

**Please provide feedback on the items below. Leave this sheet today, mail, or email comments to:**

Ms. Elizabeth Appel,  
Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action,  
U.S. Department of the Interior,  
1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 3642-MIB,  
Washington, DC 20240  
consultation@bia.gov

**Proposed Programmatic Goals**

The WIIN Act Section 3101 requires the BIA to define the programmatic goals that would enable the completion of repairing, replacing, improving, or performing maintenance on Indian dams as expeditiously as practicable. Please review the proposed programmatic goals stated below.

1. Ensure that all eligible dams are administered in accordance with the BIA Safety of Dams Program Handbook to reduce the potential loss of human life and property damage caused by dam failure by making Indian dams as safe as practically possible.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Identify and prioritize dam rehabilitation projects that would improve the ability of the BIA to fulfill the mission of the BIA in operating eligible Indian dams.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

3. Consult tribes, give first right-of-refusal, and offer all eligible projects to tribes in accordance with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

4. Establish and expand contracting capabilities and interagency agreements that will facilitate efficient and effective completion of projects to repair, replace, improve, and maintain eligible Indian dams to reduce identified deferred maintenance and safety concerns.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. Conduct an annual BIA-Tribal Safety of Dams Workshop to facilitate communications with tribes.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

6. Continue to reduce deferred maintenance and dam safety risk to the extent practicable as effectively and as efficiently as possible.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

7. Maximize the flood protection potential of eligible dams to the extent practicable.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

8. Perform design and construction of prioritized dam safety rehabilitation projects as expeditiously as practicable.

**Agree Disagree Recommendation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Funding Priority Method**

The WIIN Act Section 3101 presents ten criteria for consideration to determine the funding priority of eligible dams. The development of the methodology has been left to the BIA. The BIA has determined that the criterion related to the public safety risk, #1a, outweighs the other listed criteria. All eligible high-hazard potential dams will be first ranked by their public safety risk. This aligns with the mission of the BIA Dam Safety Program, which is to make BIA dams as safe as practically possible. Please review the criteria and their individual weights listed below. If you have any recommendations or changes, please indicate them in the space provided.

Funding Priority Criteria	Proposed High-hazard Weighting	Agree or Disagree/ Recommendation	Proposed Low-hazard Weighting	Agree or Disagree/ Recommendation
#1a: Threat to Public Safety	75%		N/A	N/A
#1b: Threat to Natural or Cultural Resources	3%		8%	
#1c: Threat to the Ability to Operate the Dam	1.25%		4%	
#2a: Ability to Improve Safety, Health, or Accessibility	1.25%		N/A	N/A
#2b: Ability to Improve Legal and Code Compliance	1.25%		4%	
#2c: Ability to Provide Unmet Needs	1.25%		4%	
#2d: Ability to Protect Natural or Cultural Resources	1.25%		4%	
#3: Existing Priority	1.25%		N/A	N/A
#4: Potential Uses and Economic Benefits	6.25%		50%	
#5: Current Flood Protection	1.25%		4%	
#6: Indian Dams Safety Act of 1994 Compliant <sup>1</sup>	0%		0%	
#7: Future Flood Protection Potential	3%		10%	
#8: Additional Factors Recommended	To be determined		To be determined	
Please recommend additional factors to be considered when prioritizing the dams.	List items for high-hazard dams:		List items for low-hazard dams:	
#9: Number of Tribes Served by the Dam	2%		6%	
#10: Population Served by the Dam	2%		6%	

<sup>1</sup> All eligible dams must be Indian Dams Safety Act of 1994 compliant. Any dam that is not compliant will not be eligible for funding allocated through the WIIN Act. The funding prioritization of the dams does not change based on criteria #6, because each dam would receive the same number of points. Therefore, it was given a weight of zero.