

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

OFFICE OF WATER

July 29, 2022

Re: Notification of Extension of Tribal Comment Period on the Draft Clean Water Act Section 106 Tribal Grant Guidance

Dear Honorable Leader:

As explained in the letter sent to you on June 13, 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is continuing consultation and coordination with federally recognized tribes on the *Draft Clean Water Act Section 106 Tribal Grants Guidance (Draft Section 106 Tribal Guidance)*, formerly the *Final Guidance on Awards of Grants to Indian Tribes under Section 106 of the Clean Water Act - 2007 and Beyond*. The June 13th letter requested comments on the *Draft Section 106 Tribal Guidance* be submitted by August 15, 2022 (60-day comment period). On behalf of the EPA, I would like to notify you that the comment period for the draft guidance has been extended an additional 60-days to October 14, 2022.

This extension is granted to ensure that our tribal partners have the opportunity to provide substantial and meaningful input on the revised guidance. Links to the *Draft Section 106 Tribal Guidance* and additional information about the revision process are provided in the attached *Tribal Section 106 Revision Project – Status Update #6* and at: <u>https://www.epa.gov/water-pollution-control-section-106-grants/draft-clean-water-act-section-106-tribal-grant-guidance</u>.

The consultation and coordination process for the revision of *the Draft Section 106 Tribal Guidance* is being conducted in accordance with the *EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes* (https://www.epa.gov/tribal/epa-policy-consultation-and-coordination-indian-tribes). The consultation period for the revision of the *Draft Section 106 Tribal Guidance* has remained open for the duration of this effort.

We request that written comments be submitted to EPA by October 14, 2022, in one of three ways listed below:

- Provide comments electronically by using this <u>form</u> (https://forms.office.com/r/XK1G8xVAHq).
- Email comments to: Draft_Section_106_Tribal_Guidance@epa.gov.
- Send comments by mail to the following address:

CWA Section 106 Tribal Program U.S. EPA 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW (MC 4201M) Washington, DC 20460

Additionally, tribal governments may request one-on-one consultation meetings with EPA. If you are interested in requesting a consultation with EPA or have any questions about the revised guidance, please contact Robyn Delehanty at Draft_Section_106_Tribal_Guidance@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew D. Sawyers, Director Office of Wastewater Management