



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

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT

May 16, 2018

SUBJECT: UPDATING HUD'S ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REGULATIONS

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) invites your Tribe to engage in government-to-government consultation before and during the re-drafting of its environmental regulations that affect HUD's Indian programs.

Streamlining or eliminating duplicative or burdensome regulations is a federal priority, and HUD's Government-to-Government Tribal Consultation Policy calls for consultation with Tribal Nations and Tribal Leaders at the beginning of the regulation drafting process. HUD remains committed to working closely with federally recognized tribes on formulating policies that affect them.

An initial, 30-day Tribal consultation period will focus on ideas to streamline the HUD environmental review regulations at 24 CFR Parts 50, 51, 55, and 58. HUD invites Tribal officials to provide comments and input during a webinar and conference call on June 11, 2018, at 2 p.m. EDT.

How to join: [Join Skype Meeting](#)

Audio: 888.675.2535 Access Code: 4038003#

If you do not have webinar access, you can participate by conference call. HUD will post information on how to access the webinar/call on the HUD [ONAP Codetalk website](#).

You may also send comments or ideas to streamline the HUD environmental review regulations to [EnvironmentalPlanningDivision@hud.gov](mailto:EnvironmentalPlanningDivision@hud.gov), or:

Marcel Tchaou  
Director, Environmental Planning Division  
HUD Office of Environment and Energy  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Room 7212  
Washington, DC 20410.

The comment period for this initial stage of consultation will be open until 30 days from the date of this letter.

HUD will draft a new regulation (a “proposed rule”) this summer based on its research and comments collected from Tribes during the initial 30-day comment period. HUD will then send this draft to all Tribal Leaders and housing executives for an additional, 60-day tribal comment period.

During this 60-day period, HUD will either hold an additional webinar and conference call, or will arrange an in-person consultation. This 60-day period, which will allow Tribes to examine the draft proposed rule and collaborate with HUD, will occur prior to, and in addition to, the standard public comment periods associated with publishing rules in the *Federal Register*.

### **Additional Background**

HUD’s Office of Environment and Energy is leading this effort to streamline environmental review regulations. HUD seeks to make a number of updates, and particularly wants to remove duplicative or outdated requirements in Parts 50 and 58. HUD will also focus on airport hazards in Part 51 Subpart D. However, HUD will consider all proposals regarding any section of HUD’s environmental regulations, including noise standards in Part 51 Subpart B, acceptable separation distance from hazardous operations in Part 51 Subpart C, and floodplain management and wetlands protection rules in Part 55. More information on HUD environmental review regulations can be found on the [HUD Environmental Review website](#).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Marcel Tchaou in HUD’s Office of Environment and Energy at [EnvironmentalPlanningDivision@hud.gov](mailto:EnvironmentalPlanningDivision@hud.gov) or 202.402.5226. Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in the effective delivery of HUD's programs in Indian Country.

Sincerely,



Danielle Schopp  
Director, Office of Environment and Energy