

The Secretary of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

March 1, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader:

With the signing of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, in November, President Biden ushered in a new era of working with Tribal, Alaska Native Corporation, state, and local leaders to build back better, stronger, and cleaner infrastructure across the country. As Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, I am honored and humbled to work with you to ensure this historic investment has the greatest possible positive impact for Tribal communities.

I am honored to invite you or your designated representative to a virtual consultation session on the IIJA on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, from 2-5 p.m. ET. Register here. Leaders from across the Department of Energy are interested in your feedback in several areas:

- What do you need from the Department of Energy to inform your IIJA planning and preparation?
- What are your most important technical assistance needs and why?
- As you look across the IIJA programs that the Department of Energy has responsibilities for, which might be of most interest to you?
- In your experience, what are the most useful and/or appropriate factors to consider when designing formula grants?

Information gathered in this consultation session will guide the Department in developing over 60 new programs. Implementing \$62.5 billion in funding from the IIJA, the largest investment in generations in our Nation's infrastructure, will require deep, ongoing partnership alongside Tribal and Alaska Native Corporation leaders, members of Congress, Governors, Mayors, local officials, and community members.

The Department's website on the <u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Program</u> can help you prepare for the consultation session. The <u>Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook</u>, prepared by the White House, may also be helpful.

We invite you to submit written comments prior to the consultation session and can be submitted to <u>tribalconsultation@hq.doe.gov</u>. Comments will also be accepted after the consultation session until 5:00 PM Eastern time on Friday, April 8, 2022.

The Department will host additional consultations and continue our collaborative dialogue with Tribal and Alaska Native Corporation leaders or their designated

representatives throughout the year to further refine its program design and implementation. Additional information is available on the Department's Tribal Consultation website: Strengthening Tribal Consultation | Department of Energy.

We are looking forward to hearing from you at our consultation on implementing the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law on March 29.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Granholm