



October 3, 2019

Dear Resident of Lead,

We are writing to provide an update on the construction of the Long Baseline Neutrino Facility (LBNF) and Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE) project at the Sanford Underground Research Facility (Sanford Lab) in Lead, South Dakota. As you may remember, the project is being led by Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab), a U.S. Department of Energy national laboratory located in Batavia, Illinois.

First of all, we want to say that we are extremely excited that the project is well underway. Construction has already begun and we are making improvements and upgrades to Sanford Lab in order to move ahead with excavation activities.

As we move forward with the project, we are aware that there may be questions about the activity happening in Lead relating to LBNF/ DUNE. From the outset, the construction of LBNF/DUNE has been designed to limit disruption to the community as much as possible. Since 2015 we've held a series of informational meetings to keep residents such as yourself informed, get your input and answer your questions. We will continue to hold those meetings on a regular basis; however, because not everybody is able to attend them, we are also sending you this letter. You can also find the presentations given at those meetings as well as answers to frequently asked questions at [www.fnal.gov/neighbors-sd](http://www.fnal.gov/neighbors-sd).

There are two primary areas in Lead where construction will take place above ground, both located on the Sanford Lab site. The first is between Ellison Street and Park Avenue, where we will install an elevated conveyor system that will transport rock excavated a mile underground to the Open Cut, as depicted in the illustration below. The conveyor route will be similar to the route used by the Homestake Mining Company, crossing above Highway 85 and extending to the Open Cut.

The project's construction company partner, Kiewit Alberici Joint Venture, has begun site preparation work near the portal where the conveyor system will exit the renovated tramway tunnel at Sanford Lab. The work will include digging and placing foundations, followed by the installation of the conveyor system; we expect the installation of the conveyor to begin in 2020. Activity that will create noise will generally be limited to weekdays during daytime hours. Work may be performed at night, but only inside the tunnel where noise should not reach the neighbors.

The conveyor itself should not create any noticeable noise, but the falling of rock from the conveyor into the Open Cut may generate some noise. Given this, we are putting measures in place to limit the impact. Depending on your specific location within the community, the noise may be audible but will be within the limits permitted by city ordinance.



The second construction area surrounds the Ross Shaft and is located entirely within the boundaries of the Sanford Lab site. The Ross Shaft will provide the primary access for getting people and materials in and out of the underground area during LBNF/DUNE construction. In addition, the project will use the shaft to bring excavated rock to the surface, which then will go onto the conveyor system.

There are three specific aspects to the work in the Ross Shaft area that we want to bring to your attention. First, there will be construction traffic, but it is not expected to impact traffic flow in any significant manner. Second, depending on your location, you may notice occasional construction noise, which will be well below the limits specified by city ordinance.

Third, depending on your location, you might hear noise from the operation of the rock crushing system, which will be similar to the one formerly used by the Homestake Mining Company during mining operations. The highest noise level at any adjacent property during nighttime operation is expected to be similar to the noise level of a moderate rainfall when standing outside. Starting in 2021, the project plans to operate the crushing system 24 hours per day for much of the excavation period, which is expected to last until 2024.

More information on the LBNF/DUNE project, Fermilab and Sanford Lab is at [www.fnal.gov/dune](http://www.fnal.gov/dune) and [www.sanfordlab.org](http://www.sanfordlab.org), including videos and animations of the project. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. You can contact Patrick Weber, Head of the Fermilab South Dakota Services Division via email at [neighbors-sd@fnal.gov](mailto:neighbors-sd@fnal.gov), or via phone at 605-929-1125. You also can contact Mike Stahl, City of Lead administrator via email at [mikes@cityoflead.com](mailto:mikes@cityoflead.com), or via phone at 605-584-1401.

Please join us for a public meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00pm in the Yates Education and Outreach Building located at Sanford Underground Research Facility (630 E Summit St, Lead SD). We look forward to sharing the exciting projects happening at SDSTA, LBNF and DUNE with you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weber  
Fermilab  
Division Head

Mike Headley  
SDSTA/Sanford Lab  
Executive Director/Lab Director

Scott Lundgren  
Kiewit Alberici Joint Venture