South Dakota Legislative Research Council

Rep. Larry J. Tidemann, Chair
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James Fry, Director
Doug Decker, Code Counsel

March 17, 2008

Jarrod Johnson, Commissioner
Office of School and Public Lands
500 East Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Joint Committee on Appropriations Regarding FY2009 Appropriation

Dear Commissioner Johnson:

This Letter of Intent sets forth a particular view held by the Joint Committee on Appropriations in approving your FY09 appropriation. As such, it supplements that appropriation with a specific policy guideline.

While the guideline does not have the direct force of statutory law, it rests solidly on a long-standing tradition of Legislative-Executive relationships in South Dakota and it will be used by the Joint Committee as one basis for the fiscal oversight of your agency and its continued funding.

Specifically, it is the request of the Joint Committee that:

1. The Office of School and Public Lands use up to $75,000 in general funds, matched on a 1-to-1 basis from local entities, to perform a geotechnical engineering survey on Richmond Lake Dam. None of this funding is to be used for the repair of Richmond Lake Dam.

2. The Office of School and Public Lands use any remaining general funds or unexpended other fund authority from the Richmond Lake Dam survey project together with $75,000 in general funds for a repair needs assessment on all state dams owned by School and Public Lands; Game, Fish, and Parks; and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

3. The Office of School and Public Lands provide a written report on the progress of the Richmond Lake Dam geotechnical engineering survey. The report should be provided to the Committee and its staff and should include the project timeline and funding status for the project. The funding status should include all sources of funds.

4. The Office of School and Public Lands provide a written report on the progress of the state-wide dam repair needs assessment. The report should be provided to the

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Committee and its staff and should include data from any state agency that owns a dam, or has pertinent information on state-owned dams.

In addition to the interim reports, it is also expected that you will be prepared to address this guideline in your FY10 budget presentation to the Joint Committee next January.

Thank you for your consideration.

Senator Gerald F. Apa
Co-Chair

Representative Larry Tidemann
Co-Chair

cc: Marty Guindon, Auditor General
Jason Dilges, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management