

## THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

April 4, 2024

Dear Honorable Leader:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will soon open an opportunity for consultation with federally recognized Tribes on the draft Fiscal Year 2025-2026 National Program Guidances. The process will be conducted in accordance with the <u>EPA Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes</u>.

The FY 2025-2026 NPGs will support continued implementation of the EPA's *FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan* and the agency's FY 2025 President's Budget priorities. The NPGs communicate program priorities, strategies, key activities, and measures. The following eight agency offices issue NPGs: Office of Air and Radiation; Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention; Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations; Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance; Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights; Office of International and Tribal Affairs; Office of Land and Emergency Management; and Office of Water. The EPA plans to issue final FY 2025-2026 NPGs in July 2024. Enclosure 1 provides additional background information for Tribes on the EPA's NPGs.

The consultation period will begin with publication of the draft NPGs on April 23, 2024, and will continue through June 4, 2024. The consultation period coincides with a six-week public review and comment period in which Tribes also may elect to participate. A timeline for the consultation process, including instructions on how to provide input, are included in Enclosure 2. To request consultation on an NPG, Tribes should contact their EPA Regional Tribal Program Manager, or the relevant Headquarters Tribal Program Manager or National Program Planner listed in Enclosure 3.

The agency also will hold a national informational conference call for Tribes on May 16 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM EDT, during which representatives from the EPA's national programs that issue NPGs will provide an overview and answer questions about their respective NPG. Logistics for the call are included in Enclosure 2. This information also is available at the agency's <u>Tribal Consultation</u> <u>Opportunities Tracking System</u>.

If you have any questions about the NPG consultation process or would like to request alternate arrangements for consultation, please contact Jessica Snyder, Office of the Chief Financial Officer Tribal Program Manager, at <u>snyder.jessica@epa.gov</u>. Thank you very much in advance for your engagement in this important effort.

Sincerely, /s/ Faisal Amin