



October 15, 2012

Neil Carpenter, Store Manager
Fresh Start Convenience Stores
520 Birch Avenue
Rapid City, SD 57701

Dear Mr. Carpenter,


We greatly appreciate the strides that the Hard Rockin' Gas Depot has made to try to partner with SDSM&T and improve our neighborhood. We have seen progress in our neighborhood quality since the removal of the alcohol licenses and the changes to the block west of campus. Since the verbal communication last week, there have been several incidents that have been brought to our attention, so we want to provide an official response to the Progress and Rejuvenation report made available to us on September 25, 2012.


On Sunday, October 7th, there were issues with a homeless camp off of East Saint Patrick Street. The area of concern was directly south of campus on land that is adjacent to campus property. We are concerned that this group will move back to the north side of the hill with the availability of alcohol. Additionally, last week, there was graffiti with racial slurs found along Kansas City Street.

We realize that you will have to make your own decision on the alcohol sales at your convenience store. However, our administration and student body feel strongly that we need more time to work on our neighborhood west of campus before having alcohol available at your location again. Therefore, we cannot provide support for the introduction of case beer sales.

We hope you can understand our concerns. Again, we are most grateful for the attention you have placed on making the Hard Rockin' Gas Depot a place for our staff and students to patronize.

Sincerely,


Timothy G. Henderson
VP for Finance and Administration


Dr. Patricia G. Mahon
VP for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

Cc: Dr. Duane C. Hrncir, Acting President