



APR 27 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am writing to initiate Tribal Consultation to seek your input and recommendations to improve the Indian Health Service (IHS) [Tribal Consultation Policy](#) (Consultation Policy) and process. In conjunction with this Consultation request, I am seeking nominations for Tribal members to serve on the IHS Director’s Advisory Workgroup on Tribal Consultation (Consultation Workgroup). The Consultation Workgroup will assist us in conducting a comprehensive review of the 2006-issued Consultation Policy and developing recommendations for consideration moving forward.

In August 2018, the IHS Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee (TSGAC) and the IHS Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee (DSTAC) submitted a joint letter recommending the use of a Tribal/Federal workgroup to update the Consultation Policy. Since that time, ongoing Consultation Policy discussions during advisory committee meetings have led to renewed calls for including the Workgroup as part of this Tribal Consultation. In addition, on January 26, 2021, President Biden issued a [Presidential Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships](#) reaffirming the Federal Government’s commitment to engaging in regular, meaningful, and robust Tribal Consultation.

CONSULTATION WORKGROUP NOMINATIONS: Please send nominations for Consultation Workgroup members to your respective IHS Area Director by **Tuesday, June 15, 2021**. The Consultation Workgroup will consist of Tribal and Federal members. Tribal membership will consist of two (2) elected Tribal Leaders from each IHS Area. In addition, both the TSGAC and the DSTAC will select an elected Tribal Leader to serve on the Consultation Workgroup.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION SESSION (VIRTUAL): Please make plans to join us on **Tuesday, June 8, 2021**, for a virtual Tribal Consultation session to seek your input on how to improve the Tribal Consultation Policy and process.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION SESSION: IHS TRIBAL CONSULTATION POLICY AND PROCESS	
DATE:	Tuesday, June 8, 2021
TIME:	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m., ET
TELEPHONE:	(833) 568-8864 Meeting ID: 161 5609 4640 Passcode: 571603
ZOOM INFORMATION:	Click here for ZOOM LINK ZOOM Meeting ID: 161 5609 4640 Passcode: ihs123

WRITTEN COMMENTS and RECOMMENDATIONS: Please send your comments and recommendations on the IHS Tribal Consultation Policy and process as follows, by **Tuesday, June 15, 2021:**

- By e-mail to: consultation@ihs.gov – Subject line: **IHS Tribal Consultation Policy and Process.**

I look forward to your nominations to the Consultation Workgroup and recommendations to improve the IHS Consultation Policy and process. We will share any comments received with the Consultation Workgroup to assist in developing recommendations and completing their review of the Consultation Policy.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Anna Johnson, Program Analyst, Office of Tribal Self-Governance, by telephone at (301) 443-2403, or by e-mail at anna.johnson2@ihs.gov.

Thank you for your support and partnership as we work to strengthen our Government-to-Government relationship.

Sincerely,

/Elizabeth A. Fowler/
Acting Director