



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

MAR 18 2010

Dear Tribal Leader,

We are pleased to announce there will be three regional consultation sessions with Tribal representatives as part of the process to develop a rule to implement the Buy Indian Act. The Buy Indian Act provides Indian Affairs with the authority to set-aside procurement contracts for qualified Indian-owned businesses. The dates and locations of the sessions are enclosed.

During the sessions, we will be seeking your views on the implementation of the Buy Indian Act, with the incorporation of comments into the draft rule, where applicable, in preparation for publication as a proposed rule in the Federal Register. To facilitate discussion during these sessions, we are enclosing a draft version of the rule and other information.

We are developing this rule to describe uniform administrative procedures that Indian Affairs will use in all of its locations to encourage procurement relationships with eligible Indian economic enterprises in the execution of the Buy Indian Act. The draft version of the rule includes revisions to address the input received as a result of earlier publications and consultation sessions in Indian Country. The rule will supplement the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and the Department of the Interior Acquisition Regulations (DIAR).

We hope that you can join us for one or more of these sessions or submit written comments on this rule, as described in the enclosed. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Kathy Daum, Director, Indian Affairs, Office of Acquisition and Property Management (OAPM) at (703) 390-6460.

Sincerely,


Larry Echo Hawk
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosures

Formal Written Comments

Please submit written comments *no later than May 15, 2010* by e-mail or mail.

E-mail Address: kathy.daum@bia.gov

Mailing Address: Kathy N. Daum, Director
(Fed Ex suggested) Office of Acquisition and Property Management
2051 Mercator Drive
Reston, VA 20191

Consultation Sessions

Date	Time	Location
Monday, April 26, 2010	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Holiday Inn Portland Airport 8439 NE Columbia Blvd. Portland, OR 97220 (503) 914-5251
Wednesday, April 28, 2010	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Holiday Inn Rushmore Plaza 505 North Fifth Street Rapid City, SD 57701 (605) 348-8000
Friday, April 30, 2010	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills 1902 East 71 st Tulsa, OK 74136 (918) 493-7000