



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

SEP 22 2017

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

SUBJECT: COORDINATED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW INITIATIVE

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the lead agency in the federal effort to develop a coordinated environmental review process for housing and housing-related infrastructure in Indian Country. The interagency Coordinated Environmental Review Process Workgroup published a Final Report in February 2017, with recommendations on how the federal government should move forward. The Final Report can be found at: <https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=CoorEnvirReview.pdf>.

HUD's "Dear Tribal Leader" letter, dated February 7, 2017, provided an update on the Workgroup's progress, and included a copy of a status report that discussed ideas for implementation of the Final Report's recommendations. A comment period and two listening sessions were announced. That status report is available at <https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=finalreadaheadenv-rev.pdf>.

With this letter, HUD invites tribal leaders to provide comment and input on the Workgroup's draft plan to implement the recommendations laid out in the Final Report. The draft implementation plan puts forth several action items, and is enclosed with this letter.

The Coordinated Environmental Review Process workgroup is interested in your thoughts on the proposed action items, as well as any other ideas you have to address the Final Report recommendations and inefficiencies in the environmental review process. Comments and input will be considered before the implementation plan is finalized. You are invited to submit your comments on the enclosed draft implementation plan within 60 days from the date of this letter to Hilary Atkin, Environmental Clearance Officer, at Hilary.C.Atkin@hud.gov, or by postal mail to:

Ms. Hilary Atkin
HUD – Office of Native American Programs
451 Seventh Street SW, Room 5156
Washington, DC 20410

Input from tribal leaders is essential to developing the best plan possible to move forward with the recommendations of the Coordinated Environmental Review Process Final Report. Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in the effective delivery of HUD's programs.

Sincerely,

Heidi J. Frechette
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Native American Programs

Enclosure