

February 29, 2024

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VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

To Interested Parties:

We write again to express our concerns about the lack of progress made toward a long-term resolution of the dispute involving easements and road access issues in the Lac du Flambeau community. As we wrote last May, we strongly believe that all parties should move to mediation to resolve this issue. While the temporary measures in place have ensured continued access to the roads where right-of-ways have long expired, a long-term solution is both critical and overdue. More than a year has passed since the barricades were installed, and over a decade since the expirations of the right-of-ways. We urge all parties to make a good faith effort to resolve outstanding issues through mediation.

While we are encouraged that the temporary agreements made by the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians and the Town of Lac du Flambeau allow for the continued use of monthly access permits for the roads, we recognize that these measures will not last indefinitely. Over the last year, our offices have communicated with all parties involved, and we will continue to do so. However, we grow increasingly concerned about the apparent lack of communication

between the parties themselves. We continue to believe that the best path forward will come through mediation, which we have encouraged for more than a year. Last spring, the Governor's office sent the Tribe a list of potential mediators. As before, we have no preference for any individual on or off that list, but we hope it can serve as a resource for the parties to ultimately agree on how to proceed to mediation that considers the interests and preferences of all involved.

We continue to standby to provide anything needed by the parties to move to mediation, including additional suggestions for mediators or requesting additional assistance from federal agencies, including the Department of Interior. However, the parties themselves must be willing to move forward towards a long-term solution. We urge you to do so immediately for the safety, security and well-being of the community.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Tony Evers and Tammy Baldwin in blue ink.

Tony Evers
Governor

Tammy Baldwin
U.S. Senator

cc:

State Sen. Felzkowski
State Rep. Swearingen