



A Tradition of Native American
Housing
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NAIHC ACTION ALERT

May 7, 2010

SEND US PHOTOS OF YOUR TRIBAL HOMES!

NAIHC ADVOCATING FOR WEATHERIZATION FUNDS under the INDIAN ENERGY PROMOTION AND PARITY ACT OF 2010

BACKGROUND

On March 12, a discussion draft of the *Indian Energy Promotion and Parity Act of 2010* (hereinafter "*Indian Energy Act*") was introduced by Chairman Byron L. Dorgan of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs (SCIA). The bill addresses obstacles to Indian energy development, promotes solutions to unlock the potential of Indian energy resources and increase energy efficiency programs in Indian Country, and provides weatherization funds for low-income members of Indian tribes.

The development of Indian energy programs can provide jobs and long-term economic benefits that are sorely needed in tribal communities and will contribute to the development of the Nation's domestic energy supplies. The weatherization provisions of the legislation will provide much-needed resources to improve the energy efficiency of tribal homes and lower heating and cooling costs for low-income tribal members.

NAIHC is supporting the draft *Indian Energy Act*, particularly Section 207 regarding Home Weatherization Assistance. The Act proposes that a minimum of 10% of the funds made available each fiscal year for the Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons, established under Part A of Title IV of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, be set-aside for Indian tribes.

WHAT WE NEED

Sometimes words cannot adequately describe the deplorable living conditions faced in many of our tribal communities. NAIHC feels strongly that photographic evidence to support the need for weatherization funds is helpful to Congress in considering the *Indian Energy Act*, as well as other related legislation.

Therefore, we are requesting that our members send us pictures of tribal homes that depict any or all of the following:

- Doors and windows in need of insulation or other energy efficiency related work or improvements;
- Roof issues, including damaged roofs, missing shingles, and evidence of roof leaks and similar problems;
- Attics and basements that do not have insulation; that have drafts, cracks, or holes; or that have other damage that makes heating and cooling of the home inefficient; and
- The process of weatherizing tribal homes, including installing insulation, new window and door seals, and energy efficient roofing materials.

E-MAIL YOUR PHOTOS

With each photo submitted, please include the following information:

- ❖ name of the tribal community where the photo was taken,
- ❖ state in which it is located, and
- ❖ what is depicted in the photo.

In sending photographs, please understand that you are authorizing NAIHC to use them in communications with Congress and the Administration; meetings, trainings, and presentations; and on our website for the purpose of advocating for weatherization funds for Indian communities.

E-mail photos to April Hale, NAIHC Communications Manager, at ahale@naihc.net. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (202) 789-1754.

Thank you for your past and continued support of NAIHC.