



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

March 4, 2021

SUBJECT: Tribal Housing and Related Infrastructure Interagency Task Force (THRIITF)

Dear Tribal Leader,

HUD is seeking elected or appointed officers or authorized designees of tribal governments to join the Tribal Housing and Related Infrastructure Interagency Task Force (THRIITF). 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. Congress directed HUD to establish THRIITF to address and implement the working group recommendations to continue the review of related environmental laws and authorities to identify opportunities for greater efficiencies; explore whether environmental reviews could be expedited if agencies which fund similar types of projects developed aligned categorical exclusions; and identify specific regulatory and policy improvements. THRIITF will be addressing and implementing the recommendations of the 2015 Coordinated Environmental Review Process, which can be found at: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/COORENVIRREVIEW.PDF>.

The THRIITF is currently composed of staff from the following agencies: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Council on Environmental Quality, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Interior, and U.S. Department of Transportation. HUD will review the nominations submitted for Tribal representative committee membership to ensure that those selected have the requisite knowledge and experience and reflect the diversity of tribes in terms of size and location.

HUD's tentative plan is to hold a monthly meeting with all THRIITF members (federal agency representatives and Tribal representatives) as well as a monthly meeting with only federal agency representatives. Members will develop an implementation plan for the 2015 recommendations and provide input on deliverables and products. THRIITF will conduct tribal consultation on the implementation plan and deliverables.

Interested persons and organizations may nominate persons for THRIITF by submitting a written nomination to HUD at the address below

Nominations for membership on THRIITF must include:

1. The name and address of the nominee
2. Written evidence that the nominee is elected, appointed or otherwise authorized to represent a tribal government or group of tribal governments
3. A written statement indicating how the nominee meets the following selection criteria:
 - The nominee is authorized by a tribal government to act on the tribe's behalf to develop a coordinated environmental review process; and
 - The nominee has demonstrated knowledge and experience in preparing environmental reviews pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act for tribal housing and related infrastructure projects.

Please submit nominations to Danielle Schopp, ONAP Environmental Clearance Officer, within 60 days of issuance of this letter (Deadline: May 3, 2021). Ms. Schopp can be reached by email at Danielle.L.Schopp@hud.gov.

Thank you for your continued participation in HUD's Indian housing programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heidi J. Frechette". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long, sweeping horizontal line at the end.

Heidi J. Frechette,
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Native American Programs