

Indian Health Service Rockville MD 20857

JUL 23 2018

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to update you on Indian Health Service (IHS) regulatory reform activities, including our Stakeholder Engagement Plan Regulatory Reform (Stakeholder Engagement Plan).

Last year, President Donald Trump issued two Executive Orders directing Federal departments and agencies to manage costs associated with Federal regulations and establish regulatory reform task forces to evaluate existing regulations and identify those that should be repealed, replaced, or modified:

- Executive Order 13771 Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs
- Executive Order 13777 Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda

CAPT Brandon Taylor, IHS Chief of Staff, serves as the Regulatory Reform Officer and primary point of contact for the IHS to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Regulatory Reform Task Force. The task force seeks input from entities significantly affected by Federal regulations. This includes Tribes, Tribal Organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations.

The IHS recognizes that certain regulatory and deregulatory actions may have impacts that require or trigger Tribal Consultation or Conferring with Urban Indian Organizations in accordance with HHS and IHS policy. While the IHS is not seeking to consult or confer on a specific regulatory matter at this time, the IHS has developed a Stakeholder Engagement Plan as a tool to promote participation, coordination, and transparency among stakeholders regarding regulatory reform activities. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan outlines the requirements of the communications efforts to reach and inform all stakeholders. The plan will be made available on the IHS Division of Regulatory Affairs Web site at https://www.ihs.gov/DRA/.

We will continue to provide regular communication and updates regarding deregulation activities. If you have any questions regarding regulatory reform activities, please contact Mr. Carl Mitchell, Director, Division of Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management Services, IHS, by telephone at (301) 443-1116 or by e-mail at <u>carl.mitchell@ihs.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

RADM Michael D. Weahkee, MBA, MHSA Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service Acting Director