



AUG 1 2018

Dear Tribal Leader:

This letter is in follow-up to my July 2, 2018-dated Tribal Leader Letter, which initiated Tribal Consultation at the request of Tribes, on proposed updates to the Indian Health Service (IHS) *Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS) - A Guide for Reporting Sanitation Deficiencies for American Indian and Alaska Native Homes and Communities* (commonly known as the “SDS Guide”).

For your convenience, the July 2, 2018-dated Tribal Leader Letter, its supporting enclosures, and the draft SDS Guide have been posted online at the IHS Web site link that follows:

[www.ihs.gov/newsroom/triballeaderletters](http://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/triballeaderletters)

Since initiating the Tribal Consultation on July 2, Tribes and Tribal Organizations have requested additional time to comment on these important updates to the SDS Guide. **Accordingly, I am extending the comment submission deadline for this Tribal Consultation until September 14, 2018.**

Please send your comments and recommendations on the draft SDS Guide:

- By e-mail to: [consultation@ihs.gov](mailto:consultation@ihs.gov)

Subject Line: SDS Guide Tribal Consultation

- By United States Postal Mail to:  
RADM Michael D. Weahkee  
Acting Director  
Indian Health Service  
5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: 08E86  
Rockville, MD 20857  
ATTN: SDS Guide Tribal Consultation

I look forward to reviewing your input on the draft SDS Guide. Following the close of the comment period, the IHS will convene to review all comments. The IHS Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction (DSFC) will then formulate recommendations for IHS leadership to review and consider.

If you have any questions about the SDS Guide Tribal Consultation, please directly contact RADM Mark Calkins, Director, DSFC, IHS, by telephone at (301) 443-1046.

Sincerely,

/Michael D. Weahkee/

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