



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

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

RE: COORDINATED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW INITIATIVE

February 10, 2016

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the lead agency in a federal effort to develop a coordinated environmental review process for housing and housing-related infrastructure in Indian Country. HUD worked with the Council on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Energy, the Department of Health and Human Services (Indian Health Service), the Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs) and other federal agencies to complete a report to Congress with findings and recommendations on streamlining the federal environmental review process, entitled "Coordinated Environmental Review Process Final Report." That report and its appendices are attached for your information.

The report discusses the background and process that led to the formation of the working group and the issuance of the report. The report gives several recommendations that could lead to simplified environmental review processes and ultimately save time and money for developers of affordable tribal housing and its related infrastructure. Going forward, HUD will continue to lead the working group in implementing the report recommendations.

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in the effective delivery of HUD's housing programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Akers", written over a horizontal line.

Randy Akers
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Native American Programs

cc: Executive Director, Tribally Designated Housing Authority