



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240



December 31, 2008

Dear Tribal Leaders with "477 Programs":

This letter is an important update to our letter of October 17, 2008, (copy enclosed) informing you that the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) was discontinuing use of Pub. L. 93-638 as the authority to issue Pub. L. 102-477 contracts, effective January 1, 2009. DHHS has extended the date to March 31, 2009. Accordingly, this office will continue to transfer DHHS program funds through contracts based on Pub. L. 93-638.

The DHHS informed four tribal leaders of their decision by letters of December 18, 2008, including the leaders of the Spokane, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, Port Gamble S'Klallam, and Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes. A copy of the letter to Chairman James Steele, Jr. of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes is enclosed for your reference.

This is an opportunity for the tribes to have government-to-government consultations with DHHS and we encourage you to be actively involved. Be assured that our office will be available to serve as a resource and to provide support as you discuss the 477 Program with DHHS. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Lynn Forcia at (202) 219-5270.

Sincerely,

Acting
FOR

Robert W. Middleton, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Indian Energy
and Economic Development

(2) Enclosures

E-mail cc: 477 Tribal Program Coordinators



United States Department of the Interior

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OCT 17 2008

The Honorable Dimitri Philemonof
President, Aleutian Pribilof Island
Association
1131 E. International Airport Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99518

Dear President Philemonof:

The Aleutian Pribilof Island Association is participating in the Public Law 102-477 initiative. In the past, Public Law 102-477 funds have been transferred to you through a Public Law 93-638 agreement.

At our next Public Law 102-477 Tribal Work Group quarterly meeting in November, we will discuss the decision that was made to transfer Public Law 102-477 funds through a Public Law 102-477 grant pursuant to 43 CFR Part 12, "Administrative and Audit Requirements and Cost Principles for Assistance Programs" and 25 CFR Part 276, the "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants." Copies of both Federal regulations are enclosed for your information. Effective January 1, 2009, all Public Law 102-477 funds will be transferred to you under this authority.

The next Public Law 102-477 Tribal Work Group quarterly meeting will be held at the Hilton in Omaha, Nebraska, on November 19. We will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding these changes at that time.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that the Public Law 102-477 initiative and the funds transfer are uninterrupted.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Middleton, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Indian Energy
and Economic Development

Enclosures

cc: Tara Bourdukofsky
Director



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Office of the Assistant Secretary, Suite 600
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20447

DEC 18 2008

Mr. James Steele, Jr.
Chairman
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes
P.O. Box 278
Pablo, Montana 59855

Dear Chairman Steele:

This letter is to inform you that Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes' TANF funds will continue to be transferred to the Department of Interior (DOI) as a part of the P.L. 102-477 demonstration project through the next fiscal quarter, ending on March 31, 2009.

Discussions regarding the implementation of this program are ongoing with DOI and the Office of Management and Budget. We hope to have resolution to this process within the next fiscal quarter.

We will contact you prior to March 31 to inform you of any changes.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Felicia Gaither, the TANF Regional Program Manager for Region VIII at 303-844-1483.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sidonie Squier".

Sidonie Squier
Director
Office of Family Assistance