



PUBLIC NOTICE

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FCC ANNOUNCES TRIBAL CONSULTATION ON COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE FCC'S NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT RULES

By this Public Notice, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announces a series of upcoming opportunities for federally-recognized Tribal Nations and Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs) to consult with Commission staff regarding a comprehensive review of the FCC's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) rules. Alaska Native Corporations may also request consultation meetings with FCC staff.

FCC staff will be onsite at four in-person Tribal events and two virtual events to hold Tribal Consultation meetings, including at the request of Tribal representatives. FCC staff will also be available to answer questions at the in-person events. To reserve a time for a Tribal Consultation, interested parties may submit a request to the Office of Native Affairs and Policy (ONAP) by sending an email to Native@fcc.gov with the subject line, "Consultation," and identifying the specific location of interest.

Registration for the virtual Tribal consultation opportunities will be made available closer to the event date. Sign up for the Native News Update by emailing Native@fcc.gov to receive the registration information and other timely information from the FCC.

- September 8-9, 2025: Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada, coinciding with the **25th Annual National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) Conference**
 - One-on-one consultation
- September 11, 2025: Mystic Lake Center in Prior Lake, Minnesota, at the **Coalition of Large Tribes (COLT) Quarterly Meeting**
 - National consultation will be held 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. CT, following an FCC Tribal Workshop.
- October 7, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. ET – **Virtual**
 - National consultation
 - A registration link will be emailed from Native@fcc.gov closer to the event date.

- October 15-17, 2025: Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center in Anchorage, Alaska, coinciding with the **2025 Annual Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention**
 - One-on-one consultation
 - Alaska Native Corporations are welcome to submit a request for a consultation meeting. Please note that ANCs are required to file *ex parte* letters for presentations on open proceedings.
- November 12, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. ET – **Virtual**
 - National consultation
 - A registration link will be emailed from Native@fcc.gov closer to the event date.
- November 16-20, 2025: Seattle Convention Center in Seattle, Washington, coinciding with the **National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 82nd Annual Convention and Marketplace**
 - National consultation and one-on-one consultation

These Tribal Consultations are in furtherance of the Commission's government-to-government relationship as described in the Commission's Tribal Policy Statement.

Background: The FCC adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ([FCC 25-47](#)) on August 7, 2025, under WTB [Docket No. 25-217](#), to take a fresh look at the Commission's environmental rules to account for recent amendments to NEPA under the 2023 Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA). In addition, in January, President Trump issued Executive Order 14154 titled "Unleashing American Energy," which called upon "all agencies [to] prioritize efficiency and certainty over any other objectives" in revising agency regulations implementing NEPA. In light of the changes to the legal landscape and consistent with the objectives of that Executive Order, the FCC seeks comment on how we should revise Commission rules to streamline the environmental review process, promote efficiency, and encourage deployment of infrastructure that results in more competition and technological innovation. Comments are due September 18, 2025, and Reply Comments are due October 3, 2025.

The FCC is also taking this opportunity to seek comment on whether there are parts of its environmental rules that are now unnecessary or outdated and should be deleted. Given the Commission's environmental rules are entwined with its historic preservation rules, we also seek comment on any impact to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) framework and examine what rule changes, if any, might be appropriate.

FCC Ex Parte Requirements: Tribal Nations and NHOs should file comments, reply comments, and *ex parte* presentations in the public record in order to put facts and arguments before the Commission in a manner such that they may be relied upon in the decision-making process. The Commission, however, will exempt *ex parte* presentations involving elected and appointed leaders, and duly appointed representatives, of federally-recognized Tribal Nations and NHOs from the disclosure requirements in permit-but-disclose proceedings (47 CFR § 1.1206) and the prohibitions on presentations during the Sunshine Agenda period (47 CFR § 1.1203). Specifically, presentations from elected and appointed leaders or duly appointed representatives of federally-recognized Tribal Nations or NHOs to Commission decision makers

shall be exempt from disclosure. To be clear, while the Commission recognizes that consultation is critically important, we emphasize that the Commission will rely in its decision-making only on those materials that are placed in the public record for this proceeding.

Reasonable Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request by sending an e-mail to: FCC504@fcc.gov or calling the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice). Include a description of the accommodation you will need and tell us how to contact you if we need more information. Please make your request as early as possible as we may be unable to fulfill last-minute requests.

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