

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

September 30, 2021

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

## Dear Honorable Leader:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is initiating consultation and coordination with federally recognized Indian tribes on the draft *FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan*. The *Plan* communicates the EPA's priorities, the measurable environmental and human health outcomes the public can expect over the next four years, and the long-term blueprint for achieving those results. It also serves as the basis for agencywide program planning and informs annual budget development and decision making. The *Plan* covers important areas of interest that impact tribes.

This consultation and coordination process will be conducted in accordance with the agency's Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes available at <a href="https://www.epa.gov/tribal/forms/consultation-and-coordination-tribes">https://www.epa.gov/tribal/forms/consultation-and-coordination-tribes</a>. The EPA invites you and your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process that begins upon receipt of this letter through November 12, 2021. In parallel with the tribal consultation period, the agency is initiating public review and comment through a Federal Register notice (expected for issuance on October 1), identified by Docket Number EPA-HQ-OA-2021-0403, at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>. Tribes also may elect to participate in this public review and comment process.

Enclosed is a consultation and coordination plan for this action that includes a timeline, description of the action and the process the EPA intends to follow and information on how you can provide input on this Plan. This information also will be available in the agency's Tribal Consultation Opportunities Tracking System at <a href="https://tcots.epa.gov/">https://tcots.epa.gov/</a>. Please note there will be two national conference calls for tribes to discuss the *Plan*. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer and the Office of International and Tribal Affairs will be represented on these national conference calls. In advance of these calls, tribes also may request program leadership participation in the calls and/or discussions on particular issues.

The EPA contacts for this tribal consultation and coordination process are Joey Bailey, available at <a href="mailto:bailey.josephe@epa.gov">bailey.josephe@epa.gov</a> or (202) 564-0521, and Judy Lieberman, available at <a href="mailto:lieberman.judy@epa.gov">lieberman.judy@epa.gov</a> or (202) 564-8638. Please do not hesitate to contact either should you have any questions or if you would like to request alternate arrangements to the process outlined in the consultation and coordination plan to provide comments no later than November 12.

Thank you very much in advance for your engagement in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Amin, Digitally signed by Amin, Faisal Date: 2021.09.30 09:42:58 -04'00'

Faisal Amin Chief Financial Officer Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Enclosure

## **Consultation and Coordination Plan for Tribes**

Dates	Event	Information
Now – November 12, 2021	Consultation and coordination on the draft FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan	Joey Bailey <a href="mailto:bailey.josephe@epa.gov">bailey.josephe@epa.gov</a> (202) 564-0521  Judy Lieberman <a href="mailto:lieberman.judy@epa.gov">lieberman.judy@epa.gov</a> (202) 564-8638
October 8, 2021	Deadline to request program leadership participation at conference calls for tribes Tribes may also request discussion on particular topics outside of the conference calls	If applicable, please provide request for leadership participation at the national conference calls for tribes and/or for particular program issues by notifying Joey Bailey and Judy Lieberman (see contact information above).
October 14, 2021 2:00-4:00 PM EST	National conference call for tribes to discuss the <i>Plan</i>	Meeting invite to be emailed separately  Conference Call Information: Phone Number: 1 (202) 991-0477 Phone Conference ID: 615 518 819#
October 28, 2021 2:00-4:00 PM EST	National conference call for tribes to discuss the <i>Plan</i>	Meeting invite to be emailed separately  Conference Call Information: Phone Number: 1 (202) 991-0477 Phone Conference ID: 597 128 463#
October 1 – November 12, 2021	Public comment period on draft FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan	The draft <i>Plan</i> will be available at <a href="https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan">https://www.epa.gov/planandbudget/strategicplan</a> and at <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a> , identified by Docket Number EPA-HQ-OA-2021-0403. These websites include instructions for submitting comments electronically. You may also send written comments via email to Joey Bailey and Judy Lieberman (see contact information above).