



MAR 13 2023

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to update you on efforts to improve the Indian Health Service (IHS) Tribal Consultation Policy (Consultation Policy) and seek your nominations for Tribal Members to fill current vacancies on the IHS Director's Advisory Workgroup on Tribal Consultation (Consultation Workgroup). I am also writing to notify you that Ms. Stacey Ecoffey is the new Deputy Director for Intergovernmental Affairs, IHS, and will lead the Consultation Workgroup as the Federal Co-Chair.

By letter dated May 6, 2022, the IHS updated you on the Consultation Workgroup's activities. Since that time, the Consultation Workgroup has engaged in working sessions to continue developing recommendations for the IHS to consider while revising and updating the Consultation Policy.

New Tribal Members will join existing members of the Consultation Workgroup who are working with the IHS to complete a comprehensive review and update of the Consultation Policy, last revised in 2006.

Please send your nominee names and contact information to your respective IHS Area Director by **Wednesday, March 22, 2023**. Currently, there are seven Consultation Workgroup vacancies in the following IHS Areas:

- Alaska Area IHS (1 vacancy);
- Albuquerque Area IHS (2 vacancies);
- Billings Area IHS (1 vacancy);
- Navajo Area IHS (2 vacancies); and
- Phoenix Area IHS (1 vacancy).

To be eligible for nomination to the Consultation Workgroup, a Tribal Member must be: either an elected or appointed officer of a Tribal Government; or an employee of a Tribal Government who has been selected by an elected or appointed Tribal officer, and granted delegated authority to act on their behalf. Tribal nominees to the Consultation Workgroup *must be made* by an elected or appointed official from a federally recognized Tribe acting in their official capacity.

The Consultation Workgroup will resume working sessions on April 20-21, 2023, in order to finalize recommendations for IHS consideration. Once these tasks have been completed, the IHS will initiate nationwide Tribal Consultation seeking your feedback on the Consultation Workgroup's recommendations.

I trust this update is helpful and look forward to receiving your nominations to fill Consultation Workgroup vacancies. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Anna Johnson, Program Analyst, Office of Tribal Self-Governance, IHS, by telephone at (301) 443-2403, or by e-mail at [anna.johnson2@ihs.gov](mailto:anna.johnson2@ihs.gov). Thank you for your support and partnership as we work to strengthen our Government-to-Government relationship.

Sincerely,

Roselyn Tso  
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Roselyn Tso  
Director