

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

AMERICAN INDIAN ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE

April 11, 2024

Dear Honorable Leader,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized Indian tribes on the proposed reorganization of the National Tribal Caucus (NTC) under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). These proposed changes will clarify the process by which EPA receives Tribal leadership recommendations on technical programs and budget planning and strengthen EPA's ongoing commitment to collaboration and partnership with Tribes and the government-to-government relationship.

This consultation process will be conducted in accordance with the *EPA Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes* (<a href="https://www.epa.gov/tribal/epa-policy-consultation-indian-tribes">https://www.epa.gov/tribal/epa-policy-consultation-indian-tribes</a>). EPA invites you and your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process. EPA's anticipated timeline for the consultation period is expected to extend from April 11<sup>th</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Enclosed is a consultation and coordination plan for this action that includes a description of the action under consultation and the process EPA intends to follow, including a timeline for the consultation period and information on how you can provide input on this action. This information is also available on EPA's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System (TCOTS) at <a href="https://tcots.epa.gov">https://tcots.epa.gov</a>.

The official EPA contact person for this consultation process is Daniel Vaught, Program Analyst, American Indian Environmental Office. Please do not hesitate to contact Daniel at <a href="Vaught.Daniel@epa.gov">Vaught.Daniel@epa.gov</a> or 202-564-6038 should you have any questions regarding this action or if you would like to engage in government-to-government consultation with EPA.

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

Sincerely,

Kenneth Martin

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Director

cc: Jane Nishida, Assistant Administrator, Office of International and Tribal Affairs
Rafael DeLeon, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of International and
Tribal Affairs
Felicia Wright, Deputy Director, American Indian Environmental Office
Andy Byrne, Senior Advisor, American Indian Environmental Office
Daniel Vaught, Program Analyst, American Indian Environmental Office