



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

DEC 23 2019

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Department is proposing a new regulation to establish procedures and criteria for groups to seek Federal acknowledgment as Tribes under the “Alaska IRA” (i.e., under the Alaska amendments¹ to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934²). This proposed regulation would establish an acknowledgment process for entities in Alaska that were not recognized as bands or Tribes before 1936.

The proposed rule is available for your review at the following webpage:

<https://www.indianaffairs.gov/as-ia/raca/regulations-and-other-documents-in-development>

This proposed rule does not affect Tribes that are already federally recognized, but if you would like to provide input on the proposed rule, I invite you to attend one of the following consultation or public meeting sessions:

Date	Type	Time	Location
Tuesday, January 28, 2020	Tribal Consultation	10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Local Time)	Centennial Hall Convention Center
	Public Meeting	1 p.m. – 3 p.m. (Local Time)	101 Egan Drive Juneau, AK 99801
Thursday, January 30, 2020	Tribal Consultation	10 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Local Time)	Raven Landing Center 1222 Cowles Street
	Public Meeting	1 p.m. – 3 p.m. (Local Time)	Mailing: 949 McGown St. Fairbanks, AK 99701
Thursday, February 6, 2020	Tribal Consultation	1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Eastern Time	Teleconference (888) 456-0351 Passcode 5309360
Thursday, February 6, 2020	Public Meeting	3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time	Teleconference (888) 857-9837 Passcode 6239571

If you have written input, please email consultation@bia.gov or mail Ms. Elizabeth Appel, Director, Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-4660, Washington, DC, 20240 by the deadline published in the Federal Register and posted on the above website. Please feel free to contact Elizabeth Appel (202) 273-4680 or elizabeth.appel@bia.gov if you have any questions regarding the updates to these regulations.

Sincerely,

Tara Sweeney
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

¹ Pub. L. 74-538, 49 Stat. 1250 (1936).

² Pub. L. 73-383, 48 Stat. 984 (1934).