

August 2, 2024

SUBJECT: Simplified Environmental Reviews – Programmatic and Limited Scope Review Training

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am excited to share new processes that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) developed to simplify and streamline environmental reviews for certain activities funded by the Indian Housing Block Grant, Indian Community Development Block Grant, Title VI Loan Guarantee, Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, and Tribal HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing programs.

To streamline the environmental review process and reduce the burden on Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs), HUD has developed a programmatic environmental review for soft costs (including administration, operations, maintenance, and planning), tenant based rental assistance, public and supportive services, and activities to assist homebuyers to purchase existing dwelling units or dwelling units under construction. <u>PIH Notice</u> <u>2024-24</u> provides guidance on this programmatic review.

Tribes and TDHEs may rely upon PIH Notice 2024-24 to document compliance with environmental requirements and do not need to complete a HUD Part 58 environmental review. Tribes and TDHEs may carry out activities as outlined in the Notice without a request for an environmental review. Tribes and TDHEs must ensure that an environmental review is complete by HUD under Part 50, or the Tribe under Part 58, for any HUD-funded activities not included in PIH Notice 2024-24.

In addition to the programmatic review, HUD has also developed a simplified process, Limited Scope Review, for Tribes to use to document environmental compliance for project based rental assistance without repair, rehabilitation, or construction.

HUD's Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) will provide training on Simplified Environmental Reviews: Use of the Programmatic and Limited Scope Review. The training webinar will be held on **August 29, 2024**, from 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. You may join the webinar 10 minutes prior – view in your time zone.

To join the webinar, click on the link below:

https://intellor.webex.com/intellor/j.php?MTID=mda7b954cc7790beb91381ec46e3b7fcd

Follow the prompt to connect to the event by computer or telephone.

If you cannot join by computer, you may dial in by phone only at 1-202-735-3323 with access code 8389437#.

ONAP will post the recorded training on Codetalk.

Waewaenen/Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in serving Indian Country.

Sincerely,

Heidi J. Freehette

Heidi J. Frechette Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs