DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Indian Health Service
Rockville MD 20857

DATE: January 09, 2004

TO: Directors, Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction
All Areas

FROM: Director, Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction
Headquarters

SUBJECT: **FY 2004 SDS Update**

Due Date: The SDS update for the end of fiscal year 2004 will be due August 1, 2004. Please have your SDS data submitted electronically to the 'IHS Area' level by the due date.

Instructions/Data System Changes: The clarifying instructions for inputting data into wSDS are attached. There are several data entry developments which will be implemented during this SDS cycle. These data systems changes will be implemented to conform to the latest revision of the SDS Guidelines, dated May 2003. These guidelines can be found on the DSFC website at http://www.dsfc.ihs.gov/documents.cfm. A complete description of the data system modifications is attached.

Software: All Areas should now be using the new web-based SDS (wSDS). The internet address for wSDS is http://wstars.geonorth.com. If you experience any problems with the website or need assistance with logging in, please call Ramsey Hawasly or Carol Rogers for assistance (301-443-1046).

Training: The annual STARS data systems training course is scheduled for April 13-15, 2004 in Nashville, TN. Due to the many programming changes and the deployment of wPDS in 2004, it is recommended that each Area consider sending the appropriate person(s). The course will be held at the Nashville IHS Area office. For more information about course logistics or submitting nominations, please contact Dan Heinztman at the Environmental Health Support Center (EHSC).

Ronald C. Ferguson

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Attachments

Data System Changes– 2004

1. NEW **Unit Cost Calculations:** There are two new wSDS programming changes regarding the calculation of unit costs.
   - ***Capital Cost*** - There will be a new column which will calculate the unit cost for each type of service (water, sewer, solid waste) for the purpose of obtaining the capital cost score. The method of calculating this unit cost will be [All IHS Funding]/[All IHS Eligible Homes]. There will be a checkbox available on the project homes where eligible homes can be identified. Each Area is responsible for assigning their own Capital Cost score to the project and this unit cost calculation can assist in determining what the score should be.
   - ***Feasibility*** – Economically feasible projects will be based upon comparing the economically feasible unit costs to the threshold unit costs. If the economically feasible cost for a particular type of service (water, sewer, solid waste) is greater than the threshold unit cost, the project becomes economically infeasible. The new method to determine the economically feasible unit cost will coincide with the latest SDS Working Draft Guidance dated, May 2003; [All IHS Eligible Funding (including contributions)]/[All IHS Eligible Homes]. wSDS automatically calculates these unit costs.

2. NEW **Homes Without Potable Water:** Many Areas did not update this field during the past SDS cycle. This field has been automatically updated by HQ for all community deficiency profiles. The number of homes without potable water for all community deficiency profiles now equals the number of initial deficiency level 4 water homes for the community. It was assumed that all IDL 4 water homes are homes without potable water. This value should be reviewed and updated accordingly.

3. NEW **Counting Indian Homes:** Previous versions of STARS counted and reported **ALL** home types in the community deficiency profile as the total number of Indian homes. The total number of Indian homes in the community deficiency profile will now be reported using the following formula; Total Indian Homes = All Home Types - Non-Residential Units (E2) - Non-Indian Units (E3) - Ineligible Housing (X1) homes. The IHS eligible checkbox for the homes on the CDP is **NOT** being used in the calculation of totals or reporting.