## **EXHIBIT B**



## United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

ENGINEERING/ROADS
Midwest Regional Office
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Building
One Federal Drive, Room 550

Pt. Snolling, MN 55111



ENGINEERING/ROADS

MAR - 8 2011

Town Chairman Lac du Flambeau WI 54538

Dear Francis Chartier:

We received your letter dated February 18, 2011 regarding the Lac du Flambeau Band and roads belonging to the Town of Lac du Flambeau.

The federal regulation that governs the Indian Reservation Road (IRR) Program is 25 CFR Part 170. This regulation allows federally recognized tribes to define their own IRR system. Roads placed into the system must be open to the public and must either be located within an Indian Reservation or provide access to one. Because LDF Town roads meet these criteria, the LDF Band may include these roads in their long range transportation planning process and may also add them to their IRR Inventory. Road ownership is not a criterion for accepting or excluding roads and the federal government will not interfere if that is the wish of the tribe.

We understand your concern about roads that you own appearing on official documents of the Lac du Flambeau Band. However, this is not an exceptional instance since a large part of the roads currently in the national IRR inventory are owned by states, counties, or towns. We assure you that should the Band decide to incorporate LDF Town roads into its long range transportation plan or its tribal IRR inventory that these actions will have no adverse effect on LDF Town roads: the ownership, use, and monies generated by these miles of road from state or local sources will not change.

Furthermore, the LDF Band cannot alter or maintain roads owned by LDF Town without written consent. We note from the attachment to your letter that the LDF Town Board has not provided this consent.

We hope that this letter has answered your questions and addressed your concerns. Please feel free to call the Midwest Region Road Engineer, Todd Kennedy, at 612-725-4551 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Midwest Regional Director

cc: Kimberly Bouchard, Great Lakes Agency Superintendent

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