

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

**October 5, 2020**

**Native Village of Buckland**  
**100 Beluga Street**  
**PO Box 67**  
**Buckland, AK 99727**

**Native Village of Buckland**  
**Tribal Office**  
**907-494-2171**  
**Project Director – Frederica Gavin**

This notice of intent to request release of funds was previously posted on August 25, 2020 and is being reposted now to correct an administrative error. On or about **October 20, 2020** the **Native Village of Buckland** will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of the Healthy Homes Production Grant for Tribal Housing, authorized under Section 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z-2) and funding is provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141), approved March 23, 2018, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2019 approved February 15, 2019, (Public Law 116-16) for the following 3 year Healthy Homes Production Program: **Buckland Healthy Homes Project**. The Native Village of Buckland will work with the Cold Climate Housing Research Center in the project to survey for home health hazards and remediate up to 40 homes in Buckland, Alaska. The project will also perform community education and outreach on healthy homes topics. The **Native Village of Buckland** is requesting the release of **\$625,000 of federal assistance and \$69,346 in matching amount** during the three-year project timeline.

The proposed hazard control activities to be funded under this program are categorically excluded from the National Environmental Policy Act requirements, but subject to compliance with some of the environmental laws and authorities listed at § 58.5 of 24 CFR Part 58. In accordance with §58.15, a tiered review process has been structured, whereby some environmental laws and authorities have been reviewed and studied for the intended target area(s) listed above. Other applicable environmental laws and authorities will be complied with, when individual projects are ripe for review. Specifically, the target area(s) has/have been studied and compliance with the following laws and authorities have been established in this Tier 1 review: Airport Hazards, Clean Air Act, Coastal Barrier Resources Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, Endangered Species Act, Explosive and Flammable Hazards, Farmland Protection Act, Floodplain Management and National Flood Insurance Program Requirements, Noise Abatement and Control, Safe Drinking Water Act, Wetlands Protection, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and Environmental Justice. In the Tiered 2 review, compliance with the following environmental laws and authorities will take place for proposed projects funded under the program(s) listed above: Contamination and Toxic Substances, Historic Preservation. Should individual aggregate projects exceed the threshold for categorical exclusion detailed at §58.35(a), an Environmental Assessment will be completed and a separate Finding of No Significant Impact and Request for Release of Funds published.

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project, and more fully describes the tiered review process cited above, is on file at the

**Native Village of Buckland Tribal Office, 100 Beluga Street** and may be examined or copied weekdays from **8:00 AM to 5:00 PM**. Please adhere to the social distancing policies in place, including the need to maintain six feet of distance between people in the office. The ERR can be made available to members of the public by U.S. mail or email. Please submit your request via mail to Shannon Melton, Native Village of Buckland, PO Box 67, Buckland, AK 99727 or via email to [environmental@nunachiak.org](mailto:environmental@nunachiak.org). The ERR may also be viewed on the project website at <http://cchrc.org/buckland-healthy-homes/> or at <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/environmental-review-records/>.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the **Native Village of Buckland**. All comments received by **October 20, 2020** will be considered by the **Native Village of Buckland** prior to authorizing submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Environmental Certification to HUD. Contact information is as follows: Mail – PO Box 67, Buckland, AK 99727; Email – [environmental@nunachiak.org](mailto:environmental@nunachiak.org); Phone – 907-494-2171; In-person – 100 Beluga Street, Buckland, AK 99727.

#### RELEASE OF FUNDS

The **Native Village of Buckland** certifies to HUD that **Percy Ballot** in his official capacity as **Tribal President**, 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 **Native Village of Buckland** to utilize federal funds and implement the Program.

#### OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and the **Native Village of Buckland** certification for a period of fifteen days following either the anticipated submission date (cited above) or HUD's actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if the objections are on one of the following bases: (a) that the Certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the **Native Village of Buckland**; (b) the **Native Village of Buckland** has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the **Native Village of Buckland** has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; (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), and may be emailed to HUD as follows: [LeadRegulations@HUD.GOV](mailto:LeadRegulations@HUD.GOV) ATTN: Karen M. Griego, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, Program Environmental Clearance Officer. Potential objectors may contact HUD directly to verify the actual last day of the objection/comment period.

**Percy Ballot, Tribal President, Native Village of Buckland**