

Sample Tribal Consultation Letter

This sample letter, which is based on a [HUD template available online](#), can be used by local governments or the Montana Department of Commerce to consult with tribes during the environmental review. Nonprofit organizations may not consult directly with tribes.

(Date)

(Tribal nation)

The Honorable (chairperson name)

(Address 1)

(Address 2)

(City, state zipcode)

Re: (Name and address of project) consultation under 24 CFR Part 58.4

Dear Chairman/Chairwoman (name),

The (name of grantee) has been awarded a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant of \$(award amount) by the State of Montana Department of Commerce. The (name of grantee) is considering using its federal award to (brief project description). Under HUD regulation 24 CFR 58.4, the (name of grantee) has assumed HUD's environmental review responsibilities for the project, including tribal consultation related to historic properties. Historic properties include archeological sites, burial grounds, sacred landscapes or features, ceremonial areas, traditional cultural places and landscapes, plant and animal communities and buildings and structures with significant tribal association.

(Name of grantee) will conduct a review of this project to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800. We would like to invite you to be a consulting party in this review to help identify historic properties in the project area that may have religious and cultural significance to your tribe, and if such properties exist, to help assess how the project could affect them. If the project might have an adverse effect, we would like to discuss possible ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate potential adverse effects.

(Summarize and include known information from SHPO and other sources including non-confidential information from other tribes.)

To meet project timeframes, if you would like to be a consulting party on this project, can you please let us know of your interest within 30 days? If you have any initial concerns with impacts of the project on religious or cultural properties, can you please note them in your response?

Enclosed is a map that shows the project area and, if applicable, an additional area of potential indirect effects. The project consists of (full project description if brief description above is not sufficient). More information on the Section 106 review process is available at onecpd.info/environmental-review/historic-preservation.

HUD's process for tribal consultation under Section 106 is described in a notice available at onecpd.info/resource/2448/notice-cpd-12-006-tribal-consultation-under-24-cfr-part-58.

If you do not wish to consult on this project, can you please inform us? If you do wish to consult, can you please include in your reply the name and contact information for the tribe's principal representative in the consultation? We value your assistance and look



forward to consulting further if there are historic properties of religious or cultural significance to your tribe that may be affected by this project.

Sincerely,

(Chief elected official)

CC: (Name of tribal preservation officer/THPO), tribal preservation officer