

Senate Bill 415

Good morning!

I'm Bob Moeder Interim General Manager of the Kansas State Fair.

Previous to helping out the Kansas State Fair during this search for the new GM, I was President of the Fairgrounds Foundation Board.

There is an extraordinary potential on the 280 acres the fair currently operates in Hutchinson, KS.

There are numerous buildings that are absolutely in need of repairs. The main two are Bison & Expo, both are in need of major capital investments.

Unlike many state agencies the fair generates money all year round and is for the most part self-supporting. We put \$300,000 annually into our capital fund, but that's not enough. If we as a state want to continue to provide a state of the art fair and to enhance the educational opportunities for future youth in Kansas the State needs to work with us on our major capital projects.

The statute says we should receive \$300K annually from the state and according to the most current numbers the state is roughly \$1.7 million behind.

So how could you help us going forward? Well, by allowing us to keep the 6 ½% tax generated on the fairgrounds to go into the capital fund. This change would give the Kansas State Fair the ability to sell bonds and have a secure source of revenue to pay off those bonds. (Approximately \$300K)

I had not been to the state capital for a long time until recently, actually not since they were renovating the dome inside and out. It's amazing to see what's been done throughout, especially on the lower levels. Our capital is something all Kansans can be proud of.

The State Fair should receive the same attention to provide educational, life long memories, and a place Kansans can be proud of and utilize all year around.

In Closing, ... This process reminds me of when I was a young man mowing yards for 50 cents to 75 cents an hour. When I finally earned enough money and saved up to buy a new mower, I still had to ask permission to spend it and to borrow some for a riding mower which allowed me to increase my potential opportunity.

The fair does generate money for the state and we are just asking if we could have the tax back to invest it for all Kansans to continue to have a fair ground that we can all be proud of for generations just like the State Capital.

Thanks for considering this bill. I believe it to be a win/win for Kansans, the State Fair, and the future.

3/7/2018

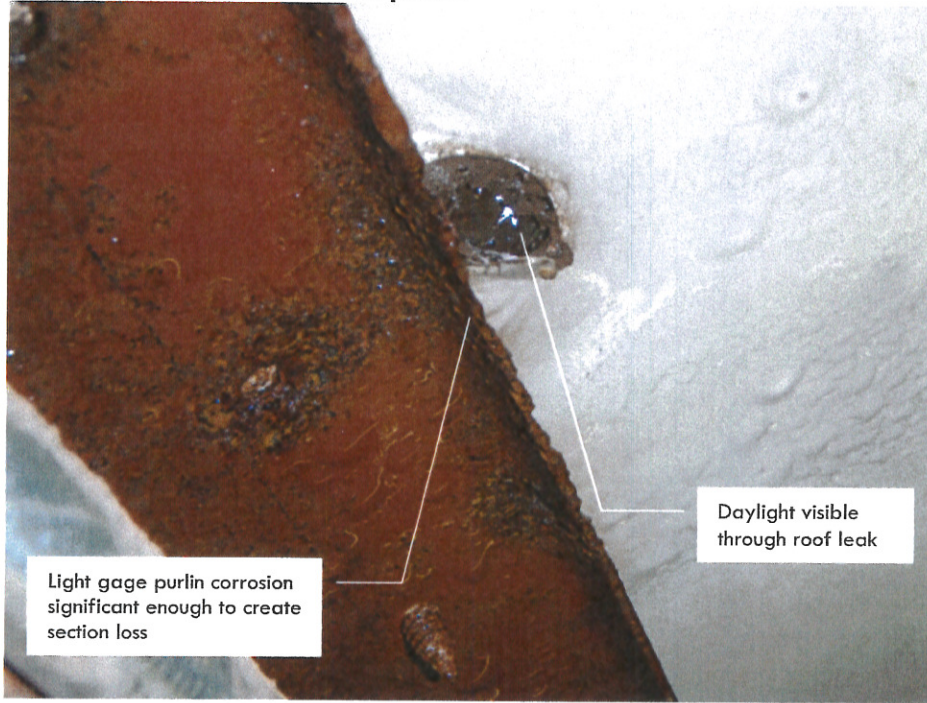
Respectfully,
Bob Moeder
Intrim General Manager
Kansas State Fair







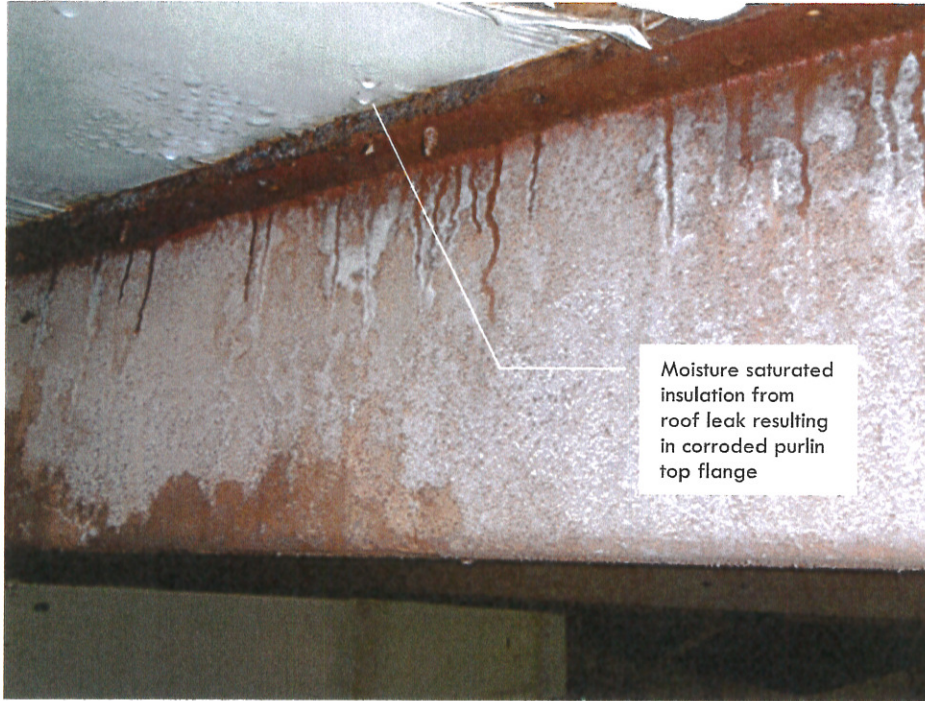
Detail of roof leak and corroded roof purlin



View of Previously Repaired Baseplate



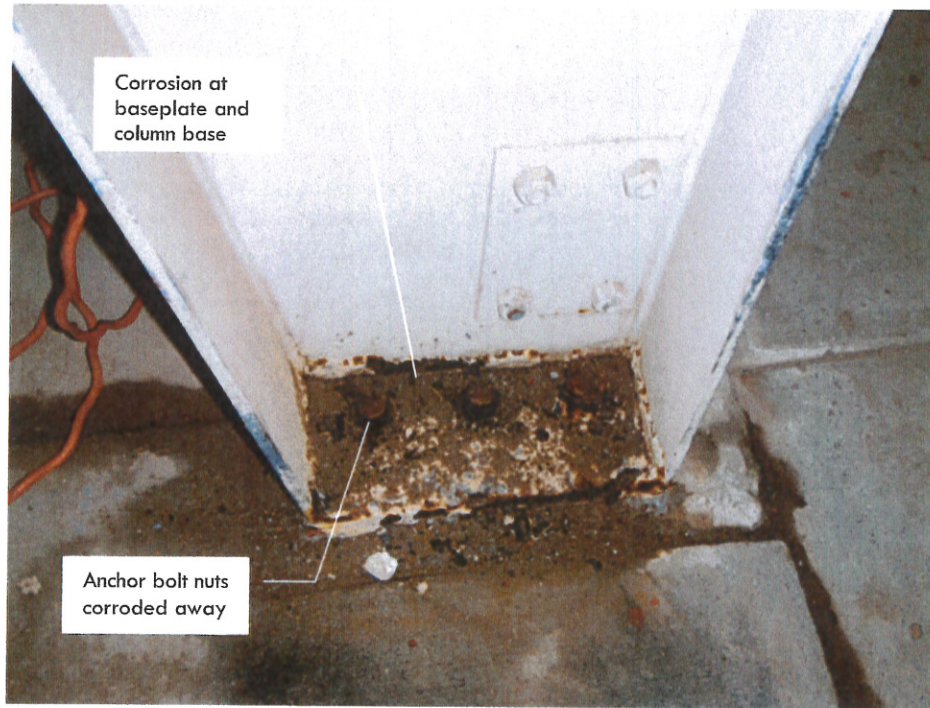
Typical view of saturated insulation and corroded roof purlin



Detail view of corroded roof purlin



Typical view of corroded base condition



Detail view of corroded anchor bolt nuts

