



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

November 30, 2011

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

Dear Honorable Leader:

Re: Notification of Consultation and Coordination on the Proposed Rulemaking Revising the Underground Storage Tank Regulations

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is initiating consultation and coordination with federally-recognized Indian tribes regarding a proposed rulemaking in the underground storage tank program. EPA initiated this consultation effort in 2008 by sending federally-recognized Indian tribes letters, which announced the beginning of the rulemaking process and solicited ideas for potential changes to the underground storage tank regulations. We have continued to work closely with your representatives since that time. EPA published the proposed rule in the *Federal Register* and is seeking input on the proposed revisions to the underground storage tank regulations.

We will conduct this consultation and coordination process according to the *EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes* (www.epa.gov/tribal/consultation/consult-policy.htm). EPA invites you and your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process. EPA's timeline for the consultation and coordination period is expected to extend from November 18, 2011 until February 16, 2012.

Enclosed is a consultation and coordination plan for this action. The plan describes the action under consultation and the process EPA intends to follow, including a timeline for the consultation and coordination period as well as information on how you can provide input. This information is also available on EPA's Tribal Portal (www.epa.gov/tribal/consultation). Also enclosed for your information is a list of the tribal workgroup we have been working with to date.

The official EPA contact person for this consultation and coordination process is Linda Gerber, Director, Release Prevention Division (703-603-7163 or gerber.linda@epa.gov). Your staff may also contact Elizabeth McDermott (703-603-7175 or mcdermott.elizabeth@epa.gov) with questions regarding this action.

I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn Hoskinson".

Carolyn Hoskinson, Director
Office of Underground Storage Tanks

Enclosures