



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Tribal Consultation on the

Coordinated Environmental Review Process Implementation Plan

June 21, 2021

Speaker 1:

Welcome and thank you for joining today's conference, coordinating environmental review of tribal housing and related infrastructure consultation. Before we begin, please ensure you have opened the chat panel by using the associated icons located at the bottom of your screen. If you require technical assistance, please send a chat to the event producer. To submit a written question, select all panelists from the dropdown menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box provided and send. To ask a question over the phone, please press #2 on your telephone keypad to enter the question queue. You will hear a notification when your line is unmuted. At that time, please state your name and question. To minimize the background noise on this call, please ensure that your audio device is unmuted. As a reminder, this conference is being recorded. With that, I'll turn the call over to Gary Cooper, director of field operations. Please go ahead.

Gary Cooper:

Thank you, event producer. And thank you everyone for joining us this afternoon for this consultation session. HUD has been leading a work group for several years charged with developing a coordinated their environmental review for tribal housing and related infrastructure projects. As you know, in late 2019, Congress directed HUD to establish the Tribal Housing and Related Infrastructure Inter-agency taskforce to impart review environmental laws and authorities for opportunities for greater efficiencies, explore whether environmental reviews could be expedited if agencies funding similar types of projects in Indian Country developed a line categorical exclusions, and also identify specific regulatory and policy improvements. This work is very important. During HUD's consultation sessions to strengthen our tribal consultation, streamlining environmental requirements was brought forward as a tribal priority, and it is HUD's priority. Streamlining and environmental requirements through the work of this taskforce is included in HUD's consultation plan actions.

The taskforce has developed an implementation plan which describes the actions to develop a coordinated and environmental review. This implementation plan will guide the work of the taskforce for years to come. This sets priorities through the establishment timeframes to complete the actions. And we are asking for your ideas, input, and feedback to ensure the

implementation plan has practical and actionable items that will help ensure a coordinated and environmental review when multiple agencies are funding housing and related infrastructure in Indian Country projects.

Again, thank you for being willing to assist in this important endeavor. My self, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Heidi Frechette, who wasn't able to be here this afternoon, but also our entire team at the Office of Native American Programs at HUD looks forward to working with all of you all in this very important task, and on this very important mission. So with that, I'm now going to turn this over to Kristen [Baptist 00:03:27] who is with the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utility Services. So with that, go ahead.

Kristen Baptist: Thank you, Gary. Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Kristen Baptist. I am an environmental protection specialist at Rural Utility Service at the USDA. I started at RUS in October of 2020. And before that, I worked for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. So I've experience with both NEPA and Section 106. And today I'm co-presenting with the leader of the Tribal Housing and Related Infrastructure taskforce, Danielle Schopp. And I will let her introduce herself. Danielle?

Danielle Schopp: Hi everyone. My name is Danielle Schopp and I work in HUD's Office of Native American Programs as the program environmental clearance officer. And in this role, I developed environmental policies and guidance for ONAP programs, and our primary responsibility is to help lead this taskforce. So thank you. Nice to meet you. I look forward to our conversation today, and I'll turn it back to Kristen to go over some of the background and history of this taskforce before we talk about the implementation plan.

Kristen Baptist: Thank you, Danielle. So I will provide a very brief background on the taskforce to provide some context. But the background section will be brief because the point of today's session is to hear from you and listen to your ideas and your input. So this consultation session, we'll collect and provide your feedback and direction on the implementation plan to the taskforce. Please feel free to raise your hand or type in the chat at any time. There's plenty of time, and we are very interested in hearing your ideas and reactions as you have them. No need to wait until the end. And then after the background, Danielle will go through each of the action items proposed in the draft implementation plan. So the taskforce came about through a government accountability office or GAO audit, and then Congress directed the formation of this taskforce, and Congress is still very attune to, and interested in this work. The taskforce regularly reports to the Senate Appropriations Committee on a regular basis.

The taskforce has participants from nine federal agencies that have oversight of or funding for housing and housing related infrastructure. The agencies that are listed on the slide are working together to develop a coordinated review for tribal housing and related infrastructure. This spring, the taskforce realized that the development to the implementation plan was a good point to seek and invite tribal representatives to provide input. And one of the goals of the

taskforce is to bring in the voices of tribal representatives. And the tribal representatives listed here have already responded to the taskforce's outreach efforts and have agreed to participate on the taskforce. There'll be representatives of these seven tribes working with us on the taskforce and providing regular input at monthly meetings, but it should be noted that all deliverables of the taskforce will continue to go through full tribal consultations.

The taskforce will explore adding additional tribal representatives in the future so we can ensure the tribal experience and needs are centered in this work. And the full taskforce will meet for the first time in a few weeks. And a letter to tribal leaders will be going out shortly to... Sorry, I lost my [inaudible 00:08:05]. A letter to tribal leaders will be issued shortly on a date set for mid-July for comments on the consultation sessions. And the taskforce is asking for written comments by July 23rd. And then I guess, the next slide, yeah. So in 2014 and '15, several round table sessions, informal consultations were held and the final report was submitted in December of 2015.

And this final report continues to guide the taskforce's work today. When Congress first directed the taskforce to develop a coordinated environmental review, the taskforce engaged two consultants and our federal partners to understand the challenges and issues tribes face in their housing and related infrastructure compliance review. Several dozen tribes were interviewed and a typical housing project development process was mapped out. The taskforce also interviewed and collected information from federal agencies on their internal environmental compliance process. And all this was done during these round table, informal consultation sessions. The final report had 12 recommendations. I think those will start on the next slide. Yep, there they are. These recommendations are driving the draft implementation plan. The implementation plan has action items to implement these recommendations. And Danielle will talk more about that in a minute. So the taskforce is now at the point of seeking feedback and input on the implementation plan from tribes. And the taskforce will be holding a second webinar consultation on the implementation plan. And this is when the letter to the tribal leaders will be issued at a date for mid-July.

And on behalf of the taskforce, thank you for your time and the effort you put in to be here today to provide comments. And now Danielle will talk about the recommendation.

Danielle Schopp:

Sure. Thank you. Thank you, Kristen. And again, I want to echo Kristen's sentiment that we really do want to hear your ideas and thoughts and reactions to the action items we're proposing to implement the final report recommendations. So please feel free to type in the chats or raise your hand so we can hear your thoughts as we go through, because I'm going to be going through the 11 action items. And at the end, of course, we'll open it up to hear about anything and everything, but as I go through, we want to welcome your thoughts and feedback. So I ask the producer to please go over instructions for how to raise your hands and unmute or have a chat.

Speaker 1: Sure. To submit a written question, select all panelists from the dropdown menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box provided and send. To ask a question over the phone, please press #2 on your telephone keypad to enter the question queue. You'll hear a notification when your line is unmuted. At that time, please state your name and question. Once again, pressing #2 will indicate you wish to ask a question.

Danielle Schopp: Great. Thank you. Okay. So getting into the meat of the matter, the implementation plan, I'm just going to briefly go over the proposed actions and how they relate to the final report recommendations. Action related number one. This is the only action item in the implementation plan that does not directly support a recommendation from the 2015 final report. This action item has come up in numerous listening sessions throughout the years of the work group. Sometimes it has been described as a format. Here we're broadening that to a coordinated approach for tribes and agencies to collect and share environmental information, to reduce duplication of effort for environmental reviews for housing and housing related infrastructure. So the taskforce is working to better understand what is meant by this coordinated approach/format.

Is it a format that tribes provide NEPA national environmental policy act information? Does this format include information about Section 106, historic and cultural resources or wet lands? How would this be used and what problems would it solve? So we are digging further into trying to understand and hear from tribes on what this action items is and what it will accomplish. So we then have some proposals for consultation and feedback that meet those needs. So the taskforce has a consultant that is doing interviews with tribes to further understand this. And the consultant will be making recommendations to the taskforce, and the taskforce will be proposing a tool, a deliverable, which will go through full tribal consultation. So right now we're at the beginning of the start and we are actively engaged in moving forward on this action item.

And this is definitely an area where we'd love to hear more about your experience and what you need on this coordinated format or series of formats. You can raise your hand or put in the chat or save your thoughts for later. But this is a big action item that HUD and HUD leadership cares about a lot. So we really appreciate any thoughts and feedback on this. An idea, might be a process where there's different coordination points with federal agencies who are funding the projects, and maybe there could be a tool to identify the different environmental compliance requirements for each funding source. That's one idea that might help enable one coordinated environmental reviews that covers all agency funding, but would really like to know and hear more about it from you guys. And I'll keep going, but if there's any questions or hand raising in the chat... Oh, I see something.

Okay. I'm just going to go ahead and read the chats, if I can do that. So if we could enter project information at a single web location and have letters automatically fill out to all the agencies, it would be great. That's a great idea.

And I'm wondering if there is any agency consultations in particular that we should prioritize for that kind of coordinated outreach. But yeah, thank you for offering those suggestions. Are there any hands raised on the phone?

Speaker 1: I do not see anyone in the queue as of now. As a reminder, please press #2 in order to enter the question queue.

Danielle Schopp: Okay, well we'll keep going, but hopefully we're just starting to spark some ideas here. Action item number two in the implementation plan is to ensure tribal input. This is something that the work group has identified and wanted to improve. So one of the first things that we've done since we reestablished ourselves as a taskforce in 2019, we did seek nominations for tribal representatives. As Kristen said, we have seven tribes and we've received interest from seven tribes and they all have a seat at the working group table, so that is wonderful and we'll be looking to continue ways to add more tribal representative. We're also looking at ways to identify connections at a regional level between tribes and agencies. So that is one action item from the implementation plan.

Another is to develop common categorical exclusions. So Congress also has directed us to think about this in the 2019 language. So each agency develops their own categorical exclusions for NEPA, and they do this through rulemaking or notice and comment in the Federal Register. And so each agency has slightly different or sometimes vastly different categorical exclusions because they're based upon the agency's mission and programs and activities. So one thing we're looking at doing is developing and using common categorical exclusions to help simplify things, so that the same action has the same level of review.

Another action item is to develop a planning playbook. Environmental coordination requires an overall project coordination. You need to know the funding sources to have a coordinated environmental review. You'd think to do this early on to make sure the coordinated environmental review is done in a timely manner. So the final report recommended more predictable funding mechanisms to make it easier to know the funding sources and to do this project planning, however that's outside of this taskforce's authority, but one thing that the taskforce did think would help is to develop a guidance document that helps with project planning at a broad level, connecting the dots, points of information, people to talk to when you are funding the same activities so that we can do a coordinated environmental review.

It also addresses providing training. We will be doing training for, and we will be providing resources and the training plans for the deliverables within the implementation plan. Another action item is to develop resources to include a wider use of existing NEPA efficiency tools. In the final report for the recommendations, to develop the tool to encourage incorporation by reference. Incorporation by reference allows an agency to use another agency's environmental information and their all environmental reviews to reduce duplication. There are other tools currently available within the NEPA process

such as adoption and lead agencies that help coordinate agencies and again, reduce duplication and burden. So we are looking at developing guidance about how to use these tools and training, so people know how to go about using these tools.

And again, I encourage at any time, any chat or raise your hands so we can unmute you. It doesn't need to be a question, it can just be feedback, input, any ideas or thoughts. And I'll keep going. Another action item is to ensure that environmental review requirements are being applied consistently. So we want to know that there is more training and communication so that tribes and the agencies are following the same rules, the same process, to the extent we can. And here we will definitely need your help and input in identifying common areas where you might get different advice maybe from different HUD staff or you get conflicting advice or conflicting requirements from agencies we want to know about.

Okay. And I see a question in the chat from Michelle. Have you created a matrix that demonstrates the required laws and authorities for each agency on different types of activities? Michelle, that's a good question. That is ongoing work. We are having our consultant gather that information so that we can identify the NEPA requirements and guidance documents that agencies used for their environmental review processes. So we created one in 2015 in the final report, it's an appendix, and right now we're updating that to make sure it's accurate and capturing any changes.

Okay. So the next action item number seven is to identify opportunities for greater efficiencies within the related environmental laws and authorities. NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act is an umbrella process that agencies use to analyze and look at a variety of environmental laws and authorities. For instance, HUD has what we call related laws and authorities, and there's about 15, and they're different from NEPA, they have their own statutes and their own regulations, but we look at them and make sure our project complies through the NEPA process. So in my experience with inter-agency coordination efforts, I have found that it is usually these related laws and authorities that need coordination, that are causing delays, that are causing burden.

It can also be the NEPA analysis, but it's often less, such as floodplain executive order compliance or Section 106, historic and cultural resources. That's just a couple, but there's also wetlands and [inaudible 00:25:46], so on and so forth. So with these, we definitely are looking for more input and feedback. On one of those related laws, what one should we prioritize and focus on coordination? Right now in the implementation plan, we have identified floodplain and historic and cultural resources as two areas that have come up in previous listening sessions, the areas right for coordination and improvement. We'd like to hear from you, and we'd like to hear any specific ideas or specific areas that you think we should focus on.

Okay. Just another action item is to develop a coordinated environmental review process website. And this helps support a lot of the recommendations in the final report. We have established a website for the taskforce and it includes all of our historical documents and your tribal leader letter, the final report implementation plan, and it will also be a place for tools, guidance, and training that comes out of the taskforce. And of course, we'll be looking for ideas on what should be on that website and which had an idea proposed in the chat, and we're interested in hearing more information about what you need to help coordinate an environmental review among multiple agents.

And then action item number nine is to expand this effort to include actions that are not housing related. This taskforce is centered on housing and housing related infrastructure. There is a lot of interest from agencies and the others on using our work as a best practice and bringing in that forward to other areas. Now hopefully, we'll get some good tools and the framework and we'll develop a lot of best practices that can help in other areas.

Okay. And then finally, the last two action items is to develop an inter-agency environmental review automated tool. And so for agents for a tribe that are familiar with and use HUD HEROS, the HUD Environmental Review Online System, it's optional, but some tribes are using this to complete an environmental review. I think the concept here is to think of an expanded HEROS where there's an IT system that identifies and helps guide and walk tribes and agencies through other environmental review requirements. So there can be one environmental review that addresses all the needs from all the funding agencies. This is a longer term goal in the sense that we first need to develop the framework, the output and make sure that we have buy-in from tribes and the agencies, and then it meets the needs, so we know what the tool is doing, and it will also require resources as far as funding [inaudible 00:30:05] and support. And it will take time to do that, but we're moving in this direction.

Finally, action item number 11, the final report included recommendations that were specific to HUD to ease paperwork burden. And within the final report was a recommendation that HUD changed its rules to allow citing of HUD projects near residential propane tanks without mitigation. And this is one item that HUD has accomplished. We did finalize a rule in January, 2020 that exempts 1000 gallons or less propane tanks from our regulation, as long as the tribe or government where the project is located adopts the National Fire Protection Association Code 58. And a second recommendation here for HUD is to continue to explore ways of making things easier, of making this an [inaudible 00:31:22] soft cost environmental review easier for tribes. I am working on that. The taskforce is relieved from those responsibilities since it is a HUD action item, and that is a brief overview of the action items within the implementation plan.

In the last page of it, you'll also see a timeline for when we plan to initiate these action items and the level of efforts that it will take. So the implementation plan tells us not only what we're going to do to implement the final report recommendation, but also how we're going to prioritize our time. There's a lot

of really great recommendations and all of them will take a little bit of time to develop, so we need to prioritize them. So we are also seeking recommendations or thoughts on what challenges you would prioritize for us to tackle and any ideas on those things.

So with that, I'm going to open it up to some questions that I have, and I'm just going to put them up on screen here, but this is really an open forum and feel free to comment on anything at all related to environmental reviews for these projects, and anything specific to the action items or things that we've missed, which is anything at all, really. So with that, I'm going to ask if there's any hand raised. And it would be really nice to hear some feedback on what we're doing and what challenges you're facing and how we can help.

Speaker 1: As a reminder, please press #2 on your telephone keypad to enter the question queue. You'll hear a notification when your line is unmuted. At that time, please state your name and question. Once again, pressing #2 will indicate you wish to ask a question. To submit a written question, select all panelists from the dropdown menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box provided and send. I do not see any questions in the phone queue or in the chat as of now.

Danielle Schopp: Okay. Well, I'll just rattle off some other questions because there's people going and just now we're open to sharing anything. So some other thoughts, or what are your ideas to reduce duplication and burden of environmental reviews? Taskforce is really driven to reduce those things and make it easier on tribes and federal agencies, but focus on tribe, to make it easier to go through the environmental review process for these projects. If you have any action items or the ones that I've gone through or anything else about what you think we need to prioritize or areas of focus. We'd also love to hear about any challenges you face when you're using multiple federal funding sources and developing an environmental review. What's your horror story?

And on the flip side, do you have any examples of where you have seen a coordinated project or coordinated environmental review? What happens to make that coordination possible and successful? We'd really love to find some best practices or examples of a coordinated housing, environmental review, or related infrastructure for housing. If you have any to talk about, that would be great, or you want to submit comments.

Speaker 1: Looks like there is a question in the chat. So it says, have you thought about areas to discuss in relation to jurisdictional authority and working through them? Examples, floodplain management, where there is not a participating community in the NFIP and tribes trying to navigate a process to do [inaudible 00:37:54] and federal forms required a signature from FEMA flood manager?

Danielle Schopp: Thank you, Michelle. Yes, HUD has experience running into issues where tribes have the land ownership and where the projects are, it can complicate roles and responsibilities, including for environmental review compliance, such as land

insurance. One area that the taskforce and HUD is prioritizing and wants input and feedback on is how to do floodplain compliance in particular. Only 5% of Indian Country has a FEMA flood insurance rate map. And that's what HUD uses in our process as the source to require and go through the eight step process for the executive order. Obviously, we have a lot of area and land that might have flooding risks that doesn't have a FEMA flood map. So we're looking at setting up a subgroup eventually... not eventually, but not this year, but at least next year. And bringing in FEMA and other flood plain experts and getting some examples from tribe of areas and best practices for how tribes are assessing flood plain risk when there's not a FEMA flood map.

Kristen's chiming in here that USDARUS uses national resource conservation soil information to look at the flood plains flood information and HUD is starting to talk to FEMA about some of their non-insurance maps they do create for tribe, and thinking about ways to use that information from the Hazard Grant Mitigation Plan, but we'll be definitely asking for other thoughts and ideas, and certainly tribes often have that information themselves. So I do see another question. Has the taskforce looked at developing models, programmatic agreements with [inaudible 00:40:59] and common project types, such as programmatic agreement with the State Historic Preservation Office for rehabilitation of existing housing that is within certain parameters.

And we're lucky to have Kristen here actually on the taskforce for her experience in Section 106 consultation. And I know that we'd be interested in exploring those models and best practices. HUD itself can't go out right now through a programmatic agreements because the tribes are the federal responsibility, federal agency responsible. So we are looking at ways to work with tribes at a regional, or maybe a national level. There's interest in some of the 106 tools that might include programmatic agreements and might include other streamlining tools. I'm wondering Kristen, if you have anything you want to respond to in this question?

Kristen Baptist: About Section 106? About streamlining Section 106?

Danielle Schopp: Yeah.

Kristen Baptist: Yeah. One of the things that can be done under Section 106, which is, unlike NEPA in this regard, is that a lead federal agency can be established for Section 106, and then all of the federal agencies kind of work together and do tribal consultation and [Shippo 00:42:58] consultation all at the same time. But in order to do that, all of the federal agencies need to know that the project is going on and they will have a piece of the project which seems to be a little bit of a sticking point at this time. But if we all know we routinely work together to do lead federal agency agreement, and then the lead federal agency coordinates the consultation on behalf of all the other agencies, although the other agencies are involved and they keep an eye on things, but it does help facilitate meetings and makes the group a little bit smaller sometimes, so that

it's easier to schedule those meetings. And then there are updates sent to the other federal agencies.

So that is something that's already available in the Section 106 regulations that can be used. But again, the federal agencies would have to know that they're going to be involved to start that up front.

Danielle Schopp:

Yeah. And, I guess, to question or a wonderment, I guess, I have is for a coordinated environmental review, you really need to know what agencies are involved, what the funding sources are, and I'm wondering if anyone has any ideas on how we can improve an identifier earlier on who needs to have a seat at the table and what the scope of the environmental review should be?

I think the final report mentioned that it's a challenge because there's so much competitive funding that tribes are getting from agencies. It's really hard to know if you're going to get funded when you're waiting to hear back from a competitive funding situation, and those competitions and the funding processes don't align, are always aligned. So it's really hard to piece together and to know all the funding sources at an early stage. So definitely a lot of the action items are hinged upon early knowledge or early indication of what funding sources might be brought to the project. So if anyone has any ideas of ways to improve that coordination or share that information, we would love to hear it.

Speaker 1:

As a reminder, please press #2 on your telephone keypad to enter the question queue. You'll hear a notification when your line is unmuted. At that time, please state your name and question. Once again, pressing #2 will indicate you wish to ask a question. To submit a written question, select all panelists from the dropdown menu in the chat panel, enter your question in the message box provided and send.

Danielle Schopp:

I will say too, that the federal agencies are very committed to finding practical and implementable ways and tool to improve these processes and understanding the needs and challenges from the tribe is essential. So we really appreciate your time being here today and any input you provide now or any written comments. The future might hold more funding for infrastructure for tribes, and certainly there will be an emphasis and prioritization on efficiencies for the environmental review process, so these projects can be done quicker and cheaper and deliver results. So the implementation plan has 11 action items. We're looking to expand or reframe these. We're seeking your input and feedback to make sure we're heading in the right direction with the right priorities. This implementation plan will guide the task force work for a number of years.

So it's really important to us that we hear from you before we get too far down the road to see if we're on the right road. Throughout the process, we will be doing tribal consultations on tools and deliverables, so this is our first outreach to tell you our plan and what we intend to do. And we look forward to getting

input and feedback to finalize that plan so that the agencies and tribal representatives on the task force are spending our time where it needs to be spent. [inaudible 00:50:12] back here. Again, here is the email address for comments. We're asking for written comments by July 23rd, and we will use those comments to help finalize the plan. I just wanted to make sure you're aware of the timeframe and how to submit written comments.

Speaker 1: Looks like there is one question in the chat. It says that do we need... Sorry. Where do we find the document we are to comment on?

Danielle Schopp: Oh, yes, that's a good question. I will type it up in the chat box. There was a link to it and it's your tribal leader letter, but it's the document that's on HUD's website. This is a short document. It just contains those 11 action items with a little bit more detail, and it includes a timeframe at the back. It includes the timeframe.

So when you go to our website, which I just sent, this is the task force website, and it has why we're here, what we're doing, background and purpose. And in the middle of the page, it has reports and documents, and there is where you will find the implementation plan. It says draft implementation plan 2021. You will also find the final report, which is a little bit longer [inaudible 00:52:55] and the appendices which are packed with really good information, including mapping of typical housing projects, when and how they come together, the process. And it also includes a matrix that shows the environmental review requirements that funding agencies look at, who were involved at that time. And we're updating that information. You will find the implementation plan on our website here.

I really just want to stress that we welcome the comments on the document itself. And we are also seeking broader comments and feedback and thoughts on any part of the environmental review process. We might not have developed an action item around it, but we're collecting information that could be included in a revised finalized implementation plan. And as we move along just gathering and keeping and recording all this information, for instance, we might find a specific state's requirement that's causing some issues that we might not tackle as the national task force, but it's something that can be brought to our attention and we can help figure out the people to solve those issues or work on that challenge. For instance, I've heard in Michigan that the state and [Army Corps 00:55:02] of Engineers have a joint process for weapons permit.

Those are jurisdictional waters that require a permit if they are wetlands. And the state doesn't always... it's not clear on the application where the project is, if it's on tribal land or a simple lands, and of course the authorities are different, and there is no state authority on tribal land. Sometimes that's an issue and that's been brought to the attention of this work group. So we're really interested in hearing any issue and figuring out how to go about improving or trying to tackle any challenges. Of course, we're interested in the implementation plan as well. We really want to make sure we're spending our

time wisely on the things that matter to tribes. But we also want to, and are open to hearing about any other issues so that we can expand and try to address other other topics. Are there any hands raised?

Speaker 1: I do not see any questions in the phone queue.

Danielle Schopp: Okay. I think everyone's keeping it for the written comments. We will have another consultation session and we continue to seek input and feedback and ideas where coordination has gone well, where it hasn't gone well or any other areas that tribes are finding just burdensome, challenging, expensive or take a long time. Those are the areas that we want to hear about that we can make sure we prioritize our work around the things that matter.

And we really appreciate your time, and maybe for some of you, this was new. Maybe others are just gathering information, will come back with things. We hope to be more engaged regularly with you, and hear more from you so that we can work together to make the environmental review process as efficient, and we still want compliant obviously, but as efficient as possible.

So with that [inaudible 00:58:48]. I've been trying to spend some time here with some questions and I'm not hearing a lot, I think we will wrap this consultation session up. Again, we will be issuing another tribal leader letter for a second consultation subject. They'll be the same information, and we will be asking again for written comments by July 23rd on the implementation plan. [inaudible 00:59:21], but another way to get to it is just to Google HUD tribal coordinated environmental review, and you will get to our web page if you lose this link. And again, we look forward to any and all of your thoughts, ideas, feedback, and reactions. And I'd like to thank Kirsten from USDA Utility Services for being here today along with Gary Cooper. And we also had some other HUD staff on, so I'd like to thank you for your support and time. And I just wanted to let you all know that HUD, we're continuing to prioritize this work and we appreciate your help.