LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE



Faron Jackson, Sr., Chairman Arthur "Archie" LaRose, Secretary-Treasurer Penny DeVault, District I Representative Steve White, District II Representative LeRoy Staples-Fairbanks III, District III Representative

January 29, 2018

VIA US MAIL

Cathy Stepp Regional Administrator USEPA Region 5 Ralph Metcalfe Federal Bldg. 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re: The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (Band) Application for Treatment as a State Status Under the Clean Water Act

Dear Ms. Stepp:

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (Band), a federally recognized Indian tribe, herewith makes application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for Treatment as a State under § 518 of the Clean Water Act. Enclosed with this letter is the Band's Application, including a narrative describing the Band's ability to carry out its obligations under the Clean Water Act, and an outside Legal Opinion in support of the Band's ability to exercise this authority. Also enclosed is the supporting documentation for the Application.

The Band is providing these application materials in electronic form on the flash drive enclosed with this letter. If you would like or require additional copies or copies in some other format, please contact Mr. Levi Brown, Environmental Lands Director, at any of the following contacts and he will make arrangements to comply with your request:

Phone: (218) 335-7417; Email: <u>leviB@lldrm.org</u>. Cathy Stepp January 29, 2018 Page 2

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter, and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or need further information.

Very truly yours,

malder. 1

Faron Jackson, Sr. Chairman

NGT:ms Encl.

cc: Christopher Korleski, EPA (w/ encl.) Grace Elliott, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (w/ encl.) Cathy Stepp January 29, 2018 Page 3

bcc: John Persell, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (w/ encl.) Richard A. Du Bey Nicholas G. Thomas