



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

April 21, 2023

SUBJECT: Announcement of the Tribal/Interagency Environmental Streamlining Toolkit (TIES)

Dear Tribal Leader,

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) leads the Tribal Housing and Related Infrastructure Interagency Task Force (Task Force) to develop a coordinated environmental review process for Tribal housing projects. The Task Force is led by HUD and comprised of representatives from Federal agencies and Tribes. Federal members include the Council on Environmental Quality, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services, Interior, Transportation, Agriculture, and Commerce. Tribal members include Huslia Village, Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, The Association of Village Council Presidents Regional Housing Authority, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation, and Northern Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation. The Task Force is excited to share the Tribal/Interagency Environmental Streamlining Toolkit (TIES) for Tribal consultation.

TIES will be the only environmental coordination tool with a Tribal focus. TIES will provide Tribes with information and the tools necessary to create one environmental review when multiple agencies are involved in the funding and/or BIA's approval of a Trust lease is necessary for a Tribal housing project. It will be a hub for Tribes and agencies to find environmental requirements for Tribal housing and related infrastructure (electric, water, broadband, roads) from eight different federal agencies. It also contains guidance and best practices for coordination, including coordinating endangered species and historic preservation reviews. TIES will continue to be updated with content as the Task Force develops additional guidance and training tools.

Tribes can access TIES at <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/ties-toolkit/introduction/>.

The Task Force is seeking comments on the content and usability of TIES. Specifically, the Task Force is interested in:

- Does the current TIES content provide the information necessary for your Tribe to develop an environmental review that addresses the environmental requirements of other agencies?
- What additional information or guidance is needed to develop a coordinated environmental review?

HUD will host a virtual demonstration and consultation session on May 17, 2023. Your comments and input from the May 17, 2023 consultation, as well as any written comments, will be considered in finalizing TIES. Please submit your feedback electronically to Codetalk@hud.gov. We ask that you provide your comments by **June 9, 2023**. Please note that written and verbal feedback will be shared on HUD's website and HUD will report how Tribal comments were considered.

The Tribal Interagency Environmental Streamlining consultation session will be held on **May 17, 2023**. The session begins at **2:00 p.m. Eastern Time**. The suggested browser for Webex access is Google Chrome.

*To join the Tribal consultation, click: <https://ems8.intellor.com/login/847598>
Join the Webex event and follow the prompts to connect audio by computer or telephone.
Webex Support: 888-793-6118*

Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in the effective delivery of HUD's programs in Indian Country.

Sincerely,



Heidi J. Frechette
Deputy Assistance Secretary
for Native American Programs