

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Eastern Regional Office 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700 Nashville, Tennessee 37214

JUN 22 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) which invests \$1.75 billion in American Indian and Alaska Native government programs administered under the oversight of the Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (IA). The ARP makes emergency supplemental appropriations and other changes to law, in response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The ARP authorizes \$900 million for the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (AS-IA) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to support a wide range of COVID-19 response activities, including \$20 million to provide and deliver potable water.

Please complete the attached form. It is being used to collect information for federally recognized tribes to receive consideration for the delivery of potable water, preferably for tribes that have no functioning central water delivery system. The application should provide a narrative or summary of need, to include any short-term or long-term needs of potable water.

When possible, please include supporting documentation to show any expenditures on current potable water deliveries or other extenuating circumstances.

The information you submit will allow Indian Affairs to equitably distribute resources based on a documented need. If applicable, unused funds currently allocated to other regions may be transferred to meet potable water needs of tribes at a higher level of risk.

Please return this application and any supporting documentation via email to Tiffany Crennel, Regional Program Analyst at <u>tiffany.crennel@bia.gov</u>. Feel free to contact me for questions related at (615) 564-6500.

Sincerely,

Kimberly A. Bouchard Regional Director

Enclosure