
TECHNICAL HANDBOOK FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ENGINEERING
VOLUME X - DIVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES
PART 130 - ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 130-4 - DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR THE DIVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

130-4.1 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY FOR THE DIVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES(130-4)1

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The Division of Engineering Services (DES) has been delegated the following responsibilities:

1. Acquisition, award, administration, and close-out of contracts for Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities engineering new construction projects, including all new and replacement health care facilities and staff quarters construction, renovation, and modernization projects.
2. The IHS Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) is the Agency official responsible for code interpretation, enforcement, and implementation. The Director, Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEHE), has designated the Director, DES, as the IHS AHJ, which includes issuing written interpretations of the codes and standards, evaluating and making determinations on equivalencies, variances, and waivers that are final and binding for IHS. To fulfill this role, the IHS Codes Committee was established to review requests for and issue interpretations of codes, standards, design criteria, and technical guidelines. The IHS AHJ and Codes Committee guidance are located in the OEHE Technical Handbook chapters 24-2.5 Authority Having Jurisdiction and 4-3 Codes Committee Organization.
3. The IHS administrative authority to lease real property encompass three major leasing areas:
 - a. Space leased through the GSA-assigned or delegated leasing authorities;
 - b. Space leased by the IHS under authorizations in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (P.L. 94-437) for directly-operated programs; and
 - c. Space leased by the IHS for tribally-operated (contracted) programs under the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638).

The Director, DES, has delegated authority to sign the above listed P.L. 94-437 and P.L. 93-638 leases and has re-delegated this authority to the IHS warranted Lease Contracting Officers (LCOs) located in the DES consistent with IHS Indian Health Manual Administrative Delegations #34, #49, and #50. Also, the LCOs assist the Area Offices and Tribes in determining federal lease requirements, help develop market surveys, evaluate requirements and rent payment structures, provide information on budget scoring for capital leases, and provide other lease-related services.