



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, D.C. 20240

May 20, 2025

Dear Tribal Leader,

Section 40704 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58) created the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (AHMR) program within the U.S. Department of the Interior to conduct inventory, investigation, remediation, and reclamation activities at abandoned hardrock mine sites on Federal, State, Tribal and private lands. Grants for Tribes are a vital component of the AHMR program.

The U.S. Department of the Interior is seeking your feedback and recommendations on a draft grant solicitation entitled “*Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (AHMR) Program Tribal Grant Directed Announcement, May 2025*,” which can be found here: [AHMR Tribal Grants Program | U.S. Department of the Interior](#).

To collect this feedback, OEPC and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) are hosting the following two Tribal Consultation sessions:

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, July 8, 2025	11:00 am ET/9:00 am MT	Virtual (Zoom Call) 1
Wednesday, July 9, 2025	1:00 pm ET/11:00 am MT	Virtual (Zoom Call) 2

**\*Please note, registration for either or both of these consultation sessions is required.**

You may register to attend the virtual meeting 1 here [Tribal Consultation Session 1](#).

You may register to attend the virtual meeting 2 here [Tribal Consultation Session 2](#).

The OEPC and BIA are hosting these consultation sessions to receive input from Federally recognized Tribes on the draft grant solicitation. The “AHMR Program Tribal Grant Directed Announcement” will be used to administer and guide distribution of the first round of grant funding, with approximately \$1.0 million total available for Tribal AHMR projects in this round of grants.

As part of the Consultation, OEPC is seeking general comments about the proposed Tribal AHMR Grants, as well as information you might share in response to the following questions:

1. Is your Tribe interested in applying for an AHMR grant this funding cycle? If yes, what type? *(Inventory only, Project only, or a combination of Inventory and Project grants)?*
2. If known, what types of hardrock (non-coal) abandoned mines (*gold, silver, gravel, uranium, etc.*) and feature types (*shafts, adits, pits, etc.*) are located on your Tribal lands?
3. Does your Tribe have an abandoned hardrock mine inventory either in-progress or complete? *(If yes, please explain where it is housed, how you collected the data, and estimated percentage complete.)*
4. Do you have, or has you ever had, an abandoned hardrock mine program? *(If yes, please explain.)*
5. Do you have the capacity to perform data collection activities, reclamation or remediation work on abandoned hardrock mines? *(If yes, please explain. If no, please describe what your Tribe would need to complete the work, such as increased staff, GPS units, vehicles, etc.)*
6. Please provide the contact information for the Tribal member either currently serving in an abandoned hardrock mine director role or who would assume that role on behalf of the Tribe and likely apply for the grant. *(Please provide a name, title if applicable, email, and phone number.)*
7. Do you have any other comments or suggestions regarding the AHMR Tribal Grants?

Written remarks may be provided by email to [AHMRprogram@ios.doi.gov](mailto:AHMRprogram@ios.doi.gov) or by mail to:

US Department of the Interior  
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance  
Attn: AHMR Program  
One Denver Federal Center  
Building 46, Room 101  
PO Box 25207  
Lakewood, CO 80225

On your correspondence, please note your Tribal affiliation and include “**Tribal AHMR Grant Directed Announcement**” in the header or subject line to identify the subject matter. Keep in mind that all relevant comments, including personal information if provided as part of your comments, may be posted publicly without change.

For more information on the AHMR program, please see the enclosed Fact Sheet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Davis", written over a horizontal line.

Scott Davis  
Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior  
Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eva Vrana", written over a horizontal line.

Eva Vrana  
Deputy Assistant Secretary – Policy and Environmental Management

Enclosure