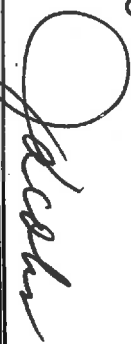



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO 	DATE 12-28-07
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER 000311	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  Daniel is spin for us	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Jacobs</i>	DATE <i>12-28-07</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER 000311		<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>Mr. Jacobs</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action	

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Department of Health & Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 4120
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8909

CMS
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

December 21, 2007

RECEIVED

DEC 27 2007

Ms. Emma Forkner, Director
South Carolina Department of Health & Human Services
P.O. Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Ms. Forkner:

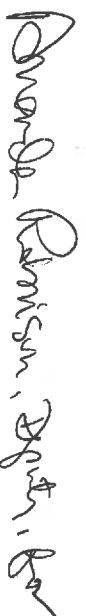
The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USEI) are preparing for the Annual Combined HHS Tribal Consultation tentatively scheduled for February 13 -14, 2008, in Washington, DC. Your presence or that of your representative is critical at this meeting.

The consultation is designed to foster the principle of a government-to-government relationship between federally recognized Native American tribes and the federal government. Presidential Executive Order 13175 requires federal agencies to ensure meaningful and timely input by tribal leaders in the development of policies that impact tribes. Consultation provides the opportunity for collaboration with tribal leaders regarding health services and priorities for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The relationship between tribal leaders and your agency is very important. Our goal this year is to provide outreach to the tribes on policy changes that affect health care services and promote stronger relationships between tribes and agency representatives. In the future, we hope that tribal leaders can go directly to the State agency and have their concerns addressed. If your State is not currently doing outreach, this consultation will be an excellent place to start.

More information will be forthcoming as the plans are finalized. If you have questions, you may contact Dianne Thornton at 404-562-7464. We look forward to seeing you in Washington, DC.

Sincerely,



Roger Perez
Regional Administrator