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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BY: PENOBSCOT-----

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, entered into by and between the **PENOBSCOT NATION TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION** (“PNTA”) and **MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY** (“MaineHousing”), seeks to establish a mutual working relationship between the parties as it applies to the operations of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (“LIHEAP”) for the 2022-2023 grant year. This agreement is in effect from the period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

WHEREFORE, it is mutually agreed as follows:

1. The individual members of Maine’s Native American Tribal Organizations will be better served through a direct grant from the federal government rather than as part of the LIHEAP program operated by MaineHousing.
2. Maine’s Native American Tribal Organizations will receive **3.655%** of the total Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds allocated to the State of Maine for the 2022-2023 grant period. This percentage is based upon the number of eligible households historically served by all Native American Tribal Organizations in relation to the number of all eligible Maine households served.
3. The PNTA will provide LIHEAP Assistance to LIHEAP-eligible households on the reservation and to eligible households who reside in the immediate vicinity to Indian Island, specifically in the towns of Alton, Argyle, Bradley, Costigan, Lee, Milford, Old Town, and Orono. Non-Penobscot Nation households who reside on Indian Island will be referred to Penquis Community Action Program, Inc. and/or their towns of residence, or to their respective tribal organizations.
4. Community Action Agencies (“CAAs”) under contract with MaineHousing to provide LIHEAP services to non-tribal households, will forward to the PNTA all applications from households that include PNTA tribal members living in a PNTA Tribal Township/Municipality.
5. CAAs may process applications from households that include PNTA tribal members not living on a PNTA Tribal Township/Municipality. However, the CAA must contact the PNTA prior to certification to prevent duplication of services and duplication of payment.
6. The PNTA and the CAAs shall make every effort to coordinate services to prevent duplication of services and duplication of payment. The PNTA and the CAAs shall prepare and exchange lists, throughout the program year, of Native Americans they have provided LIHEAP services to.
7. The PNTA and the CAAs will make every effort to make applicant referrals between the parties as necessary to ensure that all eligible households are given the opportunity to participate in the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.
8. The PNTA will receive **0.797%** of Maine’s 2022-2023 LIHEAP grant award, based on the number of eligible households ~~it historically served in~~ relation to the number of all eligible Maine households served.

SIGNED: _____


Kirk Francis, Tribal Chief
PENOBSCOT NATION TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

DATE: 7/22/2022

SIGNED: _____


Erik Jorgensen, Sr. Director of Governmental Relations and Communications
MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY

DATE: 7/18/22