

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20410-6000

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

JUN 2 0 2016

Dear Leaders of Native American Programs:

I am pleased to inform you of an upcoming opportunity to provide your comments to HUD, and to the researchers who conducted the recent study of housing needs in Indian Country. After many months of research, the Congressionally mandated study is nearing completion.

A draft report, which will include the study's findings, conclusions, and recommendations, will soon be distributed to tribal leaders, Indian housing officials, and Institutional Review Boards for review. HUD will open an electronic mailbox for comments on July 6, 2016, and will send the draft report to you on July 7, 2016. The comment period will remain open until August 23, 2016. Please note that this will not be a public comment process. This comment period will be open only to tribal leaders, housing officials, and tribal Institutional Review Boards.

The Department would be very pleased to receive your comments and feedback on this draft report, which will be the primary deliverable of the study. Tribal participation throughout the course of the study improved the processes, methods, and outcomes of the research. Now, your review of the draft report will help HUD issue the best product possible.

The comprehensive study of housing needs in Indian Country was mandated by Congress, and after consultations with tribal leaders, data collection commenced. Household surveys were finally completed in December 2015. The Department believes the study was an important effort, and its final report will inform Congress of the broad range of housing needs and conditions in tribal areas. Please submit your written comments through one of the following methods:

By Mail. Comments may be submitted by mail to Elizabeth Rudd, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street, SW, Room 8120, Washington, DC 20410-0500.

By E-Mail: Comments may be submitted electronically to Housing_Needs_Report@hud.gov. HUD encourages you to submit comments electronically.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Katherine M. O'Regan

Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and

Research