bad River Band
Lake Superior Chippewa
1 Maple Street
Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Re: Approval of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians' Application to Administer the Water Quality Standards and Certification Programs under Sections 303 and 401 of the Clean Water Act

Dear Chairman Bigboy:

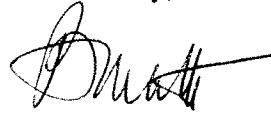
It is my pleasure to inform you that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has completed its review under the Clean Water Act (CWA) § 518 of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians' application to administer the water quality standards and certifications programs under CWA § 303(c) and § 401, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1313 and 1341. Based on that review, EPA is today approving the Bad River Band's application. Approval of the application means that the Tribe is eligible to administer the water quality standards program under CWA Section 303(c) for waters within the reservation and, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 131.4(c), is likewise eligible for purposes of issuing certifications under CWA Section 401. Documentation of our review may be found in the enclosure titled, *Decision Document: Approval of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians' Application for Treatment in the Same Manner as a State for Sections 303(c) and 401 of the Clean Water Act.*

Water Resource Specialist Naomi Tillison, and the rest of the Bad River Band's Natural Resources staff, are to be commended on their very fine efforts, which have resulted in the approval of your application.

The Bad River Band's water quality standards will be reviewed separately in coordination with EPA Water Quality Branch.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Daniel Cozza at 312-886-7252. We look forward to continuing to work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Mathur', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Naomi Tillison, Bad River
Todd Ambs, Water Division Administrator, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Michael Lutz, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Matthew J. Frank, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Honorable Jim Doyle, Governor, State of Wisconsin