Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing today to begin a formal consultation with Tribes on the 2007 Contract Support Costs (CSC) Policy. The Indian Health Service (IHS) last updated its CSC policy in 2007 with a plan to monitor and review implementation over the next 3 years. It is now time to evaluate the 2007 CSC Policy, including the procedures that were adopted in 2007 to address new and expanded Tribes.

In order to accomplish the above objective, I plan to convene a workgroup of Tribal leaders to work with the IHS to review, evaluate, and make recommendations regarding the 2007 CSC Policy. The CSC Policy is available at http://www.ihs.gov/ihm/index.cfm?module=dsp_ihm_pc_p6c3. In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Tribal Leader Exception, I would like to invite two (2) Tribal leaders from each IHS Area to serve on the CSC Workgroup who will review and make recommendations on whether to change and/or improve the Policy. We will develop a process with the workgroup members to ensure adequate technical assistance on this complex topic. Please send your nominations for workgroup members to your respective Area Director by November 15. Area Directors will submit all nominations to me by November 30. I will announce the final workgroup membership list by December 15. We will plan to convene the workgroup in January 2012. After the workgroup meeting, I will forward any recommendations to all Tribes for review and comment before implementation.

I would like to thank you for your assistance with the CSC Policy and thank you in advance for your participation. In my discussions with Tribal leaders, I fully understand the importance of CSC and its impact on contracting and compacting Tribes and that a formal consultation with all Tribes is needed for this evaluation.

Sincerely,

/Yvette Roubideaux/

Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., M.P.H.  
Director