



“A Tradition of Native American Housing”

October 1, 2009

Sandra Henriquez
Assistant Secretary
Office of Public and Indian Housing
U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development
451 7th Street SW
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Madam Assistant Secretary:

On behalf of the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC), I am writing to thank you for your strong support for the amendments contained in the *Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2008* (Pub. L. No. 110-411), enacted with strong bi-partisan support in October 2008. We look forward to working with you to implement these amendments, particularly as the Department has furthered its rulemaking process by announcing the establishment of the negotiated rulemaking committee on September 23.

As we look toward the implementation of these amendments we are especially cognizant of section 105 of the new law, which requires the Secretary to promulgate regulations to implement the rulemaking amendments not later than two years after enactment, or October 2010. NAIHC recognizes that this deadline will be met only with hard work, dedication, and strict adherence to established guidelines. The NAIHC's Board of Directors, with assistance from the NAIHC Legislative Committee, has discussed the 2008 amendments and the rulemaking process and offers for your review and consideration the attached draft protocols and charter.

We offer these documents as a time-saving mechanism and a means to expedite deliberation on the underlying amendments. NAIHC fully understands that the negotiated rulemaking process that is in place is the Federal Government's recognition of the manner in which the NAHASDA is administered. NAIHC's submission of these protocols and charter is meant as a guide and has been offered as a suggestion only. We know there may be other ideas equally or more valid than the ones we offer. We trust, however, that our suggestions will be a helpful point of departure.

Thank you again for your support of the newest NAHASDA amendments and your ongoing support for housing and economic development in Native American communities across the country. We are hopeful that the rulemaking can be accomplished in a disciplined and timely manner.

If the NAIHC can be helpful in this regard, be assured of our assistance and cooperation to ensure a successful implementation.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mellor Willie, Executive Director, at (202) 789-1754.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty Shuravloff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Marty Shuravloff
Chairman