



The Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2004

Dear Tribal Leader:

It is an honor to invite you to the Department of Energy Tribal Leaders Summit *Working Together for Our Energy Future*. This event is scheduled to take place on Monday, February 23, 2004, at the Wyndham Hotel in Washington, D.C., from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. We hope those in attendance find the Summit to be a forum for meaningful dialogue. This is an effort by the Department of Energy (DOE) to ensure the effective implementation of our government-to-government relationship with American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal governments.

This Summit provides an historic opportunity for Department and Tribal leaders to meet at one time in one location to discuss a broad range of energy-related issues. The Department first formulated the American Indian and Alaska Native Government Policy almost a dozen years ago in an effort to better communicate with Tribal Nations. I reaffirmed that policy in my first year as Secretary of Energy. I understand the dynamic relationship that exists between Indian Tribes and the Federal Government, and I appreciate the flexibility needed in the implementation of the policy to accommodate the unique needs of our Tribes.

Fulfilling the Federal Government's obligations to our Native American and Alaska Native populations require a level of interaction and cooperation that this event and, I hope, future such events will provide. Success on this front means that the Department and Tribal leaders will develop a framework for discussing important issues for the future.

Leadership and staff at DOE are eager to work closely with the Tribes in an effort to create a partnership to build stronger communities. Working together we can achieve important goals of President George W. Bush's National Energy Policy to the benefit of the tribal community and our Nation as a whole.



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Please confirm your attendance by completing the enclosed registration form and faxing it to the attention of Ms. Kristen Ellis at (202) 586-7314. All questions can be directed to (202) 586-5373. A draft agenda will be available shortly on the internet at www.ci.doe.gov.

We look forward to working with you as we continue our efforts to improve communications and enhance relations between the Department and the Tribal community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Spencer Abraham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Spencer Abraham

Enclosure

Please fax your completed form to DOE Headquarters at (202) 586-7314.

Department of Energy Tribal Summit Registration Form

Name:

Title:

Address:

Tribal Affiliation:

Phone number:

Fax number:

Email:

What is the best mechanism to communicate with your tribe?

Will you be attending the Tribal Summit from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.?

What DOE department/program does your tribe interface with the most?

What energy-related issues would you like to see discussed by the Department of Energy?