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Director, Office of Acquisition and Financial Assistance.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPPT-2002-0044; FRL-7279-7]

Educational Outreach and Baseline Assessment of Existing Exposure and Risks of Exposure to Lead Poisoning of Tribal Children; Notice of Funds Availability

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA is soliciting grant proposals from Indian Tribes to support Tribal lead outreach and educational awareness and conduct baseline assessment of existing exposure and risks of exposure to lead poisoning of Tribal children. EPA is awarding grants which will provide approximately \$1.4 million to Indian Tribes to perform those activities and to encourage Indian Tribes to consider continuing such activities in the future. This notice describes eligibility, activities, application procedures and requirements, and evaluation criteria.

DATES: All grant proposals must be received on or before March 14, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Grant proposals must be submitted by mail. Please follow the detailed instructions as provided in Unit I. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: *For general information contact:* Barbara Cunningham, Acting Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408M), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 554-1404; e-mail address: TSCA-Hotline@epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Darlene Watford, Program Assessment and Outreach Branch, National Program Chemicals Division (7404T), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001; telephone number: (202) 566-0516; e-mail address: watford.darlene@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. General Information

A. Does this Action Apply to Me?

You may be potentially affected by this action if you are a Federally Recognized Indian Tribe or Tribal Consortium. For the purposes of this notice, a partnership between two or more Federally Recognized Indian Tribes is considered a consortium. Potentially affected entities may include, but are not limited to:

921150 American Indian and Alaskan Native Tribal Governments.

This listing is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather provides a guide for readers regarding entities likely to be affected by this action. Other types of entities not listed in this unit could also be affected. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes have been provided to assist you and others in determining whether this action might apply to certain entities. To determine whether you or your business may be affected by this action, you should carefully examine the **Federal Register** document published by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on March 13, 2000 (65 FR 13298) which lists all Federally Recognized Indian Tribes. If you have any questions regarding the applicability of this action to a particular entity, consult the technical person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

B. How Can I Get Copies of this Document and Other Related Information?

1. *Docket.* EPA has established an official public docket for this action under docket identification (ID) number OPPT-2002-0044. The official public docket consists of documents specifically referenced in this action and other information related to this action. Although a part of the official docket, the public docket does not include Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. The official public docket is the collection of materials that is available for public viewing at the EPA Docket Center, Rm. B102-Reading Room, EPA West, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The EPA Docket Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The EPA Docket Center Reading Room telephone number is (202) 566-1744 and the telephone number for the OPPT Docket, which is located in EPA Docket Center, is (202) 566-0280.

2. *Electronic access.* You may access this **Federal Register** document

electronically through the EPA Internet under the **Federal Register** listings at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/>.

An electronic version of the public docket is available through EPA's electronic public docket and comment system, EPA Dockets. You may use EPA Dockets at <http://www.epa.gov/edocket/> to access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Although not all docket materials may be available electronically, you may still access any of the publicly available docket materials through the docket facility identified in Unit I.B.1. Once in the system, select "search," then key in the appropriate docket ID number.

You may also access this document at the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics Lead Home Page at <http://www.epa.gov/lead/new.htm>.

C. How and To Whom Do I Submit a Grant Proposal?

You may submit one original and three double-sided copies of the grant proposal through the mail to: Darlene Watford, Program Assessment and Outreach Branch, National Program Chemicals Division (7404T), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460-0001.

For overnight/express delivery service, send grant proposals to: Darlene Watford, Program Assessment and Outreach Branch, National Program Chemicals Division (7404T), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT), Environmental Protection Agency, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., EPA West (Old Customs Bldg.), 4th Floor Connecting Wing, Room 4355, Washington, DC 20004-0001.

II. What Action is the Agency Taking?

EPA is soliciting proposals from Tribes or Tribal Consortia for grants to support educational outreach activities and/or baseline assessment of existing exposure and risks of exposure to lead poisoning of Tribal children. The educational outreach grants will provide Tribes with the means to launch efforts to educate Tribal families about dangers to children of exposure to lead-based paint hazards. The baseline assessments may include inspecting pre-1978 Tribal housing and/or child-occupied facilities for lead-based paint hazards, blood-lead screening to collect blood-lead level data of Tribal children, testing of paint, dust, and soil for hazardous lead levels, training individuals to perform lead inspections and risk assessments, and