

The Commission sent the following request to the Department of Natural Resources on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015.

***Related to the recommendation for closure, could you please expand upon your answer to question number 7 related to the economic impact of the closure of the facilities? We would also request more information related to transition costs especially related to returning collections to outside organizations and recovering our artifacts. Also, could you please discuss any costs that would be related to loss of certification and what would be required to reacquire certification if lost.***

Below is the response received from the Department on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

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Related to the recommendation for closure, could you please expand upon your answer to question number 7 related to the economic impact of the closure of the facilities?

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources does not have its own independent economic impact figures. Economic impact figures referenced are based on a formula used by the Illinois Office of Tourism. According to this metric, visitors to all Illinois State Museum branches spend about \$33 million each year (based on minimum estimates of visitor spending). In Springfield, economic activity from the main branch and research and collections center accounts for just over half of this amount (\$17 million). Facilities and grant projects contribute an additional \$8.4 million in economic activity. The museum receives federal grants worth about \$2 million each year.

We would also request more information related to transition costs especially related to returning collections to outside organizations and recovering our artifacts. Also, could you please discuss any costs that would be related to loss of certification and what would be required to reacquire certification, if lost.

I am still waiting on some more concrete info on costs. I will send them to you as soon as I receive them. Transition work is being undertaken by existing museum employees. Many exhibits at the Museum are temporary (or traveling exhibits) so returning collections would not be unique to the situation.

Additional information was received from the Department on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**Q:** What transition costs are incurred in the process of closing the museums?

**A:** Transition work is being undertaken by existing museum employees. Additional costs include shipping costs, travel to remove exhibitions at satellite locations and galleries, and returning art objects. To date, the cost has been: \$11,475.

**Q:** Is the museum in danger of losing its accreditation?

**A:** To maintain accreditation, the museum must be open at least 1,000 hours each year. The museum already has satisfied this requirement for 2015. Accreditation must be renewed every 10 years. The cost is \$4,500.