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August 30, 2018

The Honorable Scott Dianda House of Representatives House Office Building, Room S 1489 Lansing, Michigan

Dear Representative Dianda:

I received your letter dated August 24, 2018, requesting a performance audit of the decision to close the Ojibway Correctional Facility in Marenisco, Michigan. You requested that we look at compliance with boilerplate Sec. 944 regarding an economic impact analysis and whether documentation exists to help support the decision to close the facility.

We intend to conduct a follow-up to our 2012 performance audit, <u>Department of Corrections</u>, <u>Facility Closures and Consolidations – 471-0375-11</u>. In that audit, we reported that the department did not have sufficient documentation to support its basis for identifying and recommending correctional facilities and camps for closure or consolidation. We believe that we will be able to answer your questions within the scope of this follow-up. We will start this project during the first week of September.

Please note that we will not provide any conclusions as to whether Ojibway was the most appropriate facility for closure and/or if any closures were necessary. Our audit mandate per the Michigan Constitutional Convention Record is not to question the discretionary policy decisions made by the executive branch, but instead to independently and professionally audit the process used in making those decisions and how the operations were then executed.

If you have questions regarding our follow-up, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Doug Ringler Auditor General