



Ford Motor Company

330 Town Center Drive
Suite 1100
Dearborn MI 48126

January 11, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to provide a brief history and current status report for the Ford Dearborn Truck Plant green roof installation to address widespread – and totally unfounded - rumors of its failure.

The 454,000 sq. ft. Xero Flor green roof was the result of several years of extensive study and evaluation of alternative approaches culminating in its installation Fall 2002. From its inception, the green roof has continued to serve as part of our storm water management system, an educational resource, and a milestone in U.S. green roof industry development. Despite these achievements, uninformed or malicious claims continue to be circulated among the design / build community.

The most egregious and fully unsubstantiated falsehood is that the roof vegetation has died and has had to be completely replaced. There is absolutely no basis for this assertion. The original Xero Flor green roof assembly remains totally intact and no portion of it has ever been replaced.

Also false are the claims that the green roof requires constant and intensive maintenance. The roof vegetation receives annual springtime fertilization, though has never been treated with any other agricultural or other chemical amendments at any time in its existence. The roof has a professionally installed commercial spray irrigation system, which was used during the initial growing season and only sparingly in subsequent summers during prolonged hot or dry periods. Claims that the green roof currently requires or has ever needed daily irrigation are totally false.

An assessment of the green roof vegetated diversity and coverage was performed in June 2009 by members of Michigan State University's Green Roof Research Program and Xero Flor representatives. Results indicate that the roof has a very healthy appearance with a dynamic mix of plant varieties. There are no "bare" areas of any significance and no weeds whatsoever. This study revealed that at least eleven of the thirteen species originally planted are still thriving with **greater than 90%** coverage of robust vegetation throughout the roof surface.

The roof is on display throughout the year to visitors taking the Ford Rouge Factory Tour. We are proud of our facility and wish to put these unfounded rumors to rest. As a member of the design team for this project, I have followed the progress of the roof since its inception and can attest to the fact that these rumors are totally false.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roger Gaudette".

Roger Gaudette
Director, Asset Management