



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

March 22, 2023

Dear Honorable Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the Department of Commerce, I am initiating Tribal Consultations on the development of a National Spectrum Strategy (NSS).

America is increasingly dependent on secure and reliable access to radio frequency spectrum. Sufficient access to spectrum is vital to national security, critical infrastructure, transportation, emergency response, public safety, scientific discovery, economic growth, competitive next-generation communications, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Increased spectrum access will also advance U.S. innovation, connectivity, and competition, create high-paying and highly skilled jobs, and produce improvements to the overall quality of life.

Spectrum access, however, must be managed responsibly and efficiently. A National Spectrum Strategy (NSS) would allow the U.S. to plan effectively for its current and future spectrum needs. The Department of Commerce is therefore committed to developing the NSS, based upon collaboration with both federal and non-federal stakeholders—including Tribes—and on data-driven decision-making, to fully address the needs of spectrum reliant services and missions. As part of this effort, NTIA (in collaboration with the Federal Communications Commission and in coordination with its other federal partners) endeavors to identify at least 1,500 megahertz of spectrum for in-depth study to determine whether that spectrum can be repurposed to allow more intensive use.

In accordance with the Department of Commerce's Tribal consultation policy and the November 2022 Memorandum of Understanding among the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Department of Commerce, and furthermore in order to set clear timelines and guidance regarding the development of the NSS, NTIA invites you and/or a Tribal representative to participate in a virtual National Tribal Consultation to provide your advice and insights as NTIA staff are working through critical issues related to the NSS.

We respectfully request your participation at one of the following Tribal Consultation sessions:

Date	Tuesday April 18, 2023
Time	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM EDT
Zoom Registration Link	https://ntia.gov.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIscuCspjgoHmqURyBTYnVsiHyVjZYQbrM
Dial-In	Dial-In Numbers: +1 (669) 254-5252; +1 (646) 828-7666 Meeting ID: 161 594 8324

Date	Thursday April 20, 2023
Time	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM EDT
Zoom Registration Link	https://ntia.gov.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItDQhrzksHdlPEVBRk6dsGUZfcjYtRWU
Dial-In	Dial-In Numbers: +1 (669) 254-5252; +1 (646) 828-7666 Meeting ID: 160 339 1267

NTIA will summarize the substance of its recent Request for Comments (RFC) on the NSS and will seek input on the following question topics during the consultation session:

Question Topics:

- How could transparency and communications related to spectrum allocation decisions be improved to increase Tribal Nations’ trust in the process?
- What actions or recommendations would promote the deployment and availability of next-generation products and services to Tribal lands?
- What initiatives on Tribal lands (e.g., testbeds) or partnership with Tribal governments should be considered that would enable more robust and quicker implementation of spectrum sharing to meet spectrum access needs?
- What, if anything, can NTIA do to develop, strengthen, and diversify the spectrum workforce within Tribal Nations to ensure an enduring, capable, and inclusive workforce?
- Any other questions raised by our Request for Comments (attached) which are of interest to Tribal Nations.

Written comments to the question topics may also be submitted by April 21st, 2023, at 5:00 PM EDT to NSS Tribal Consultations@ntia.gov with the Subject Line: “NTIA National Spectrum Strategy Tribal Consultation.”

For more information on the NSS, please visit <https://ntia.gov/issues/national-spectrum-strategy>. If you have any questions regarding the NSS or this consultation, then please contact Sean Spivey, Office of Spectrum Management, at: sspivey@ntia.gov. We look forward to our continued consultation and nation-to-nation coordination with Tribal leaders on these issues.

Sincerely,

Scott Blake Harris

Scott Blake Harris
Senior Spectrum Advisor
Director, National Spectrum Strategy