From: Jennifer P. Hughes < JHughes@hobbsstraus.com >

Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 1:03 PM

To: Treasury Tribal Consultation <TRIBAL.CONSULT@treasury.gov>

**Subject:** Oglala Sioux Tribe: Comment to TTAC

The following is a comment to the Treasury Tribal Advisory Committee from the **Oglala Sioux Tribe**:

Our Tribe has been growing increasingly concerned about the future of the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Office of Indian Tribal Governments (ITG) as IRS continues to downsize and reorganize. Our concern arises out of the cutbacks in ITG staffing, because the IRS needs to retain and hire staff for ITG in order to maintain a staff presence in locations that are accessible to Tribes.

The Tribe has heard reports of the long-term plans to consolidate IRS offices into hubs. Our Tribe urges the IRS to maintain and grow offices that are near Indian Country so that our Tribe and Tribes like ours can easily access the offices and IRS staff, particularly the technical assistance made available through ITG. We have limited resources and cannot travel to far away offices when we are seeking ITG's technical assistance.

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