SANDY LAKE BAND OF MISSISSIPPI CHIPPEWA – 1855 TREATY RESERVATION BOUNDARIES & TREATY RIGHTS SYNOPSIS
SANDY LAKE BAND OF MISSISSIPPI CHIPPEWA

• DIRECT DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL SANDY LAKE BAND THAT NEGOTIATED TEN (10) TREATIES WITH THE U.S GOVERNMENT IN THE 1800S.

• RESIDE WITHIN THE ORIGINAL ‘RESERVATION’ BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED BY THE 1855 TREATY WITH THE CHIPPEWA. THESE BOUNDARIES PREDATE THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

• RETAIN RIGHTS TO HUNT, FISH, AND GATHER WITHIN ORIGINAL BOUNDARIES AND IN THE CEDED LAND AS THE RIGHTS WERE NEVER ABROGATED. THE ANISHINAABEG OCCUPIED AND KEPT CAMPS NEAR LAKES AND RIVERS AS THEY RELIED ON THE LAND FOR FOOD AND WATER FOR TRAVEL AS WELL AS FOOD. THESE RIGHTS ARE FEDERALLY PROTECTED.

• SANDY LAKE BAND EXERCISES THEIR RIGHTS DAILY AS OUR OJIBWE CULTURE AND SPIRITUALITY AND CONNECTION WITH NATURE IS PARAMOUNT. WE HAVE A COVENANT AND OBLIGATION TO PROTECT IT.

• MEMBERS OF THE SANDY LAKE BAND OF MISSISSIPPI CHIPPEWA SERVE ON THE 1855 TREATY AUTHORITY WHICH ARE CURRENTLY ASSERTING JURISDICTION OVER BAND MEMBERS WITH THE STATE DNR AND COUNTY COURTS REGARDING ALLEGED VIOLATIONS IN THE CEDED TREATY LANDS.
ROYCE MAP – 1855 TREATY CEDED LANDS (WHITE AREA)

- SUCCESSOR BANDS OF THE 1855 TREATY INCLUDE; SANDY LAKE, LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE, WHITE EARTH NATION, RICE LAKE(EAST LAKE) BAND, AND THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE. ALL HAD CHIEFS OR HEADMEN THAT WERE SIGNATORY TO THE TREATY.
MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE AND MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE TRUST LANDS

• PHOTO DEPICTS LANDS THAT THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE HAS PURCHASED AND IS PLACING INTO TRUST FOR THEIR BAND MEMBERS. PURPLE

• LANDS IN THE BLUE SHADE ARE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE TRUST LANDS PURCHASED IN 1940 OR AFTER.

• MAP IS NOT ACCURATE BUT ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION OF THE 1855 TREATY RESERVATION AT SANDY LAKE.
Dual Threats to Sandy Lake
Tar Sands Oil and Sulfide Mining - Line 3 and Rio Tinto/Talon Nickel

*RED indicates Sandy Lake 1855 Reservation Boundaries as noted in Master Map, US Court of Claims Exhibit ‘H-192’ Chippowa Indians v. U.S 7/21/1932
SANDY LAKE INDIAN RESERVATION – EST. 1855

• HAS NOT BEEN DIMINISHED.

• EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES ARE STILL INTACT AND ARE IN PROCESS OF BEING RESTORED ON MAPS INDICATING THIS.

• SANDY LAKE BAND MEMBERS HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THE BOUNDARIES TO HAVE ENCOMPASSED BIG SANDY LAKE AND SURROUNDING LAKES AND RIVERS FOR THE WILD RICE HARVESTS AS WELL AS THE FISH AND GAME. (INCLUDING BERRY PICKING, MAPLE SUGAR CAMPS, NATURAL TOBACCO, ETC.)
ON JULY 11, 2022, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT GRAND PORTAGE, MINNESOTA, THE SANDY LAKE BAND OF MISSISSIPPI CHIPPEWA RECEIVED RESOLUTION 63-22 WHICH WAS PRESENTED AND ACTED UPON BY A VOTE OF 9 FOR AND 0 AGAINST WITH 2 SILENT (CHIEF EXECUTIVE BENJAMIN, SECRETARY-TREASURER BOYD).

RESOLUTION 63-22 STATES ‘WHEREAS, NO TREATY OR LAW HAS BEEN ENACTED TO ELIMINATE, DIMINISH, OR EXTINGUISH THE ORIGINAL BOUNDARIES OF THE SANDY LAKE RESERVATION, HENCE THE RESERVATION BOUNDARIES STILL EXIST TODAY,…NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FULLY RECOGNIZES THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ORIGINAL SANDY LAKE INDIAN RESERVATION AS RESERVED IN ARTICLE 2 OF THE 1855 TREAT AND MARKED AND ANNOTATED IN CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF MINNESOTA V UNITED STATES 87 CT CL1 (CL. CT. 1938)
TALON METALS – TAMARACK MINE CONCERNS

- Mines are proven to be detrimental to water and air in the communities they operate in.
- A mine in our water rich environment would kill our manoomin (wild rice) and the methyl mercury would enter our food chain via the fish and other water borne animals and waterfowl.
- Air quality would be compromised (toxic dust)
- An underground mine by a parent company based in the Virgin Islands is highly suspect.
- Rio Tinto mining is known internationally for numerous human rights and environmental violations.
- The amounts of water needed for this mine are not openly shared nor any preliminary designs.
- The Eagle mine in Michigan, which Talon has stated they will model is not a non-polluting mine they claim to be.
- Humboldt Mill water treatment plant is located 30 miles from the Eagle mine and has been unable to meet whole effluent toxicity tests repeatedly from April 2017 to September 2019. In June 2019 they reported a spill of 2360 gallons of untreated mine wastewater into nearby wetlands.
THE ANISHINAABEG ORAL TEACHINGS AND PROPHECIES

• MINO-BIMAADIZIWIN – THE WAY OF THE GOOD LIFE. AN ANISHINAABE PHILOSOPHY AND WORLD VIEW.

• THE CREATORS LAW IS THE HIGHEST (RIGHTS OF NATURE). CYCLICAL BEINGS IN NATURE (SEASONS, MOONS, HUMANS INFANT TO ELDER, ETC).

• SEVEN FIRES PROPHECY – SPIRITUAL TEACHINGS OF THE ANISHINAABEG. A ROADMAP OF THE PAST AND PRESENT WITH FUTURE IN SIGHT – 8TH FIRE.

• ANISHINAABE MIGRATION STORY – PROPHECY THAT THE ANISHINAABEG WILL SETTLE IN ‘THE PLACE WHERE FOOD GROWS ON WATER’ MANOOMIN.
MIIGWECH FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION

JEAN SKINAWAY-LAWRENCE, CHAIRWOMAN

SANDY LAKE BAND OF MISSISSIPPI CHIPPEWA, 218.760.1395