Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to provide an update on the Indian Health Service (IHS) Tribal Consultation activities in follow-up to my August 2, 2012, letter. Over the past four years, the IHS has made improvements in our Tribal Consultation methods at the national, regional, and area levels. I am grateful for the comments submitted by Tribes and believe that the IHS has improved as a result of your recommendations. While progress has been made, it is clear from your input that there is still more to do.

The IHS provides several online resources to assist Tribes with tracking all of the Agency's Tribal Consultation activities. The IHS Tribal Consultation Web site includes descriptions of all our Tribal Advisory Committees, Tribal Workgroups and Boards, and Tribal Consultation dates. The IHS Newsroom offers a complete listing of Tribal Leader Letters that have been issued on a wide range of consultation topics. To see this information, please visit the IHS Tribal Consultation Web site at http://www.ihs.gov/tribalconsultation and the IHS Newsroom at http://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/triballeaderletters.

The enclosed Tribal Consultation Activities Summary table summarizes all IHS Tribal Consultation activities since June 2009. It provides brief descriptions of the content of each letter and any follow-up or consultation outcomes to date.

Tribal Consultation enhances our partnership efforts to improve the health of Native communities and is essential to our efforts to improve the IHS. Your input is welcome at any time. Please e-mail your comments to: consultation@ihs.gov or send your comments by postal mail to: Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Director, IHS, 801 Thompson Avenue, Suite 440, Rockville, Maryland, 20852.

Thank you for your partnership with the IHS.

Sincerely,

/Yvette Roubideaux/

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

Enclosure: Indian Health Service – Tribal Consultation Activities Summary