



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Great Plains Regional Office  
P.O. Box 36900  
Billings, MT 59107-6900

IN REPLY REFER TO:

GP-1230  
ADM-13.00

MAY 14 2015

Honorable Kevin Wright  
Vice Chairman, Lower Brule Sioux Tribe  
187 Oyate Circle  
Lower Brule, SD 57548

Subject: Agency Review and Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) Payment Controls for Agreement No. R95AV60020 for Operation and Maintenance of the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water Supply System

Dear Vice Chairman Wright:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has transitioned to the new Federal Business Management System (FBMS) effective FY2013. Prior to FBMS, P.L. 93-638 (638) recipients primarily used the SF-270 Request for Advance or Reimbursement form to request funding on their active agreements. With the implementation of FBMS, business processes use the ASAP system for all 638 payments.

Reclamation, in consultation with the Tribal Vice Chairman, in order to ensure continuity of operations of the Lower Brule Sioux Rural Water System and compliance with Contract #R95AV60020, is placing the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe on Agency Review with ASAP Payment Controls. Agency review is recommended due to the serious legal issues, not limited to but including the Office of Inspector General investigation. The agency review is not due to performance or key management positions associated with agreement. Payment Controls basically means that Reclamation will review and approve all funding requests using the ASAP system prior to approving payment.

Requests for funding payments/advances submitted using the ASAP system have to be approved by Reclamation within 10 calendar days, unless Tribes are delinquent in reporting or funding amounts requested are more than what the Tribes can reasonably expend.

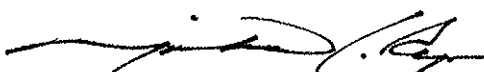
For those recipients on ASAP Payment Controls, the process to draw down funds is very similar to the current ASAP process. Once a request for payment has been made in ASAP, the Awarding Official (AO) is notified by the Denver ASAP Operations office. The AO forwards the request to the Awarding Official's Technical Representative (AOTR) for review and recommendation to make sure the required reports (SF425 and Narrative Progress Report) are current and accurate and the funding request is reasonable. The AO then responds accordingly to

Denver ASAP Operations, either approving or disapproving the payment request.

A Tribe can request to be taken off Payment Controls any time it believes the risks identified in the initial Agency Review determination have been addressed. The AO will review the tribe's request to remove them from Payment Controls and make a determination based on the latest audit, reporting compliance, and other issues that may affect the performance of the agreement.

If you have any specific questions pertaining to ASAP please contact Stacy A. Froelich, AOTR, at 605-945-2980, Ext 3004 or at [stfroelich@usbr.gov](mailto:stfroelich@usbr.gov). Ms. Froelich will coordinate with the appropriate Reclamation staff to respond to your inquiry.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Ryan  
Regional Director

cc: Sonja McCauley, Finance Manager  
Lower Brule Tribe Finance Office  
187 Oyate Circle  
Lower Brule, SD 57548

Mr. James McCauley, Director  
Lower Brule Rural Water Supply System  
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