

# RED LAKE BAND of CHIPPEWA INDIANS

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Phone 218-679-3341 • Fax 218-679-3378

November 14, 2013

Administrator Susan Hedman  
Region V USEPA  
77 West Jackson Blvd  
Chicago, IL 60604

RE: Red Lake Band Treatment as a State (TAS) for Sections 303 and 401 of the Clean Water Act

Dear Administrator Hedman:

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians (Band) is submitting this application for TAS under Sections 303 and 401 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) for the purpose of administering Tribal Water Quality Standards on the Red Lake Reservation. Section 518 of the CWA authorizes EPA to treat tribes in the same manner as a state for purposes of Sections 303 and 401 of the CWA. Enclosed is a Narrative Statement which demonstrates that the Band meets the criteria set forth in CWA Section 518 for treatment in the same manner as a state. The attached application demonstrates that the Band is in full compliance with the applicable regulatory criteria required under 40 CFR 131.8.

It is the stated intent of the Band to demonstrate that the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians meets the four general criteria for TAS for this program. The Red Lake Band is a federally recognized Tribe. The Band has the governmental capacity, legal authority, and jurisdiction to administer Water Quality Standards on the Red Lake Indian Reservation. The Water Quality Standards program pertains to the management and protection of over 200,000 acres of lakes and hundreds of miles of streams and rivers under the protection of the Band. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has previously determined the Band eligible for TAS to administer other environmental programs including Sections 106 and 319 of the CWA and the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program.

It is the intent of the Red Lake Department of Natural Resources (RL DNR) Water Resources Program, upon approval of TAS, to partner with the EPA to develop and refine Water Quality Standards which will be used to protect the Band's water resources for generations to come.

Enclosed is the Band's Narrative Statement for TAS, a copy of the Resolution No. 99-113, Tribal Council's permission to proceed with this application process, and other supporting documentation.

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians' RL DNR is eager to partner with the EPA to achieve a common goal to protect the Tribe's water resources. If you have any questions about this submittal, you may contact Joel Rohde at 218-679-1635.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Floyd Jourdain, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Floyd Jourdain, Jr.  
Tribal Chairman

Cc: file