

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Treasurer*

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January 30, 2008

Robbie LaFleur, Director
Legislative Reference Library
645 State Office Bldg
100 Martin Luther King Blvd
St Paul MN 55155-1050

Dear Ms LaFleur:

Minnesota Statutes Section Sec. 137.52(b) requires the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to annually report to the legislature on the University's efforts and the efforts of the United States Department of Defense to remedy contamination of the University land in Rosemount, Minnesota that is under the cooperative management of the University and the Department of Natural Resources. Since the passage of this legislation in 2006, the land has come to be designated as Vermillion Highlands and it is operated as a wildlife management area under state law.

Since the University's last report to the legislature Bay West, Inc., an environmental contractor hired by the federal government, conducted a site inspection of GOW (Gopher Ordnance Works) Areas of Concern located on the University land. Under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's FUDS Regulation, the Site Inspection that took place in 2007 is the step used to determine if there has been a significant environmental release resulting from historical military activities. The Site Inspection included visual inspection and ground water and soil testing in all known Areas of Concern (AOC) in Vermillion Highlands. The University worked cooperatively with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Dakota County to comment on the work plan for the investigation, including participating in conference calls with the Corps of Engineer's staff and submitting written requested revisions to the plan. The University also observed all of the actual field work, which started on August 6 and ended in late September. The draft report is expected in March 2008. Depending upon the results of the Site Inspection, for each AOC, the Corps of Engineers will either determine that additional testing be conducted through a Remedial Investigation, or that no further investigation is warranted. The University and MPCA will have the opportunity to comment on that decision.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Pfitzenreuter
Treasurer

cc: Anne Cieslak, Board of Regents
Kenneth Larson, Office of the General Counsel
Charles Muscoplat, Vice President, Statewide Strategic Resource Development
Cynthia Scott, University Relations