

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### **Question 1 – Are there plans for a nationwide PA for the DWSRF?**

Answer 1 – A nationwide DWSRF PA would need to be developed by EPA headquarters in partnership with the ACHP, SHPOs from each state, and other consulting parties. EPA Region 7 has not been contacted by EPA headquarters about any such development.

### **Question 2 – Iowa SHPO and ACHP were involved early in the development of the draft PA. Why were Tribes and other consulting parties invited to participate later in the process?**

Answer 2 – The Iowa SHPO needed to be involved early on to assist in developing the list of excluded projects. With a PA, the ACHP needs to be invited early on in the process to provide comments on the PA and help guide the consultation process. Additionally, we wanted to have the excluded list complete to be able to share with the larger group of consulting parties.

### **Question 3 – Are SRF funds provided to Tribes?**

Answer 3 – By law, the capitalization grants are provided to Agencies authorized to administer the program at the State level. For both the CW and DWSRF, Set-Aside funding is provided to Tribes. EPA works with the Indian Health Service to administer that funding. This proposed PA will not impact that funding. Currently, in Iowa, no funds have been loaned to Tribes for projects on reservations.

### **Question 4 – Can you elaborate on Tribal communication?**

Answer 4 – The draft PA Tribal communication section includes Iowa SRF's work with the Tribes to date, EPA's offer for consultation, etc. The draft PA allows the DNR to notify and conduct consultation with Tribes, on behalf of the EPA, regarding individual projects covered by this Agreement where a Tribe or Tribes may have an interest. Any Tribe that may have an interest in an individual project, however, may request to consult directly with the EPA at any time, at which point the EPA will lead any further consultation on the project with that Tribe.

### **Question 5 – Where did the unanticipated discoveries language originate?**

Answer 5 – The language for unanticipated discoveries is similar to what would be in a project-level Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or project-level Programmatic Agreement (PA) and to a certain extent, contract documents. The unanticipated discoveries requirements in the draft PA were reviewed by both the Iowa SHPO and the Office of the State Archaeologist.

### **Question 6 – Can you elaborate on the differences between Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects again?**

Answer 6 – Tier 1 will be reviewed and excluded from SHPO review by the environmental review specialist. Tier 2 will be reviewed and excluded from SHPO review by an SOI qualified contractor.