

Sample Notice of Intent to Request a Release of Funds

The language below is HUD's recommended wording of the Notice of Intent to Request a Release of Funds. This Notice is used to request the environmental release of funds for Categorically Excluded projects [24 CFR Part 58, Section 58.35(a)] or for projects for which a Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact was previously issued. Words in **bold type** are required language. Words in *italics* are to be replaced by language appropriate to the particular project and Responsible Entity. The minimum comment period is seven days following publication or ten days if posting and mailing without publication is used

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date of Notice

Name of Responsible Entity [RE]

Address (e.g., Street No. or P.O. Box)

City, State, Zip Code

Telephone Number of RE

On or about *at least one day after the end of the comment period* **the name of Tribe will authorize the** *[name of tribal housing authority]* **to submit a request to the HUD for the release of** *name of grant program* **funds under Title/Section [] of the name of the Act of [year], as amended, to undertake a project known as** *project title* **for the purpose of** *nature/scope of project, estimated funding (include non-HUD funding sources if applicable) and project location if applicable.*

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at *name and address of tribal office where ERR can be examined and name and address of other locations where the record is available for review* **and may be examined or copied weekdays __A.M to __P.M.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the *Tribal designated office responsible for receiving and responding to comments.* **All comments received by** *if notice is published: notice date plus seven days; if notice is mailed and posted: mailing and posting date plus ten days* **will be considered by the name of Tribe prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.**

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The *name of Tribe* certifies to HUD that *name of Certifying Officer* in his/her capacity as *Official Title* consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the *name of grant recipient (housing authority)* to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the *Tribe's* certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the *name of Tribe*; (b) the *name of Tribe* has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to HUD at *address of the local ONAP office*. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Name and Title of RE Certifying Officer

Note: The seven or ten-day public comment periods are the minimum time periods required by regulation prior to submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Certification [form HUD-7015.15] to HUD/State. The Responsible Entity may choose to allow a longer comment period. The fifteen-day objection period following submission of the request is a statutory requirement. The objection period follows the submission date specified in the Notice or the actual date of receipt by HUD/State, whichever is later.

Following completion of the comment period recipients may FAX the form HUD-7015.15 to HUD/State together with a copy of the public notice and a cover letter stating whether comments were received and, if so, how the recipient responded to the comment. The Request for Release of Funds and Certification should not be submitted before the recipient has responded. If the request is sent by FAX, the original signed form should be mailed to HUD/State. The date of receipt by FAX will be counted as the submission date. However, HUD will not issue the 7015.16 "Authority to Use Grant Funds" until after the original signed form is received.