

OFFICE OF PUBLIC & INDIAN HOUSING

July 11, 2022

Dear Executive Director,

On June 1st, the Department published a Request for Information Notice in the Federal Register on **Build America**, **Buy America Act (BABA)**, asking for public input on the information collection burden, compliance costs, and program impacts. Initially, we requested your formal comments be submitted to the Regulations.gov site by July 1st.

The deadline has been extended to Friday, July 15.

It's critical that we hear your thoughts on how these new requirements might impact your programs and operations. If you haven't yet submitted comments, we are again asking you to please share your insights on the proposed BABA requirements and the specific questions posed in Section III of the Notice. A simplified version of those questions is included below:

- 1. What forms of HUD's Federal Financial Assistance are used to fund infrastructure projects?
- 2. How can HUD document what projects serve a "public function," thus qualifying as infrastructure and falling within the scope of the Act?
- 3. Are entities utilizing Federal Financial Assistance to fund infrastructure doing so independently or in partnership with other entities?
- 4. What activities are undertaken by recipients of HUD Federal Financial Assistance that fall within the Act's Buy America Preference?
- 5. How do recipients currently determine sourcing for materials?
- 6. Are recipients currently subjected to Buy American requirements from other Federal, state, local, or Tribal entities?
- 7. Are there any plans in the iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials industries to provide documentation regarding materials' compliance with BABA?
- 8. What are contractor's administrative costs associated with complying with BABA?
- 9. What, if any, are the specific concerns, either from recipients or contractors, about a potential waiver process?
- 10. How will BABA requirements affect relocation plans, transfer procedures, and/or reasonable accommodation or modifications procedures for existing occupants?
- 11. What situations would require expedited or general waivers?
- 12. How, if at all, would the Act's Buy America Preference affect contractor's willingness to accept infrastructure contracts subject to BABA's requirements?

For further information, please contact Joseph Carlile, Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street SW, Room 10226, Washington, DC 20410-5000, at (202) 402-7082 (this is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-8778339. Questions about this document also be sent to BuildAmerica@hud.gov.

Many thanks,

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General Deputy Assistant Secretary Office of Public and Indian Housing

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