

BADGER OVERSIGHT COMMISSION  
HO-CHUNK NATION REPORT  
September 23, 2010

I. Public Benefit Conveyance Processing. We provided assistance to the BIA Regional office to process public benefit conveyance documents as required for certain parcels that have completed the FOST process.

II. USDA Intern Study.

The interns collected 88 plant samples and 116 soil samples. Almost \$12,000 has been secured for analysis of both plant and soil samples with the funding being provided by the Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (\$10,653) and a 10% match being provided by the Ho-Chunk Nation. We are grateful to Rep. Holst for helping secure the funding. We should be able to analyze about half of the samples with this funding. Samples will be analyzed by a commercial laboratory for several heavy metals. Samples cannot be analyzed for some of the other contaminants of concern at Badger such as DNTs (Dinitrotoluenes), solvents and PCBs because of certain requirements relating to sample containers, preservation and holding time prior to lab analysis. Analysis costs are also very expensive for these other contaminants. I expect that we should have most samples analyzed by the end of October.

Mike Casler with Dairy Forage is also going to be doing some genetic work on some prairie grass samples that the interns collected at Badger. We anticipate that the plant material from some of the Badger remnants will be compared to some of the re-planted prairies at Badger and also to a site or sites not associated with Badger. This data will be extremely beneficial to our post-transfer planning and use.