



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

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

MAY 29 2015

RE: TRIBAL CONSULTATION – COORDINATED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW INITIATIVE

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is the lead agency in a federal effort to develop a single, coordinated environmental review process for housing and community development in Indian Country.

To simplify and streamline federal environmental review requirements, HUD is working 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 Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs), and other federal agencies. A single process that would satisfy all relevant federal environmental review requirements could potentially save time and money for developers of affordable housing and its related infrastructure.

Since the last tribal consultation on this subject, at the AMERIND and National American Indian Housing Council's annual convention, HUD has continued to gather information from tribes, tribally designated housing entities, and partner agencies to identify options for coordinating the environmental review process. HUD and the other affected federal agencies will present their findings at the next tribal consultation.

You are invited to attend the next tribal consultation session on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at the National Congress of American Indians' (NCAI) Mid Year Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota. The consultation session will be from 9 a.m. until 12 noon at the St. Paul RiverCentre, 175 W. Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Before the Conference, HUD will distribute a findings paper, based on the on-going research. Please review that information before the consultation session. Your comments and input will be considered, along with the information collected from interviews with grant recipients and federal partners, to develop a report providing recommendations to the U.S. Congress.

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in the effective delivery of HUD's housing programs. The Office of Native American Programs team looks forward to the discussion at the consultation session at the NCAI Mid-Year Conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. Boyd".

Rodger J. Boyd
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Native American Programs

cc: Executive Director, Tribally Designated Housing Entity