

December 19, 2025

Mr. Charles Jang
President
Hyundai Steel Louisiana
Via email: csjang@hyundai-steel.com

Dear Mr. Jang:

We write on behalf of Rural Roots Louisiana, a grassroots organization based in Ascension Parish with members who live in Modeste.

It has come to their attention that there is heavy equipment on the Germania Plantation near what archeologists have confirmed is a sugar mill tower. We understand this is land that the state proposes to lease to Hyundai for your steel mill. The sugar mill tower is one of several important historic and cultural assets remaining on the site. Our clients are concerned that the observed equipment will be used in the process of removing cultural assets and artifacts, including but not limited to the sugar mill tower.

While our clients are always vigilant about protecting these assets, they are especially concerned about activity over the holiday season. The matter is urgent given the October 2025 [destruction of the cabins on the Mulberry Grove site](#), also to be leased by Hyundai. You did [state publicly in October](#), that you would ensure no more cabins would be destroyed and that Hyundai takes “historical and cultural preservation seriously.” Our clients request similar assurance on the other assets on property in Modeste targeted for Hyundai’s development. Your assurance is also needed given that the holidays and end of year can be an active time for industry and a vulnerable time for communities.

We request confirmation from you by 10 AM ET on Tuesday, December 23rd that these assets will not be disturbed. Note that, due to the urgent nature of this issue, and what has already been lost, our clients will be sharing this letter with the media.

Sincerely,

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