

**United States Department of the Interior  
Interior Business Center, Acquisition Services Directorate**

**an agent for**



**Department of the Interior  
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance**

**Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (AHMR) Program**

**Tribal Grant Directed Announcement**

**Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)**

**May 2025**

**D-AQD-FA-XX-XXX-XXXXXX/  
D-AQD-FA-XX-XXX**

**DRAFT**

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## BASIC INFORMATION

This Directed Announcement is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior (Department), Office of the Secretary, Interior Business Center (IBC), and Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD) as part of the U.S. Government Interagency Agreement between the Department's Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance and AQD.

**Announcement Type: Initial Directed Announcement**

**Announcement Number: TBD**

**Assistance Listing Number(s): 15.099**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 15.099 [Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation \(AHMR/AML\) Grants](#).

**Estimated Total Program Funding**

\$1.0 million. Additional amounts will be available in subsequent funding cycles, subject to future appropriations by Congress.

**Expected Number of Awards**

The actual number of awards will depend on the number of applications submitted by eligible Tribes, the degree to which those applications match the evaluation criteria of this Directed Announcement, and the availability of appropriated funds.

**Award Ceiling (Maximum):** Up to \$100,000

**Project Grant only (One or more hardrock AML features):** up to \$100,000

**Data Collection Grant only (inventory or assessment):** up to \$50,000

**Combination Project & Data Collection Grant:** up to \$100,000

**Award Floor (Minimum):** \$ 50,000

Congress appropriates funds on a year-to-year basis. Funding for multi-year projects is dependent upon future appropriations and funding availability.

**Cost Sharing Required?**

Cost sharing or matching is **not** required for this program; however, a voluntary cost share is encouraged. Applicants may attribute some or all of their allowable indirect costs as voluntary committed cost-share/match as an example. If providing a cost share, the level of detail is the same as if you were requesting federal funds.

**Closing Date for Applications:** **TBD [90 days after posting]** at 4:00 p.m. MST.

U.S. state and local governments may be required under [Executive Order 12372](#), [Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs](#) to submit their application to their Tribal Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for review. For more information, see the [Intergovernmental Review SPOC List](#).

**Have Questions?**

The Department's Interior Business Center (IBC) and the Hardrock AML Program Manager will provide technical assistance to Tribal grant applicants and recipients through all phases of grant application and administration.

**For technical assistance with the application process, downloading forms and application packages, or for assistance with any grant-related questions, please contact the Financial Assistance Officers listed below:**

Eleni Sarris  
Interior Business Center  
Acquisition Services Directorate  
Telephone: 571-513-3033  
[Eleni\\_Sarris@ibc.doi.gov](mailto:Eleni_Sarris@ibc.doi.gov)

Tristan Harley  
Interior Business Center  
Acquisition Services Directorate  
Telephone: 571-560-6489  
[Tristan\\_Harley@ibc.doi.gov](mailto:Tristan_Harley@ibc.doi.gov)

**For technical assistance with programmatic matters and general AHMR information, please contact the Hardrock AML Program Manager:**

Moir Russell  
One Denver Federal Center  
Building 46, Room 101  
Lakewood, CO 80225  
Telephone: 771-216-6799  
[Moir\\_Russell@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Moir_Russell@ios.doi.gov)

**For GrantSolutions technical registration and submission, and other assistance contact: GrantSolutions Customer Support at 1-866-577-0771 or by email at [Help@grantsolutions.gov](mailto:Help@grantsolutions.gov).**

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET (closed on Federal holidays).  
Online: <https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/contact-us/>

### **Executive Summary**

The Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) serves as a leader in resource stewardship and the sustainable and equitable management of the Department's resources. The OEPC fosters partnerships to enhance resource use and protection as well as to expand public access to safe and clean lands and resources under the Department's jurisdiction. The OEPC strives to continually improve environmental policies and procedures to increase management effectiveness and efficiency. The Department, through the IIJA and OEPC, is offering a new competitive grant to Tribes that will fund the inventory, assessment, reclamation, remediation, and other work at hardrock (non-coal) abandoned mine lands (hardrock AMLs).

The Department has been authorized to establish a **Hardrock Abandoned Mine Land Program under the IIJA**. To resolve any possible confusion with the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) Abandoned Mine Lands Program, this new grant

program will be called the “**Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (AHMR) Program.**” The new grant program is being funded through the Interior appropriations under the line item of Energy Community Revitalization Program (ECRP).

**The AHMR Program** will provide resources to Tribes impacted by abandoned non-coal mining. The grant program will provide funds to Tribes to inventory, assess, decommission, reclaim, respond to hazardous substance releases on, and remediate abandoned hardrock mine lands and will create jobs in these communities to help repair damage from these legacy activities. These efforts will also improve the environment, restore water quality, and make the community safer for those who live in communities dependent on mining production while restoring natural resources and creating future recreational opportunities. The funding source for this Grant initiative will come from annual Interior Appropriations. Grants are subject to funding availability.

For sites that are already being funded by the Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation's Abandoned Mine Lands program, AHMR grants may be requested only if the project being conducted **meets all of the following criteria:**

- 1) It is a **hardrock (non-coal) AML** site being addressed by a Tribe authorized to perform such reclamation under Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA).
- 2) **OSMRE is serving as the lead agency** for: (a) the hardrock (non-coal) AML project with regard to the funding (i.e., most of the project funding is coming from OSMRE), (b) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other compliance, and (c) the issuance of an Authorization to Proceed (ATP).
- 3) The AHMR funding is **only** being used as **an alternative funding source (AFS)** for the project, and OEPC has been notified of the project in advance of combining the funding.

All grant applications must include a project narrative, a budget narrative, and proposed schedule and all required forms and documents as listed in this Directed Announcement. All proposed projects submitted under this funding opportunity must state a benefit to the public.

All recipients of AHMR grant funding are required to share their inventory data with United States Geological Survey (USGS), on behalf of OEPC, as part of the AHMR Program effort to create a comprehensive AML inventory. Due to the confidential nature of certain location data, detailed coordinates will not be published or otherwise made available to the public.

## ELIGIBILITY

### Eligible Applicants

Applicants are limited to Tribes, as described by 30 U.S.C. § 1245(b) and further defined by 30 U.S.C. § 1291(10) as any Indian tribe, band, group, or community having a governing body

recognized by the Secretary. Furthermore, the grant applicant must identify a Point of Contact (POC) whose task is to coordinate all matters related to the AHMR application.

The Department conducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to an award. The Department cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified as ineligible, prohibited/restricted, or otherwise excluded from receiving federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain federal assistance and benefits.

### **Eligible Activities**

See Attachment C for relevant definitions.

As provided under IIJA Section 40704(c), a Tribe may use funding on:

(c) Federal, State, Tribal, local, and private land that has been affected by past hardrock mining activities, and water resources that traverse or are contiguous to such land, including any of the following:

(1) Land and water resources that were:

(A) used for, or affected by, hardrock mining activities; and

(B) abandoned or left in an inadequate reclamation status before the date of enactment of this Act [on November 15, 2021].

(2) Land for which the Secretary makes a determination that there is no continuing reclamation responsibility of a claim holder, liable party, operator, or other person that abandoned the site prior to completion of required reclamation under Federal or State law.

To establish a project site's eligibility under the second element, the Tribe must provide documentation, explaining its determination of "no continuing reclamation responsibility." The OEPC must concur with this determination prior to issuing a project approval. Furthermore, a Tribal agency's intention to conduct research, investigation, or exploration activities at a site for the purposes of determining eligibility should not disqualify that site from receiving funding under the definition of "abandoned hardrock mine" or "inadequate reclamation status."

Any land subject to an existing authorization to conduct mining operations (for example, a Notice, Permit, or Plan of Operations) is not eligible for Grant funds.

When selecting and prioritizing hardrock AMLs and water resources for use of Grant funds, the Tribe shall consider the following conditions, consistent with IIJA Section 40704(a):

1. Need of the Tribe and local communities impacted by the abandoned hardrock mine land and associated water resources
2. Public health and safety
3. Potential environmental harm
4. Other land use priorities

The Tribe may use Grant funding for the following eligible activities at hardrock AMLs and land and water resources used for, or affected by, hardrock mining activities, consistent with IIJA Section 40704(d):

1. Inventory
2. Assessment
3. Decommissioning
4. Reclamation

5. Response to hazardous substance releases, or
6. Remediation.

“Response to hazardous substance releases” and “remediation” are terms specific to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Hardrock AML sites requiring response to hazardous substance releases or remediation under CERCLA are eligible for this funding source. However, Tribes may not use grant funds to fulfill obligations under CERCLA where the Tribe has agreed to in a legal settlement or imposed by a court, whether for payment of funds or for work to be performed (IIJA Section 40704 (d)(2)).

In addition, the Tribe may use Grant funding for processes needed to carry out the activities listed in IIJA Section 40704(d) including:

1. Administrative overhead (e.g., salaries, fringe benefits, project staff travel)
2. Materials, supplies, and equipment directly related to the project
3. Project design and engineering
4. Site characterization
5. Project compliance (e.g., NHPA, ESA)
6. Contracting and consulting fees
7. Project management
8. Grant administration of AHMR funds

### **Additional Information on Eligibility**

Tribes must comply with all applicable Federal grant award requirements, including but not limited to, the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR 200).

Tribes receiving grants under this opportunity must comply with all applicable federal statutes, regulations, and executive orders (EOs) and with all applicable Tribal, and local statutes and regulations to ensure that potential impacts to the environment are considered before undertaking any grant-funded action with the potential to impact the environment.

Tribes must ensure that documentation of compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations is included in project files and must produce this documentation upon request. Costs associated with regulatory requirements may be eligible under this grant opportunity and described in the submitted grant application. Allowable compliance costs include costs related to Tribal- and local-level compliance.

### **Number of Grant Applications:**

Only one grant application may be submitted per Tribe per funding cycle. If within a Tribe there are multiple agencies with jurisdiction over hardrock AMLs and they are interested in receiving AHMR funding, the application must be submitted by one Tribal agency (applicant agency) on behalf of the others. In that case, the application should indicate how funding will be distributed among other eligible Tribal agencies and how the proposed activities or projects would be implemented by them.



The applicant agency may further distribute funding to a local government agency (e.g., county-level agency) to conduct work authorized by this Grant on its behalf, provided that this funding distribution and use is outlined in the Grant application, the lower-level agency will comply with the Grant terms, and it has the knowledge and capacity to perform the work. Under this scenario, a Tribe must supply any pertinent information regarding the funding in their Grant application.

## GET READY TO APPLY

### Required System Registrations

#### Unique Entity Identifier and SAM.gov Registration

Before applying, all **applicants** except individuals applying as a natural person **must be registered in SAM.gov**. During the SAM.gov registration the entity will obtain their Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

**The SAM.gov registration process can take several months. If your organization is not already registered in SAM.gov, begin the registration process as soon as possible.**

**To register in SAM.gov**, go to the [SAM.gov website](#) and use the available resources to complete registration.

- **Financial assistance registrants** must review and certify compliance with the SAM.gov “Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications”.
- **Already registered?** You already have a Unique Entity ID. Before applying, check that your “Financial Assistance General Representations and Certifications” on SAM.gov is complete. Remember to renew your registration every year to keep it active while you have an award or application in progress. You can update your registration whenever you need, including during renewal.
- **Need help?** For additional information and contact information on the [SAM.gov Help page](#).

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### Program Goals

The U.S. Department of the Interior has been authorized to establish a Hardrock Abandoned Mine Land Program under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). This program is separate and not inclusive of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement’s (OSMRE) Abandoned Mine Lands Program. Over the decades, extractive industry activities have left behind a number of underground and aboveground mines and features that pose physical safety hazards and have degraded the environment impacting various media. The program’s goal is to assist States and Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Governments with mitigating the physical safety and contaminant risks associated with hardrock, non-coal abandoned mine sites and features. The Announcement for States will be posted separately.

The primary goal of the OEPC (Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance) Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation program is to mitigate environmental and safety hazards associated



with abandoned hardrock mines by reclaiming and remediating these sites, improving water, soil, and air quality, and enhancing public safety across Federal, State, and Tribal lands; achieved through inventorying, assessing, decommissioning, and taking action to address hazardous substance releases at these abandoned mine sites based on public need, health concerns, and environmental impact. This program specifically targets abandoned hardrock (non-coal) mines, including those that previously produced metallic minerals (ex. gold, silver, lead), industrial minerals (ex. sand, gravel, bentonite) or energy minerals (ex. uranium).

A major objective is to reduce or eliminate environmental contamination from abandoned hardrock mines, including water pollution, soil contamination, and potential air quality issues. The program aims to improve public safety by addressing physical hazards associated with abandoned mine sites, such as unstable structures and open shafts.

### **Program Description**

The Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance (OEPC) serves as a leader in resource stewardship and the sustainable and equitable management of the Department's resources. The OEPC fosters partnerships to enhance resource use and protection as well as to expand public access to safe and clean lands and resources under the Department's jurisdiction. The OEPC strives to continually improve environmental policies and procedures to increase management effectiveness and efficiency. The Department, through the IJA and OEPC, is offering a new competitive grant to Tribes that will fund the inventory, assessment, reclamation, remediation, and other work at hardrock (non-coal) abandoned mine lands (hardrock AMLs).

The Department has been authorized to establish a Hardrock Abandoned Mine Land Program under the IJA. To resolve any possible confusion with the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) Abandoned Mine Lands Program, this new grant program will be called the "Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (AHMR) Program." The new grant program is being funded through the Interior appropriations under the line item of Energy Community Revitalization Program (ECRP).

The AHMR Program will provide resources to Tribes impacted by abandoned non-coal mining. The grant program will provide funds to Tribes to inventory, assess, decommission, reclaim, respond to hazardous substance releases on, and remediate abandoned hardrock mine lands and will create jobs in these communities to help repair damage from these legacy activities. These efforts will also improve the environment, restore water quality, and make the community safer for those who live in communities dependent on mining production while restoring natural resources and creating future recreational opportunities. The funding source for this Grant initiative will come from annual Interior Appropriations. Grants are subject to funding availability.

Tribal agencies are eligible if inventorying, reclaiming, remediating, or redeveloping hardrock AMLs are within the agency's jurisdiction, they have the technical and administrative capacity to manage and utilize the funding, and there exists within Tribal lands at least one hardrock AML site or feature that poses high risk to physical safety, human health, or the environment.

For sites that are already being funded by the Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation's Abandoned Mine Lands program, AHMR grants may be requested only if the project being conducted **meets all of the following criteria:**

- 1) It is a **hardrock (non-coal) AML** site being addressed by a Tribe authorized to perform such reclamation under Title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA).
- 2) **OSMRE is serving as the lead agency** for: (a) the hardrock (non-coal) AML project with regard to the funding (i.e., most of the project funding is coming from OSMRE), (b) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other compliance, and (c) the issuance of an Authorization to Proceed (ATP).
- 3) The AHMR funding is **only** being used as **an alternative funding source (AFS)** for the project, and OEPC has been notified of the project in advance of combining the funding.

#### **Buy America Preferences for Infrastructure Projects**

This program has Federal funding for infrastructure projects. Buy America preferences apply to Federal awards for infrastructure projects in the United States. Reference [2 CFR Part 184 - Buy America Preferences for Infrastructure Project](#) for further guidance.

#### **Davis-Bacon Act Requirements**

All laborers and mechanics employed by the applicant, subrecipients, contractors or subcontractors in the performance of construction, alteration, or repair work on an award or project in excess of \$2,000 funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by funds made available under AHMR grants shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar projects in the locality, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code commonly referred to as the “Davis-Bacon Act” (DBA). Applicants shall provide written assurance acknowledging the DBA requirements for the award or project and confirming that all laborers and mechanics performing construction, alteration, or repair work on projects in excess of \$2,000 funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through funding under the award are paid or will be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with Subchapter IV of Chapter 31 of Title 40, United States Code (Davis-Bacon Act). Recipients of funding will also be required to undergo DBA compliance training if they have not already done so, and to maintain competency in DBA compliance.

The U.S. Department of Labor offers free Prevailing Wage Seminars several times a year that meet this requirement, at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/construction/seminars/events>.

For additional guidance on how to comply with DBA provisions and clauses, see <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/construction> and <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/protections-for-workers-inconstruction>.

All grant applications must include a project narrative, a budget narrative, and proposed schedule and all required forms and documents as listed in this Directed Announcement. All proposed projects submitted under this funding opportunity must state a benefit to the public.

## Legislative Authority

This Directed Announcement is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior (Department), Office of the Secretary, Interior Business Center (IBC), and Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD) as part of the U.S. Government Interagency Agreement between the Department's Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance and AQD.

[Public Law 117-58](#) Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), Title VII, Abandoned Mine Land [AML] Reclamation, Section 40704, 30 U.S.C. § 1245 and the [Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024, Energy Community Revitalization Program, Including Transfer of Funds.](#)

## Type of Award

**Projects will be funded through:**

### G- Grant

**The period of performance for all grants will be no more than 5 years.** OEPC anticipates that an inventory grant will generally be awarded to a Tribe that applies, provides a complete application, and is determined to be eligible for a grant. Funding for project grants, however, is not guaranteed and is subject to OEPC's discretion, as well as the availability of remaining funds once all eligible inventory grants have been awarded. Evaluation of project grant proposals will be based on the criteria set forth in this Directed Announcement. Tribes may utilize funding on unforeseen emergency projects and additional eligible inventory activities, subject to the terms of the award, as well as the notification of and approval by the FAO and OEPC.

In appropriate circumstances, the OEPC reserves the right to partially fund proposals in discrete portions or phases of proposed projects. If OEPC chooses to partially fund a proposal, it will do so in a manner that does not prejudice any applicants or affect the basis upon which the proposal or portion thereof, was evaluated and selected for award, and therefore maintains the integrity of the competition and selection process. A proposal funded through this competitive Directed Announcement is not a guarantee of future funding or continued funding. When or if additional funding becomes available, the OEPC reserves the right to issue additional awards received in response to this Announcement through the next fiscal year. Any additional selections will be made in accordance with the terms of this Announcement and Department policy. Only Financial Assistance Officers (FAO) can bind the Federal Government to the expenditure of funds.

## PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION

### Applications Content and Format

An application package is included with this announcement in GrantSolutions. Completed application packages should be submitted to DOI through GrantSolutions. A Tribe may apply for grant funds for Project activities, Inventory and Assessment (data collection) activities, or both, provided that the request: 1) documents no duplication of costs and 2) lays out the proposed activities under each type (e.g., \$75,000 for projects and \$25,000 for inventory and assessment).

## Application Documents

The required application forms, instructions, and attachments are available with this announcement in GrantSolutions **as part of the application kit**. Digital signatures are acceptable and encouraged. Descriptions of the required application forms follow below. To be complete, the application must include sufficient details as described below to provide assurances regarding the ability of the Tribe to properly carry out and oversee the activities to be funded. All Required Elements are Standard Forms.

Applicants must submit the following Standard Forms or SF with their application as specified below. Instructions for accessing and submitting application forms are provided in the [Submission Instructions](#) section of this document below. For instructions on completing form fields, see the form instructions on the [Grants.gov Forms Repository](#) or via [GrantSolutions](#).

**The required forms and attachments are available for download or online completion.**

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance Note: For applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Representative's signature (or electronic equivalent) on the Application for Federal Assistance form also represents their certification of the statements in <a href="#">Appendix A to 43 CFR 18-Certification Regarding Lobbying</a>	Required from all applicants
SF-424A, Budget Information – Non-Construction Programs	Required for non-construction projects
SF-424C: Budget Information – Construction Programs	Required for construction projects
SF-429 (Cover Page & Attachment B), Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish Real Property Note: The SF-429 forms are only available in the <a href="#">Grants.gov Forms Repository</a> . Applicants must download the form and include the completed form as an application attachment.	Required if requesting to acquire, improve, or furnish real property.
SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	Required if requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funds <u>and</u> the applicant has used or plans to use funds other than

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement
	Federal appropriated funds for lobbying related to the proposed project.
Project Abstract Summary (OMB 4040-0019). Must include, in plain language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Award purpose,</li> <li>• Activities to be performed,</li> <li>• Expected deliverables or outcomes,</li> <li>• Intended beneficiaries,</li> </ul> Subrecipient activities (if known or specified at time of award)	Required from all applicants
<a href="#">Key Contacts Form (OMB Form 4040-0010)</a> . The Key Contacts Form provides the information of key project personnel such as the project manager and a fiscal contact.	Required from all applicants.
Certification of Lobbying Activities. Applicants requesting more than \$100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in <a href="#">43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying</a> . If this application requests more than \$100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.	Required from all applicants.

### Project Narrative

Project Narratives are limited to 10 numbered pages, inclusive of all text and references, with at least 1-inch margins on all sides and 11-point font. Supporting documents, such as maps, certifications, and attachments may be submitted and uploaded as separate attachments in GrantSolutions.

The activities proposed in the Project Narrative must be supported by the Budget Narrative. However, many elements of the Project Narrative are not relevant for inventory grants. If applying for an inventory only grant, then the Project Narrative should be adjusted accordingly to only provide information regarding the inventory activities (address sections C, D, and J, below). The Project Narrative shall provide sufficient information to determine whether the proposed activities are consistent with requirements described in this announcement, including:

#### A. A description of:

1. the legal authorities granted under IIA or a Tribe's legal authorities to reclaim hardrock AMLs, processes used to identify and prioritize mine lands by hazard type, procurement mechanisms, and other program elements demonstrating the readiness of the Tribe to carry out proposed activities using an AHMR Grant,

2. the activities to be carried out with the Grant, including an identification of the estimated health, safety, habitat, and environmental benefits of the project(s),
3. the technical capabilities of your agency to complete this project, including the resources, past experience, qualifications, certifications, licenses/permits held, etc., to complete the project within the period of performance, and
4. the web address where the information regarding the activities of the Tribe under this grant will be made available to the public, if posted.

B. Estimates of:

1. the number of hardrock AML sites or features on Tribal lands,
2. the number of hardrock AML sites or features that will be addressed under this proposal,
3. broad costs of the proposed actions to:
  - a) address physical safety sites or features; and/or
  - b) respond to or remediate contaminated sites or features (work to be performed under CERCLA or a Tribal equivalent), and
4. the amount of funds to be spent on administrative costs (i.e., costs not directly attributable to a specific project).

C. The definitions and processes used by the Tribe to formally identify a mine as:

1. Abandoned or left in inadequate reclamation status before November 15, 2021, or documentation asserting that there is “no continuing reclamation responsibility of a claim holder, liable party, operator, or other person that abandoned the site prior to completion of required reclamation under Federal or Tribal law”; or
2. Otherwise, eligible for AHMR Grant funding if the Tribe uses different terminology than stated in (1).

D. Details of how the Tribe will identify and prioritize hardrock AMLs and how the Tribe will identify and prioritize projects that will remedy disproportionate burdens of adverse human health or environmental impacts of mine sites or features on disadvantaged communities. Identification of such communities will utilize established tools, such as the Climate and Environmental Justice Screening Tool (CEJST), or the tool administered by the Environmental Protection Agency known as EJScreen. Decision points and underlying assumptions, such as the number and type of environmental indicators, must be described in the application. However, Tribes are not required to change their existing processes for prioritizing and selecting hardrock AML projects.

E. The methodology, including field indicators, sampling, and modeling approaches, to be used by the Tribe to measure and track contamination of groundwater and surface water associated with hardrock AMLs, including how the Tribe will confirm the effectiveness of reclamation activities in reducing or eliminating such contamination.

F. Methods to be used to decommission or remove facilities and infrastructure associated with hardrock AMLs, and to remediate soil and restore habitat that has been degraded due to the presence of the mine.



G. Methods the Tribe will use to solicit recommendations from local officials and the public regarding the prioritization of hardrock AMLs, and any other processes the Tribe will use to solicit feedback on the program from local officials and the public.

H. For each hardrock AML site, the latitude/longitude, type of commodity at the abandoned mine (metallic mineral type, industrial mineral type, or energy mineral type), surface ownership, mineral ownership (e.g., Federal, Tribal, State, private), and other data elements. Project-specific location data will **not** be made public due to the risks of inviting trespass, theft, vandalism, and other unintended consequences.

I. Procedures the Tribe will use to coordinate with Federal or Tribal agencies to determine whether efficiencies may exist by combining hardrock AML eligible activity efforts across private, State, Federal, and Tribal land.

J. The Tribe's authorities to enter Federal, Tribal, or private property, or a Tribe's procedures to obtain landowner consent to enter such properties, if any hardrock AMLs will be accessed from Federal, State, or privately-owned lands.

K. A work schedule for known projects, covering the period of performance of the Tribal Grant, including a plan to ensure project success.

L. The expected outcomes from the project, including a timeline of milestones that correlate to the expected outcomes. Possible outcomes would be improved public safety, improved accessibility and access to recreational areas, groundwater or surface water improvements, mitigation of environmental harm, or mitigation of environmental contaminants.

M. A description of how your agency will maintain the work after the project is completed (i.e. monitoring, maintenance, etc.).

N. Information on how your agency will leverage and share resources that benefit the public.

#### **Budget Narrative**

Applicants must describe and justify items and costs listed in their budget. The budget narrative must identify the following cost items: total estimated costs, non-Federal cost share, third-party contributions, and any pre-award costs. Total project cost is the sum of all allowable costs, including required and voluntary cost share and third-party contributions.

The project budget shall include information on all cost categories and must clearly identify all estimated project costs where known, as project planning may not be complete during the application stage. Tribes should estimate expenditures and provide a proposed timeline in the budget narrative, but do not have to provide a year-to-year break out of a multi-year budget given the small amount of funding currently available.

**Regardless of the eligible activity requesting Grant funding, the Proposed Projects/Inventory table (Attachment E) must be submitted as part of the Budget Narrative.**

Unit costs shall be provided for all budget items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors or sub-recipients. In addition, applicants shall include a narrative description of the



items included in the project budget, including the value of in-kind contributions of goods and services provided to complete the project when cost share is identified to be included (reference section C of this announcement). Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, those costs items included on the SF-424A or SF-424C.

All applications must have a detailed budget narrative explaining and justifying the federal and the non-federal expenditures by object class category as listed on SF-424A - Section B (Budget Category) for non-construction awards (and the SF-424C for construction awards). For clarification and simplicity, it is best to discuss each expense by object class in the order that they appear on the SF424A. Include detailed descriptions of all cost justifications. Additionally, the applicant must provide a description of any cost-sharing and matching funds in the same level of detail as the federal funds. The budget narrative submitted with the application must match the dollar amounts on all required forms. Please explain each calculation and provide a narrative that supports each budget category. For example, the SF-424 must equal the total costs identified on the SF-424A form which must match the budget narrative. The budget narrative submitted with the application must match the dollar amounts on all required forms.

Costs proposed must be reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary to the supported activity. Refer to 2 CFR §200 for applicable administrative requirements and cost principles. If your award is for multi-year or multiple-year funding, you must provide a budget and budget justification for each year of your proposal for the full amount of the project. Show each year in a separate column on the SF-424A and use a separate column for listing any match funds. DOI and OEPC expect that applicants will ensure that no Federal or non-Federal grant funds will be expended for in-kind goods or services, for purposes of providing transportation, travel, and other expenses for any Federal employee.

Describe any item of cost that requires prior approval under the Federal cost principles. See 2 CFR 200.407 “Prior written approval (prior approval)” for more information. If equipment purchased previously with Federal funds is available for the project, provide a list of that equipment and identify the Federal funding source. Identify any cash or in-kind contributions that a partner or other entity will contribute to the project and describe how the contributions directly and substantively benefit the completion of the project. For in-kind contributions, include the source, the amount, and the valuation methodology used to determine the total value. Budget items must be reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary to the supported activity. Refer to 2 CFR §200, for applicable administrative requirements and cost principles. Applicant budgets may include costs related to data and evaluation as relevant per 2 CFR §200.455. Lump sum costs are not acceptable in any category, without a detailed breakdown of how the costs were determined. Profit or fees are not allowable. The following categories should be discussed in the Budget Narrative:

- A. Personnel: Provide the title, unit of time, quantity, cost per unit of time and resultant dollar amount for each of the personnel included in the total line-item dollar amount. Consultants and independent contractors should be listed under F (Contractual).
- B. Fringe Benefits: Provide the fringe benefits rate and dollar amount for each position identified under Personnel.

- C. Travel: Provide the unit of measure, quantity, cost per unit, and resultant dollar amount for each of the following travel details: airfare; lodging; per diem; ground transportation; housing stipend; and transportation stipend. Indicate if the proposed travel costs comply with the Tribe's written travel policy or with current maximum federal rates found at <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>.
- D. Equipment: List any equipment, defined in 2 CFR 200.1 as "tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit acquisition cost that equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the recipient for financial statement purposes, or \$10,000," to be purchased or leased with federal funds. Provide quotes or estimates obtained to support the cost amount and include a written justification for the planned acquisition(s).
- E. Supplies: List any supplies, defined in 2 CFR 200.1 as "all tangible personal property other than those described in the equipment definition." Provide a description, quantity, cost per unit, and resultant dollar amount for any consumable supplies, raw materials, and expendable equipment (items costing less than \$10,000 and/or having an estimated useful life of less than 1 year). Please note, a computing device is a supply if the acquisition cost is below the lesser of the capitalization level established by the recipient or subrecipient for financial statement purposes or \$10,000, regardless of the length of its useful life.
- F. Contractual: Provide the contract/sub-award description, unit of time, quantity, cost per unit of time and resultant dollar amount for each contract/sub-award. Describe market research undertaken to determine an accurate budgetary estimate. Describe how contract services will be obtained.
- G. Construction Costs: Provide the description, quantity, cost per unit of time and/or cost per unit and resultant dollar amount for any construction costs not previously described in one of the budget categories above.
- H. Other Costs: Provide the description, quantity, cost per unit and resultant dollar amount for each item that does not fit within one of the other budget categories. Please identify all Training costs under this heading. "Miscellaneous," "overhead," and "contingency" are not acceptable line items.
- I. Total Direct Charges: Sub-total of items A through G.
- J. Indirect Costs:  
De Minimis Rate: If eligible, state if your organization is opting to use the de minimis rate of up to 15% of total modified direct costs. Entities that do not have a current Federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate) may propose to use the de minimis rate in accordance with 2 CFR 200.414.

Negotiated Rate: State if you will negotiate with your cognizant agency. If your organization has previously negotiated a rate, attach a copy of the most recently negotiated rate agreement.

- K. Total Federal Funding Request: List the total amount of federal funds being requested. Check that this amount matches those listed on the SF-424 and SF-424A before submitting the application.

As a general reminder, budget items must be:

- Reasonable, allowable, allocable, and necessary
- Compliant with [2 CFR §200 Subpart E](#) cost principles

### **Pre-award Costs**

Pre-award costs are those incurred prior to the effective date of the Federal award or subaward directly pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the Federal award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred after the date of the Federal award and only with the written approval of the Federal awarding agency.

The Department waives the prior written approval requirements for pre-award project costs that were incurred within 90 calendar days before the federal award effective date. Applicants must include a start date for pre-award costs in their application.

All costs incurred prior to the effective date are at the recipient's risk of non-reimbursement if the Department determines that the costs are not allowable, allocable, and reasonable by the Federal Awarding Agency. (Refer to 2 CFR 200.407 and 2 CFR 200.308(e) as applicable). Contact for additional information about notification of technical completion and requests for pre-award costs authorization.

### **Conflict of Interest and Unresolved Matters Disclosures:**

If any actual or potential conflict of interest exists related to this project at the time of application, the applicant must provide sufficient information to support a program determination of significance per [2 CFR 1402.112](#). Refer to [2 CFR 200.112](#) Conflict of Interest and [2 CFR 200.113](#).

### **Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement:**

Applicants must state in their application if the activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel proposed in this application overlap with those in any other Federal proposal or award or not. If no overlap exists, include a statement to that effect. If any overlap exists, provide:

- Activities: Description any overlapping activities.
- Costs: Description of any overlapping costs.
- Time: Description of any overlapping key personnel time.
- A copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity.
- Details on when any overlapping proposal was submitted, to whom, and the expected date of the funding decision.

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

### Address to Request Application Package

This Announcement includes all information, documents, and electronic addresses needed to submit an application through GrantSolutions. If you need assistance accessing the application package, please contact the Financial Assistance Officers listed below:

Eleni Sarris  
Interior Business Center  
Acquisition Services Directorate  
Telephone: 571-513-3033  
[aqd-fa.oepc@ibc.doi.gov](mailto:aqd-fa.oepc@ibc.doi.gov)  
[Eleni\\_Sarris@ibc.doi.gov](mailto:Eleni_Sarris@ibc.doi.gov)

Tristan Harley  
Interior Business Center  
Acquisition Services Directorate  
Telephone: 571-560-6489  
[aqd-fa.oepc@ibc.doi.gov](mailto:aqd-fa.oepc@ibc.doi.gov)  
[Tristan\\_Harley@ibc.doi.gov](mailto:Tristan_Harley@ibc.doi.gov)

### Submission Dates and Times

Closing Date for Applications: **TBD at 4:00 p.m. MST**

### Submission Instructions

An application package is included with this announcement in GrantSolutions. Completed application packages should be submitted to DOI through GrantSolutions. All required forms and attachments are in the application kit in GrantSolutions, including Directed Announcement. There is a placeholder to upload the Proposal Narrative and Budget Narrative documents. To learn more about how to find and apply for this announcement, please refer to this GrantSolutions Quicksheet here: <https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Apply-for-a-Directed-Announcement-update.pdf>

**For GrantSolutions technical registration and submission, and other assistance contact: GrantSolutions Customer Support at 1-866-577-0771 or by email at [Help@grantsolutions.gov](mailto:Help@grantsolutions.gov).**

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET (closed on Federal holidays).  
Online: <https://home.grantsolutions.gov/home/contact-us/>

## APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

## **Eligibility Review**

During the eligibility review, the application is checked for timely submission, completed packages (see [Application Documents](#) above) and alignment with the requirements of this announcement. The Federal agency may remove an application if it does not pass the eligibility review.

Prior to issuing an award, AQD and OEPC will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the applicant may be requested to modify the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or AQD and OEPC may choose not to fund the selected project.

The Department may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time AQD is ready to make an award, AQD may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. AQD can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, AQD will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR 200.206. AQD documents applicant risk evaluations using DOI's "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form. Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), AQD is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in SAM.gov. AQD will consider this information when completing the risk review. AQD uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR 200.208 should be applied the award.

## **Initial Review**

The Department will perform an initial review of all applications submitted by the deadline to determine whether: (1) the applicant is eligible for an award; (2) the information required under this opportunity announcement has been submitted; (3) all mandatory requirements of this opportunity announcement are satisfied; and (4) the proposed project is responsive to the program objectives described in this announcement (program determination). (See Submission Dates and Times of this announcement for the submission date and time for this opportunity.)

The Department will complete initial reviews within 60 days of the submission deadline and request additional information, if needed, in an email addressed to the Authorized Representative identified in the OMB Form 4040-0010 Key Contacts Form.

## **Discussions and Award**

The Department may enter into discussions with a selected applicant for any reason deemed necessary, including, but not limited to: (1) only a portion of the application is selected for award; (2) the Department needs additional information to determine that the applicant can comply with the requirements of the Department's Financial Assistance Regulations, and/or (3)

additional specific terms and conditions are required. Failure to satisfactorily resolve the issues identified by the Department may preclude award to the applicant.

If an applicant selected for funding hasn't finished their SAM.gov registration (see [2 CFR 25.200](#) and [2 CFR 25.110](#)) when the federal agency is ready to make an award, we may decide that the applicant is ineligible for the award and choose to grant it to someone else. Please refer [2 CFR 25.205](#) for more information.

Prior to making an award, the DOI checks the anticipated recipient and their key project personnel against the current list of prohibited or restricted persons or entities in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Exclusions database. We are prohibited from making an award if a recipient or any key personnel are found ineligible, prohibited, restricted, or otherwise excluded from receiving or participating in an award, as their ineligibility condition applies to this program.

## Merit Review

This section provides a detailed description of each criterion and sub-criterion and the points associated with each. The evaluation criteria portion of your application should thoroughly address the relevant criterion and sub-criterion (either Physical Safety or Environmental along with Other Land Use Priorities) to assist in the complete and accurate evaluation of your proposal. The evaluation criteria portion should be addressed in the technical proposal section of the application, and a Tribe should specify which criteria they believe to be the most appropriate for their project(s).

Cost sharing will not be considered in the evaluation.

**Note: It is suggested that applicants copy and paste the below criteria into their applications as part of their proposal narrative to ensure that all necessary information is adequately addressed.**

### **For Physical Safety Projects Only:** ***Public Health and Safety (30 points max)***

#### **I. Physical Safety Risks**

- a. The project would significantly reduce the risk of severe injury or death. (15 points)  
*Examples: explosives, hidden or obscured deep shafts, unstable structures, adits, high walls, toxic gases, deep/cold water.*
- b. The project would reduce the risk of moderate, not life-threatening injury. (10 points)  
*Examples: large or worn equipment, steep/loose slopes, shallow pits or shafts, small structures.*
- c. The project would not mitigate risk, or the threat of injury is already low. (0 points)  
*Examples: highly visible prospect pits, uneven ground, low equipment, stable structure.*



## **II. Accessibility**

a. The Project is an easily accessible, high traffic area with frequent or prolonged visitation. (15 points)

*Examples: daily exposure to staff or visitors, well-used campground, residential or school use, lunch spot, highly used trails, and path near roads.*

b. The project is accessible with effort, in a moderately trafficked area and reasonable visitation. (10 points)

*Examples: regular staff or visitor traffic, dispersed camping areas, front country trails.*

c. The project has only remote access, requires considerable effort to reach, and very low or no visitation. (5 points)

*Examples: remote mine opening distant from roads or trails.*

### **For Environmental (CERCLA-type) Projects Only:** ***Mitigation of Environmental Harm (30 points max)***

## **III. Mitigation of Environmental Harm**

a. The project would mitigate significant adverse impacts to plants or animals. (10 points)

*Examples: dead or absent plants or animals in a location where healthy species would generally occur, evidence of acute toxicity.*

b. The project would benefit threatened or endangered plant or animal species, including restoring critical habitat. (7 points)

c. The project is expected to have a moderate benefit to plants or animals adversely impacted by mining activities. (5 points)

d. The project likely will not result in an appreciable benefit to plants or animals impacted by mining activities. (0 points)

*Examples: normal diversity, health, and numbers of plants or animals.*

## **IV. Contaminant Risks**

a. The project will significantly reduce or eliminate the risk of exposure to a release or threatened release of hazardous substances. (10 points)

*Examples: heavy metals, arsenic, cyanide, or radionuclides in waste piles, tailings, or mine drainage.*

b. The project will characterize the nature and extent of contamination to determine whether a release of hazardous substances has occurred. (5 points)

c. Hazardous substance releases are not likely to be present or will not be addressed through this project. (0 points)

## **V. Water Resources: Improvements to Groundwater or Surface Water**



- a. The project would significantly reduce or eliminate contamination to groundwater or a surface water resource. (10 points)
- b. The project is expected to moderately improve groundwater or surface water quality impacted by past mining activities. (5 points)
- c. The project is not expected to result in improved groundwater or surface water quality. (0 points)

**For All Projects:**  
***Other Land Use Priorities (10 points max)***

**VI. Land Management Priorities**

- a. The project would demonstrably support one or more Secretarial priorities. (10 points)  
*Examples: Addressing drought, advancing environmental justice, tackling climate change, strengthening Indian Country.*
- b. The project would advance Tribal priorities or those of a Tribe's Chairman or Council. (10 points)  
*Examples: Wilderness values, cultural resources, public spaces, and visitor experience.*
- c. The project would not advance any Secretarial or Tribal priorities. (0 points)

**Review and Selection Process**

This program reviews proposed budgets to ensure:

- figures are correct
- estimated costs are necessary and reasonable and clearly linked to project narratives
- avoid obviously unallowable costs
- identify costs requiring prior approval
- ensure indirect cost rates are applied correctly
- confirm cost sharing requirements are reflected in the budget.

This program reviews applications for potential overlap or duplication between the proposed project and any other funded or proposed project. Depending on the circumstances, DOI may choose to not make an award.

If the need arises for OEPC to competitively select project Grants, project applications will be evaluated against the evaluation criteria listed under Merit Review, and the Tribal priorities described in the Grant narrative will also be considered. **Inventory-only applications will not be subject to the evaluation criteria since the nature of conducting inventory does not lend itself to such criteria.**

If removed from consideration for ineligibility, the Federal agency will notify the applicant in writing. If OEPC decides to issue a grant following completion of the applicable statutory and regulatory review requirements, a Department Financial Assistance Officer (FAO) will execute a

grant agreement through GrantSolutions.gov (GrantSolutions). Execution of grant agreements and the release of federal funding may take up to four months following the application deadline under this opportunity. Any pre-award costs incurred, either prior to the receipt of a signed agreement or prior to a written notice signed by a FAO authorizing pre-award costs, is at the applicant's own risk.

## **Risk Review**

Prior to making an award, AQD and OEPC assesses the risk posed by the applicant per [2 CFR 200.206](#). If an award will be made, the program may apply special conditions corresponding to the risk assessed. For awards over the simplified acquisition threshold (currently \$250,000), the program reviews eligibility and financial integrity information in the applicant's SAM.gov records per [2 CFR 200.206\(a\)](#). The program also assesses financial management capabilities, project delivery experience, staffing resources, past performance, administration and reporting compliance records, and overall project complexity and potential challenges.

Prior to award, AQD will document applicant risk evaluations using the DOI "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form as well as other tools, including audits and associated documentation filed in accordance with the Single Audit Act in the Federal Audit Clearinghouse. Prior to approving awards, AQD is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System. The AQD will consider this information when completing the risk review. The AQD uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish risk and monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more specific award conditions in [2 CFR 200.208](#) should be applied to the award.

If the results of all pre-award reviews and clearances are satisfactory, an award of funding will be made once the agreement is finalized. If AQD and OEPC determine that a Federal award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the Federal award.

## **AWARD NOTICES**

Notices of Federal Award are sent electronically via GrantSolutions or e-mail. These notices outline the terms, conditions, and payment instructions per [2 CFR 200.211](#). The Notice of Federal Award signed by an authorized Grants Officer is the legal instrument obligating financial assistance to a recipient. Any other prior notice is not an authorization to begin work. If the program allows pre-award costs per [2 CFR 200.458](#), beginning performance before receiving a Notice of Federal Award is at the applicant's own risk.

**Anticipated Project Start Date: May 2025**

**Anticipated Project End Date: Up to 5 years.**

## **POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**

## Administration and National Policy Requirements

For award administration and national policy requirements, see the [DOI Standard Terms and Conditions](#). Infrastructure projects require the use of American iron, steel, manufacture products, and construction materials per [2 CFR 184](#).

Tribes must comply with all applicable Federal grant award requirements, including but not limited to, the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR 200).

Tribes receiving grants under this opportunity must comply with all applicable federal statutes, regulations, and executive orders (EOs) and with all applicable Tribal, and local statutes and regulations to ensure that potential impacts to the environment are considered before undertaking any grant-funded action with the potential to impact the environment.

Tribes must ensure that documentation of compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations is included in project files and must produce this documentation upon request. Costs associated with regulatory requirements may be eligible under this grant opportunity and described in the submitted grant application. Allowable compliance costs include costs related to Tribal- and local-level compliance.

### Geospatial Data

If you receive financial assistance from the Department of the Interior (DOI), recipient must follow these rules for geospatial data:

*Follow Federal Standards:* All geospatial data you collect or create must meet the standards set by the Federal Geospatial Data Committee (FGDC) or the Department of the Interior. This is required by the Geospatial Data Act of 2018, which is part of Public Law 115-254, specifically in Subtitle F (Geospatial Data), sections 751-759C (codified at [43 U.S.C. §§ 2801–2811](#)).

*Include Metadata:* Your Geographic Information Systems (GIS) files must include complete metadata. Metadata is information that describes the data, such as where it came from, how accurate it is, and how it should be used. This is to ensure that anyone using the data understands its context and quality.

*Check for Existing Data:* Before you start collecting new geospatial data, you need to check GeoPlatform.gov. This is to see if there is already existing geospatial data from Federal, State, Tribal, local, or private sources that can meet your needs and is available for free. If such data is available, you should use it instead of gathering new data.

These rules help ensure that geospatial data is reliable, high-quality, and that resources are used efficiently.

### National Environmental Policy Act

Activities funded by AHMR grants are subject to compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other applicable statutes. NEPA requires that, prior to making decisions, all Federal agencies assess and disclose the potential environmental impacts of projects they

authorize. AHMR grant funding may be used by Grant recipients to complete NEPA's compliance requirements.

The type of NEPA compliance documentation required depends on the nature of the proposed action and its potential environmental impacts. Some proposed actions may be subject to categorical exclusion (CE) from the requirement to prepare analysis, but other actions may require preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) that supports a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), or preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Record of Decision (ROD).

Compliance with NEPA and other applicable environmental statutes for non-intrusive projects, such as inventory and assessment, may include fewer procedural steps than more complex projects.

OEPC anticipates that Grants that would fund only inventory or other non-intrusive data collection activities would fall under a CE established by the Department of the Interior, at 43 CFR § 46.210(e), for "Nondestructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities." For inventory-only Grants, Tribes must submit the certification at Attachment D explaining that the activity is covered by the CE and no extraordinary circumstances are present. Once a Tribal representative has returned the signed document and received confirmation from the AHMR Program Office, inventory or other non-intrusive activities may commence subject to the terms of the grant award.

For projects involving intrusive activities, such as soil disturbance that may impact natural or cultural resources, additional review and analysis might be necessary. For projects involving potential impacts to natural or cultural resources, the grant award may be issued in two parts: (1) funding for compliance activities (such as documentation of compliance with NEPA, for example) and (2) funding for project implementation, the latter of which will require an Authorization to Proceed (ATP) from OEPC prior to commencing field activities. After compliance and inventory activities are complete, the Tribe must obtain a separate ATP from the AHMR Program Office prior to commencing intrusive activities, such as soil disturbance on site. In seeking an ATP, the Tribe must submit documentation supporting compliance with NEPA and other statutory requirements to OEPC. **OEPC retains the discretion to deny the ATP and the continuation of funding even if compliance with NEPA and other statutory authorities has been completed and deemed sufficient.**

Due to the types of projects that are anticipated under the AHMR Program, funding for most proposed actions will be able to be approved in reliance on a CE or an EA that supports a FONSI. These documents will be submitted to the AHMR Program Manager on a project-by-project basis as part of the request for an ATP along with the ATP request itself.

### **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)**

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Federal Government has broad authority to regulate hazardous substances, respond to releases of hazardous substances, and develop long-term solutions for serious

hazardous waste problems. Tribes may have similar authorities to address hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants on Tribal and private lands. In the event that there is a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance that poses a risk to human health or the environment from a hardrock AML site, the Tribe may use Grant funds to respond to such release in accordance with CERCLA or its Tribal law equivalent. A site subject to CERCLA response action or Tribal law equivalent does not also perform NEPA analysis due to the functional equivalence in the CERCLA process.

### **National Historic Preservation Act**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires federal agencies to consider the effects on historic properties of projects they carry out, assist, fund, permit, license, or approve. Activities funded under the AHMR may constitute “undertakings” with the potential to affect historic properties and, as such, are subject to review under Section 106 of the NHPA, 54 U.S.C. §306108, and the implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

Pursuant to Section 106, the potential effects of AHMR-funded undertakings on historic properties (i.e., properties that are eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places) must be assessed and all interested parties must be notified and consulted before the AHMR Program issues an ATP for an intrusive project. Activities likely to affect historic properties, including all physical work, may not commence until the Section 106 process is complete and an ATP is issued.

The AHMR program, on behalf of the Department, authorizes Tribal applicants to initiate the Section 106 process directly with the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and with all other consulting parties, as applicable, identified under 36 CFR 800.2(c). This program authorization allows Tribes to perform the appropriate analysis (including identification of historic properties) and consultation under Section 106 as described in 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.5, under the AHMR Program’s oversight.

If a Tribe determines that an AHMR action would not affect any historic properties, the Tribe must document that finding and provide documentation to the THPO. A determination of “no historic properties affected” must be documented and provided to THPO, consulting parties, and the public as described in 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1). The THPO then has 30 days to object to the finding.

If a Tribe determines that there are historic properties which may be affected by the undertaking, the Tribe must evaluate, in consultation with appropriate parties, whether those effects would be adverse. Any adverse effects must then be resolved, including through required avoidance or mitigation measures.

### **Endangered Species Act**

Grants funded under this opportunity must comply with Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Under Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, the Department must ensure that grant-

funded activities are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat.

The AHMR program, on behalf of the Department, authorizes Tribal applicants to initiate the required ESA reviews and consultations with their respective Tribal Game and Fish agencies, as well as the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), under AHMR Program oversight.

If a Tribe finds that an AHMR action would have "no effect" on any listed species or critical habitat, the Tribe should document that finding, but need not engage with USFWS or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to complete its compliance with section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, so long as the AHMR Program concurs with the Tribe's finding.

If a Tribe cannot reach a "no effect" finding for a project and prepares a Biological Assessment (BA) to initiate consultation with USFWS or NMFS, the consultation can conclude informally with a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" finding by the Tribe but will require the documented concurrence of the USFWS or NMFS.

In the event the USFWS or NMFS should not concur with the BA, or the Tribe determines that a project is likely to adversely affect species or critical habitat, then the Tribe (in coordination with the AHMR Program) must initiate formal consultation with USFWS or NMFS. In this circumstance USFWS or NMFS would prepare a Biological Opinion (BiOp) and would need to issue an incidental take permit (ITP) for the project before it could proceed. Note that even if an ITP is issued, OEPC retains the discretion to deny funding for the intrusive phase of the project.

### **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Drones**

Pursuant to the Secretary of the Interior Order No. 3379, only specific models of unmanned aircraft that have capabilities that are considered trusted and secure by the Department of Defense are authorized for use of federal funds under this award. A list of approved unmanned aircraft and technology packages may be found at <https://www.diu.mil/blue-uas>

Any equipment purchases related to unmanned aircraft or technology-related items to support the use of unmanned aircraft, such as software, must be approved in advance and comport with Order No. 3379. Further, employee or contractor time to fly unmanned aircraft that does not meet this requirement is not an allowable expense under this award. Any grant funding for the purchase or use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems for operations must have in place policies and procedures to safeguard individuals' privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties prior to expending such funds. The term "unmanned aircraft systems" encompasses unmanned aerial systems, drones, and similar technology, including component parts, that are remotely controlled and subject to Federal Aviation Administration regulations. It covers activities conducted in furtherance of the Department's mission, using Department funds, or for purposes identified in a cooperative agreement, contract, grant, or other agreement between the Department and another party. Designated components of UAS include and are not limited to hardware and software components necessary for collecting, storing, and transmitting data or similar information.

### **Reporting**

The recipient's Notice of Award will detail all reporting requirements, including frequency, due dates, and instructions for requesting extensions. In general, but not limited to, recipients must:



- Submit Federal Financial reports and Program Performance reports.
- Use the [Federal Financial Report \(SF-425\) form](#) for financial reporting,
- Monitor award activities and report on program performance per [2 CFR 200.329](#),
- Promptly notify the awarding program in writing of any issues, delays, or conditions impairing award objectives per [2 CFR 200.329\(e\)](#),
- Disclose any conflicts of interest related to their award that arise during the award period per [2 CFR 1402.112](#),
- Report on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest per [2 CFR 200.330](#), and
- Report all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award per [2 CFR 200.113](#).
- Report any matters related to recipient integrity and performance to SAM.gov per [Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200](#).
- If the Federal share of the award is more than \$100,000 and the recipient makes or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection to the award, disclose those activities using the Disclosure of Lobbying (SF-LLL) form per [43 CFR 18.100](#).
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA) requires certain recipients to report information on executive compensation through SAM.gov and information on all sub-awards, subcontracts, and consortiums over \$30,000 to the
- [FFATA Subaward Reporting System \(FSRS\)](#).

Please note, as per an Office of the Inspector General (OIG) finding, all Tribal AHMR programs must sign geospatial clearances in advance of collecting or receiving any information. All data collection must be approved by the affected landowner. For more information, please refer to the Geospatial Data Collection Requirements referred to in POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION.

### **Other Information**

All recipients of AHMR grant funding are required to share their inventory data with USGS, on behalf of OEPC, as part of the AHMR Program effort to create a comprehensive AML inventory. Due to the confidential nature of certain location data, detailed coordinates will not be published or otherwise made available to the public.

### **Federal, State, and Tribal Coordination**

Efficiency and cost-effectiveness in hardrock AML eligible activities will be maximized by ensuring proper coordination in these activities among Tribes, States, and the Federal government. As early as practical—preferably before Tribal AML Grant applications are submitted—Tribes should contact the relevant offices of Tribal, State, or Federal land management agencies to ensure the maximum level of coordination between Tribes, Federal land management agencies, and States, including scheduling similar field activities where Tribal, Federal, or State land may be adjacent. Tribes may reach out to the Department’s AHMR Program Manager for a list of appropriate contacts.



When undertaking work on Federal land under a cost-sharing, Good Neighbor, or other arrangement with the Federal government, Tribes must collect the data required to be reported under the IJA for mines decommissioned and sites remediated on Federal land, unless all such data collection is otherwise captured in the terms of a lawful agreement between the Tribe and the Federal land manager (e.g., cooperative agreement). Early coordination with Federal agencies is encouraged to ensure that Tribes are collecting the proper data in a format that can most easily be transferred to the Federal government.

Tribes must consult with Federal agencies and Tribal representatives to ensure appropriate and efficient collaboration on compliance issues (e.g., cultural resources, endangered species, sacred sites) and to minimize disruption of planned events, operations, or land management activities.

### **Required Certification**

For Tribal AHMR Grant applications, a certification (see Attachment A) must be submitted to the Department with the application package. This document certifies that any financial assurance instruments available to cover remediation, or reclamation costs will be used by the Tribe, and acknowledges Davis-Bacon Act requirements.

### **Other Supporting Documents (as applicable to a specific project)**

An applicant may provide materials outside of the Project Narrative text to support review of the proposal. Letters of support may be submitted to demonstrate and or substantiate specific partner involvement, support, or matching funds. Letters must be submitted as part of the application. Letters received in any other manner may not be considered. All letters should be addressed to: Hardrock AML Program Manager, Department of the Interior.

### **Payments**

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard [Application for Payments \(ASAP\)](#), unless approved for a waiver by AQD. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT). AQD will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.

Awards are based on the application submitted to, and approved by, the Financial Assistance Officer and are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated into the Notice of Award either by direct citation or by reference to the following: Federal regulations; program legislation or regulation; and special award terms and conditions. The duration of an agreement is based on the period of performance as stated on the project proposal as accepted and approved. The recipient will be notified in GrantSolutions and by email with a fully executed Notice of Award with the required terms and conditions.

Recipient acceptance of a Federal award from the AQD and DOI carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with all terms and conditions applicable to the award. Recipients indicate their acceptance of the Federal award by starting work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Final award cannot be finalized, until awardee completes their enrollment in the Department of the Treasury, ASAP System. See the following website: <https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/asap>. If your organization is not enrolled in ASAP for IBC/AQD as region ALC 14010001, please contact the Financial Assistance Officer identified in Section G1 of this funding opportunity.

## **I. Attachments**

### **Attachment A**

Tribal Grant Certification – Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation Program

### **Attachment B**

Buy America Preference for Tribal AHMR Grants

### **Attachment C**

AHMR Program Definitions

### **Attachment D**

Tribal Inventory Categorical Exclusion Certification

### **Attachment E**

Milestone Table

### **Attachment F**

Required Proposed Projects/Inventory Table

## Attachment A

### **Tribal Grant Certification Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation Program**

Consistent with Section 40704 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (aka Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), the

\_\_\_\_\_ certifies that:

1. Any financial assurance instruments, including performance bonds, available to cover remediation or reclamation costs will be used by the Tribe; and
2. The Tribe acknowledges the Davis-Bacon Act requirements for the award or project and confirms that all laborers and mechanics performing construction, alteration, or repair work on projects in excess of \$2,000 funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by funding under the award are paid or will be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with Subchapter IV of Chapter 31 of Title 40, United States Code.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Certifying Official Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Certifying Official Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Attachment B

### Buy America Preference for Tribal AHMR Grants

#### Buy America Domestic Procurement Preference

As required by [Section 70914 of the IIJA](#) on or after May 14, 2022, none of the funds under a federal award that are part of Federal financial assistance program for infrastructure may be obligated for a project unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States, unless subject to an approved waiver.

Recipients of an award of Federal financial assistance are hereby notified that none of the funds provided under this award may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

1. All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States--this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.
2. All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation; and
3. All construction materials are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States.

The Buy America Preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

For further information on the Buy America preference, please visit [www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica](http://www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica).

Additional information can also be found at the White House Made in America Office website: [www.whitehouse.gov/omb/management/made-in-america/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/management/made-in-america/).

## Waivers

When necessary, recipients may apply for, and the Department of the Interior (DOI) may grant, a waiver from these requirements, subject to review by the Made in America Office. The DOI may waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference in any case in which it is determined that one of the below circumstances applies:

1. Non-availability Waiver: the types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality,
2. Unreasonable Cost Waiver: the inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent, or
3. Public Interest Waiver: applying the domestic content procurement preference would be inconsistent with the public interest.

There may be instances where an award qualifies, in whole or in part, for an existing DOI general applicability waiver as described at the following link:

[www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica/GeneralApplicabilityWaivers](http://www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica/GeneralApplicabilityWaivers).

If the specific financial assistance agreement, infrastructure project, or non-domestic materials meets the criteria of an existing general applicability waiver within the limitations defined within the waiver, the recipient is not required to request a separate waiver for non-domestic materials.

If a general applicability waiver does not already apply, and a recipient believes that one of the above circumstances applies to an award, a request to waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference may be submitted to the awarding Financial Assistance Officer in writing. Waiver requests shall include the below information. The waiver shall not include any Privacy Act information, sensitive data, or proprietary information within their waiver request. Waiver requests will be posted to [www.doi.gov/grants/buyamerica](http://www.doi.gov/grants/buyamerica) and are subject to public comment periods of no less than fifteen (15) days. Waiver requests will also be reviewed by the OMB Made in America Office.

1. Type of waiver requested (non-availability, unreasonable cost, or public interest).
2. Requesting entity and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) submitting the request.
3. Department of Interior Bureau or Office who issued the award.
4. Federal financial assistance listing name and number (reference block 2 on DOI Notice of Award)
5. Financial assistance title of project (reference block 8 on DOI Notice of Award).
6. Federal Award Identification Number (FAIN).
7. Federal funding amount (reference block 11.m. on DOI Notice of Award).
8. Total cost of Infrastructure expenditures (includes federal and non-federal funds to the extent known).

9. Infrastructure project description(s) and location(s) (to the extent known).
10. List of iron or steel item(s), manufactured goods, and construction material(s) the recipient seeks to waive from Buy America requirements. Include the name, cost, countries of origin (if known), and relevant [PSC](#) or [NAICS](#) code for each.
11. A certification that the recipient made a good faith effort to solicit bids for domestic products supported by terms included in requests for proposals, contracts, and nonproprietary communications with the prime contractor.
12. A statement of waiver justification, including a description of efforts made (e.g., market research, industry outreach) by the recipient, to avoid the need for a waiver. Such a justification may cite, if applicable, the absence of any Buy America-compliant bids received in response to a solicitation.
13. Anticipated impact if no waiver is issued.

Approved waivers will be posted at [www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica/ApprovedWaivers](http://www.doi.gov/grants/BuyAmerica/ApprovedWaivers); recipients requesting a waiver will be notified of their waiver request determination by a Financial Assistance Officer. Questions pertaining to waivers should be directed to the awarding Financial Assistance Officer.

### **Definitions**

“Construction materials” includes an article, material, or supply that is or consists primarily of:

- non-ferrous metals
- plastic and polymer-based products (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables)
- glass (including optic glass)
- lumber
- drywall

“Construction Materials” does **not** include cement and cementitious materials, aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel, or aggregate binding agents or additives.

“Domestic content procurement preference” means all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States; the manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States; or the construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States.

“Infrastructure” includes, at a minimum, the structures, facilities, and equipment for, in the United States, roads, highways, and bridges; public transportation; dams, ports, harbors, and other maritime facilities; intercity passenger and freight railroads; freight and intermodal facilities; airports; water systems, including drinking water and wastewater systems; electrical transmission facilities and systems; utilities; broadband infrastructure; and buildings and real property. Infrastructure includes facilities that generate, transport, and distribute energy.

“Project” means the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States.

## Attachment C

### **AHMR Program Definitions**

**“Abandoned”** – A hardrock AML site or feature is determined to be “abandoned” when exploration, development, mining, reclamation, maintenance, and inspection of facilities and equipment, and other operations have ceased prior to November 15, 2021, with no evidence demonstrating that the owner, operator, or other party currently intends to resume mining or conduct any other activities at the site, or the Secretary determines under Section 40704(c)(2) that “there is no continuing reclamation responsibility of a claim holder, liable party, operator, or other person that abandoned the site prior to completion of required reclamation under Federal or Tribal laws.”

**“Award date”** – The date the award is signed by the Financial Assistance Officer and may coincide with or precede the effective date of the grant (see “Date of receipt of the funds” below), based on project needs and discussions between the Tribe and the Financial Assistance Officer.

**“Contaminated site”** – The terms “contaminated” and “contamination” used in this guidance refer to releases of hazardous substances, pollutant, or other contaminants that may pose a threat to human health or the environment.

**“Date of receipt of the funds”** – This is the effective date of the grant, which is the start of its period of performance, as determined by the Financial Assistance Officer in consultation with the receiving Tribe. The effective date begins the period within which the Tribe must obligate funds or return such unobligated funds to the Department. In most cases, the effective date of award will coincide with the award date.

**“Equipment”** – As defined in [2 CFR § 200.313](#), equipment is tangible personal property (including information technology systems) having a useful life of more than one (1) year and a per-unit acquisition cost which equals or exceeds the lesser of the capitalization level established by the non-Federal entity for financial statement purposes, or \$5,000. See [2 CFR § 200.313](#) for the title, use, management, and disposition of equipment purchased with Tribal Formula grant funds.

**“Hardrock AML”** – Federal, State, Tribal, local, and private lands that contain one or more sites or features resulting from the past exploration, development, mining, or processing of any solid minerals, excluding coal, and associated facilities. Such sites or features may include but are not limited to: disturbances resulting from prospecting for or extraction of minerals; stockpiles; processing locations; shafts; adits; open pits; prospect pits/trenches; waste rock piles; tailings piles; roads; highwalls; associated structures and equipment; buildings; headframes; and tools that are incidental to mining, mineral extraction, or mineral exploration activities. For purposes of this guidance, this definition includes lands that contain features resulting from past sand and gravel mining.



**“Inadequate Reclamation Status”** – A hardrock AML is determined to be “left in inadequate reclamation status” when the previously conducted reclamation is no longer adequate and there is no other statutory or regulatory requirement for the mining claimant, operator, or other entity to conduct any additional reclamation activities.

**“Pre-award costs”** – Per 2 CFR 200.458, Pre-Award Costs are those incurred after the award date and before the effective date of the Federal award and only with the written approval of the Financial Assistance Officer (FAO) in the Notice of Award. The FAO will evaluate pre-award costs on a case-by-case basis.

**“Unobligated amounts”** – For purposes of determining the deadline for expenditure, “unobligated amounts” covers any funding that is not obligated. There is no legal liability of the Tribe for an immediate or future payment for goods or services ordered or received, including by contract or sub-contract award.

## Attachment D

### **Tribal Inventory Categorical Exclusion Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation Program**

Consistent with Section 40704 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (aka Bipartisan Infrastructure Law or BIL), Tribes may use funding awarded by the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (AHMR) Program to conduct inventory activities at hardrock abandoned mine land (AML) sites.

Furthermore, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that prior to making decisions, all Federal agencies assess and disclose the potential environmental impacts of projects they authorize. However, agencies may establish categorical exclusions for categories of actions that normally do not have a significant effect on the human environment, individually or in the aggregate, and therefore do not require preparation of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement unless extraordinary circumstances exist that make application of the categorical exclusion inappropriate. The Department of the Interior has established a categorical exclusion for “Nondestructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities.” 43 CFR § 46.210(e).

The \_\_\_\_\_ certifies that the proposed inventory activities fall within categorical exclusion 43 CFR § 46.210(e) and none of the extraordinary circumstances listed at 43 CFR § 46.215 are present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tribal Certifying Official Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tribal Certifying Official Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### **For OEPC use only:**

The OEPC concurs that the inventory activities proposed by the \_\_\_\_\_ fall within categorical exclusion 43 CFR § 46.210(e) and none of the extraordinary circumstances at 43 CFR § 46.215 are present. The Applicant may commence with its inventory activities as of the date signed below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
AHMR Certifying Official Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
AHMR Certifying Official Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Attachment E

### Milestone Table – EXAMPLE

**Timeline or Milestones to Complete Expected Results:**  
**[Suggested table below]:**

*Describe significant outputs and expected results or outcomes of the project with a clear set of milestones and how they will be measured within a specified timeframe. All proposals must have measurable results that correlate to a timeline.*

<b>Milestone / Task / Activity</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
<i>Insert specific, measurable results/outcomes such as milestone, task, and/or activity, e.g., initiate and complete well prioritization, initiate and complete procurement of contractors, begin field work, number of acres surveyed in x county/area; the number of adits sealed, remediated, or restored; the number of acres reclaimed or remediated; draft or final report to be disseminated to the public; and/or number of public outreach events (identify types of events) as applicable.</i>		

## Attachment F

### Required Proposed Projects/Inventory – EXAMPLE

Project Name <u>or</u> Area to be Inventoried	Type of Hazards if Known ( <i>*inventory may put unknown</i> )	Estimated Funding Level from this Grant	Estimated Schedule/Timeline (Month/Year - Month/Year)	Proposed Accomplishments During the Grant Period
ex. Inventory of Cerrillos Hills State Park	unknown	\$ 50,000.00	2/2025 - 6/2025	Complete inventory of the park.
ex. Silver City Closures	shafts & adits	\$ 75,000.00	1/2025 - 3/2025	Close 8 adits, 7 shafts & replace 1 worn wire net over a shaft
ex. Animas Peaks Closures	shafts & adits	\$ 125,000.00	2/2025 - 5/2025	Close 12 shafts & 2 adits w/helicopter support
	Total Funding:	\$ 250,000.00		