



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

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT

August 8, 2018

SUBJECT: DRAFT HUD ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REGULATION FOR COMMENT

Dear Tribal Leader:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) invites your Tribe to engage in government-to-government consultation 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. HUD's Office of Environment and Energy is leading this effort to streamline environmental review regulations.

HUD's "Dear Tribal Leader" letter, dated May 16, 2018, initiated tribal consultation on HUD's re-drafting of its environmental review regulations. A comment period and a webinar and conference call was announced. That letter is available [here](#) on the HUD Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) Codetalk website.

HUD considered the comments and incorporated them to the extent possible in a draft rule. Many of the recommendations received either would not require regulatory action or are not within HUD's authority to change, so the Department is considering publishing new guidance or engaging in interagency collaboration to address those recommendations. HUD will post the comments and their responses soon.

With this letter, HUD invites tribal leaders to participate in a 60-day comment period on HUD's draft rule to streamline environmental review regulations at 24 CFR Parts 50, 51, 55, and 58, attached. Also attached is a summary of the major changes being considered and explanations for those proposals. This 60-day comment period is prior to, and in addition to, the standard public comment periods associated with publishing rules in the Federal Register. There will be further opportunities to review and comment on the proposed rule when it is published in the *Federal Register*.

HUD invites Tribal officials to provide comments and input during a webinar and conference call on September 5 and September 26, at 2 p.m. EDT.

How to join the webinar on Wednesday, September 5 at 2 p.m. EDT: [Join Skype Meeting](#)
Audio: 888.675.2535 Access Code: 4038003#

How to join the webinar on Wednesday, September 26 at 2 p.m. EDT: [Join Skype Meeting](#)
Audio: 888.675.2535 Access Code: 4038003#

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

You may also send comments, edits, and suggestions to EnvironmentalPlanningDivision@hud.gov or:

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

The comment period for this stage of consultation will be open until 60 days from the date of this letter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Marcel Tchaou in HUD's Office of Environment and Energy at 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Danielle Schopp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Danielle Schopp
Director, Office of Environment and Energy