<div align="center">

Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States
Remote Oversight Hearing - Cisco WebEx
October 26, 2021
12:00 p.m.

Oversight Hearing on "Strengthening Indigenous Communities
Through Cultural and Environmental Preservation"

</div>

Questions from Rep. Leger Fernández for the Hon. Michael Fairbanks, Chairman, White Earth Nation

1. Your testimony notes that the Line 3 pipeline will cross the headwaters of the Mississippi and through many significant watersheds for the White Earth Nation.
   a. Could you elaborate on the impact the pipeline will have on your wild rice watersheds?
   b. In turn, how will these wild rice impacts affect your community?

2. As your testimony highlights, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has admitted to the loss of 2,400,000 gallons of groundwater from this project.
   a. How has the sub-year drought impacted the Nation, specifically regarding your wild rice watersheds?

Questions from Rep. Leger Fernández for Mr. Chase <u>Meierotto</u>, Treaty Natural Resource Administrator, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1. Your testimony mentions the history behind the establishment of the Red Cliff Fish Company.
   a. Can you speak more on the federal grants and funding that helped your tribal government open this important economic and cultural development entity?

2. Can you elaborate more on what the local fish economy looked like before the opening of the Red Cliff Fish Company?
   a. How has the company's creation benefited and supported tribal members and the surrounding communities?

Questions from Rep. Leger Fernández for Ms. Elizabeth <u>Azzuz</u>, Secretary, Cultural Fire Management Council
1. Given the Cultural Fire Management Council's partnership with the Yurok Tribe, can you elaborate on how tribal members are involved in your organization's traditional burns?

2. Can you elaborate more on the Cultural Fire Management Council's Cultural Burn Training Exchanges (TREX)?
   a. What organizations and entities typically attend these exchanges?