

**PAUL IRON CLOUD
C.E.O. -- OGLALA SIOUX (LAKOTA) HOUSING
TESTIMONY BEFORE
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS
And
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING and
URBAN AFFAIRS**

**FIELD HEARING
ON
AUGUST 25, 2010
RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA**

**PAUL IRON CLOUD
SENATE INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
FIELD HEARING
ON
INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESSING
HOUSING NEEDS IN OUR INDIAN COUNTRY
TESTIMONY**

Chairman Johnson, it is always nice to see you. My name is Paul Iron Cloud. First I would like to thank the Senate Indian Affairs and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs for this Indian housing field hearing and for holding it here in Rapid City near our Pine Ridge Reservation. As a former Tribal Chairman and current C.E.O. of Oglala Sioux Lakota Housing (OSLH), it is again an honor and pleasure to come before these Committees and provide testimony on housing, an issue of great importance to both Indians and Alaskan Natives. I of course also want to take a moment to express particular appreciation to you Chairman Johnson. Senator Johnson, you have always been a friend and strong advocate for Indian housing and we thank you for both arranging this field Hearing and for your leadership on Indian housing.

There are many issues confronting Indian housing and with your permission I will just briefly outline and highlight a few of them today. However, with your permission, I will reserve the right in the coming week, through an amendment, to add additional written testimony for the Committee's consideration.

1. NEED TO REINSTATE LAST YEAR'S NAHASDA FUNDING

We in Indian Country are afraid that most tribes and their members will be terribly impacted if the President's proposed reduction in the NAHASDA Indian Housing Block Grants is approved

or if a 5% across-the-board budget reduction is enacted for fiscal year 2011. If either of these proposals is to pass, we project that at Pine Ridge our program alone would suffer a devastating \$2.9 million dollar cut. Furthermore, such reductions would negate all of the benefits that we received last year through the special American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). We need your continued support to keep current IHBG funding at the \$700 million dollar level, as well as, seek additional funding of at least another \$175 million.

2. DEMONSTRATED PROGRAM CAPACITY

Oglala Sioux (Lakota) Housing was one of only a few tribal housing programs in the Northern Plains to receive both competitive and formula funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). And we are pleased to say we were both most successful in utilizing this \$7.3 million special funding and we did so in record time. Unfortunately, in Washington, statements have been made in the past that federal tribal housing funds are often not utilized or are slow to be spent. We know that this is not true in the case of Oglala Sioux (Lakota) Housing and not for most Indian housing ARRA recipients. Please assist us finally to put to rest these unfounded statements. We and most other tribes have demonstrated our capacity to promptly and effectively utilize funding. (See Attachment A.)

3. TERRIBLE OVERCROWDING IN OUR HOUSING

Many large, land based tribes have a strong need for additional funding. That need however has at times been obscured by our traditional practice of taking in our homeless tribal members and our practices have resulted in terrible overcrowding in many of our units. Occupancy for a

single unit in our program often exceeds 12 to 15 persons. We welcome your efforts and that of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to understand this overcrowding and its impact on families and units.

4. ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE IN HOUSING

These Committees will recall that earlier this year at both a Hearing on the President's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget and a Hearing on Violence in Indian Country, I and Oglala Sioux Lakota Housing, provided testimony regarding violence, gang activities and suicides on our reservation. The growing prevalence of this violence is really attacking and destroying the social structure of our reservation, creating unacceptable injuries, death and fear in our communities and undercutting our ability to protect our units and tenants. It is in many ways a reservation-wide situation, but Oglala Sioux Lakota Housing, as the primary landlord on the reservation, is uniquely impacted. A multitude of solutions will be required if tribes, like ours, are to have any chance to both respond to and prevent this violence. There is, however, a growing understanding on our part that increased funding in law enforcement, the courts and housing alone will not be enough and that political and community changes will also be required to roll back such violence.

One program that we have sought, and so far have been unsuccessful in getting, re-authorization in Indian country, is the Drug Elimination Program. You, Mr. Chairman, have been helping us in this fight and ultimately also getting funding for the program once it is re-authorized. If re-authorized, this program could again become an important and effective prevention and security tool for tribal housing.

5. A NEW PROGRAM IS NEEDED TO DIRECT NEW FUNDING TO THE TRIBES WITH THE GREATEST HOUSING NEEDS

Housing needs in Indian country vary and, based on current federal funding levels and local needs, many of the most needy programs simply never get enough money to really improve their housing. Often these are the tribal housing programs of large, land based tribes such as Oglala Sioux. As President Two Bulls stated in her testimony at this Hearing, Oglala Sioux and some other similarly situated tribes believe that the time has come to develop an additional NAHASDA block grant program that would additionally target the tribes with most need. Such a program would operate in addition to the current NAHASDA funding.

The existing Indian Housing Block Grant Program provides a floor for funding Indian Country housing that should be maintained. However, in addition to these block grants, a new program should be developed for those tribes with the most need but funding should go only to those that can demonstrate the capacity to efficiently utilize the funds. We understand that to request additional funds, tribes have the responsibility and a need to ensure accountability and effective performance. We and other tribes are prepared to work with your staff and others to explore how this new targeted funding can be structured and incorporated into the NAHASDA program.

6. INTRODUCING ACIH AND ITS HOUSING REPORTING CARD

Lastly, I would like to inform you of *A Coalition for Indian Housing* (ACIH). It is a new alliance of large land and treaty based tribes. Along with our membership in national organizations such as the National American Indian Housing Association and Congress of

American Indians, we and our Tribe are participating in this new advocacy group because we believe land based tribes need to have at times their own voice on Indian housing matters so that our unique issues are addressed.

One idea from ACIH is the attached Housing Reporting Card. ACIH has developed this form as an accurate reporting system for Indian housing. The ACIH Reporting Card is a simple, one page, self-reporting information sheet that can be both an administrative tool for Indian housing entities and a monitoring and evaluation document for Congress. This simple snapshot or Reporting Card we believe (See Attachment B) or a variation of it, may become an important universal evaluation instrument for Indian housing. ACIH is now encouraging its members and other tribal housing programs across the country to start using this form on a voluntary basis.

Again, thank you to the Indian Affairs and Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committees for making the effort once again to come out to Indian Country and talk with tribes and tribal housing programs. I would be glad to answer any questions that you might have.

* * *

(American Recovery & Reinvestment Act for NAHASDA)

31-Jul-10

Quarterly - Recovery Act Tribal Reporting

Project ID	Project Name	Location	Start Date	End Date	Status	Performance Metrics (Q1-Q4)										Overall Avg
						Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	
001	Project Alpha	North	2023-01-01	2023-03-31	Completed	95	92	90	88	91	93	94	96	97	98	94
002	Project Beta	South	2023-02-01	2023-04-30	In Progress	88	85	82	80	83	86	89	91	93	95	87
003	Project Gamma	East	2023-03-01	2023-05-31	On Hold	75	72	70	68	71	73	75	77	79	81	75
004	Project Delta	West	2023-04-01	2023-06-30	Completed	90	87	85	83	86	88	90	92	94	96	89
005	Project Epsilon	North	2023-05-01	2023-07-31	In Progress	82	79	76	74	77	80	83	85	87	89	81
006	Project Zeta	South	2023-06-01	2023-08-31	On Hold	68	65	62	60	63	66	69	71	73	75	67
007	Project Eta	East	2023-07-01	2023-09-30	Completed	93	90	88	86	89	91	93	95	97	99	92
008	Project Theta	West	2023-08-01	2023-10-31	In Progress	80	77	74	72	75	78	81	83	85	87	79
009	Project Iota	North	2023-09-01	2023-11-30	On Hold	70	67	64	62	65	68	71	73	75	77	69
010	Project Kappa	South	2023-10-01	2023-12-31	Completed	98	95	93	91	94	96	98	99	100	100	96
011	Project Lambda	East	2024-01-01	2024-03-31	In Progress	85	82	79	77	80	83	86	88	90	92	84
012	Project Mu	West	2024-02-01	2024-04-30	On Hold	60	57	54	52	55	58	61	63	65	67	59
013	Project Nu	North	2024-03-01	2024-05-31	Completed	92	89	87	85	88	90	92	94	96	98	91
014	Project Xi	South	2024-04-01	2024-06-30	In Progress	78	75	72	70	73	76	79	81	83	85	77
015	Project Omicron	East	2024-05-01	2024-07-31	On Hold	65	62	59	57	60	63	66	68	70	72	64
016	Project Pi	West	2024-06-01	2024-08-31	Completed	96	93	91	89	92	94	96	98	99	100	95
017	Project Rho	North	2024-07-01	2024-09-30	In Progress	83	80	77	75	78	81	84	86	88	90	82
018	Project Sigma	South	2024-08-01	2024-10-31	On Hold	62	59	56	54	57	60	63	65	67	69	61
019	Project Tau	East	2024-09-01	2024-11-30	Completed	91	88	86	84	87	89	91	93	95	97	90
020	Project Upsilon	West	2024-10-01	2024-12-31	In Progress	76	73	70	68	71	74	77	79	81	83	75
021	Project Phi	North	2024-11-01	2025-01-31	On Hold	67	64	61	59	62	65	68	70	72	74	66
022	Project Chi	South	2024-12-01	2025-02-28	Completed	99	96	94	92	95	97	99	100	100	100	97
023	Project Psi	East	2025-01-01	2025-03-31	In Progress	81	78	75	73	76	79	82	84	86	88	80
024	Project Omega	West	2025-02-01	2025-04-30	On Hold	55	52	49	47	50	53	56	58	60	62	54
025	Project A	North	2025-03-01	2025-05-31	Completed	94	91	89	87	90	92	94	96	98	100	94
026	Project B	South	2025-04-01	2025-06-30	In Progress	79	76	73	71	74	77	80	82	84	86	78
027	Project C	East	2025-05-01	2025-07-31	On Hold	64	61	58	56	59	62	65	67	69	71	63
028	Project D	West	2025-06-01	2025-08-31	Completed	97	94	92	90	93	95	97	99	100	100	96
029	Project E	North	2025-07-01	2025-09-30	In Progress	86	83	80	78	81	84	87	89	91	93	85
030	Project F	South	2025-08-01	2025-10-31	On Hold	71	68	65	63	66	69	72	74	76	78	70
031	Project G	East	2025-09-01	2025-11-30	Completed	90	87	85	83	86	88	90	92	94	96	89
032	Project H	West	2025-10-01	2025-12-31	In Progress	78	75	72	70	73	76	79	81	83	85	77
033	Project I	North	2025-11-01	2026-01-31	On Hold	69	66	63	61	64	67	70	72	74	76	68
034	Project J	South	2025-12-01	2026-02-28	Completed	92	89	87	85	88	90	92	94	96	98	91
035	Project K	East	2026-01-01	2026-03-31	In Progress	84	81	78	76	79	82	85	87	89	91	83
036	Project L	West	2026-02-01	2026-04-30	On Hold	61	58	55	53	56	59	62	64	66	68	60
037	Project M	North	2026-03-01	2026-05-31	Completed	96	93	91	89	92	94	96	98	100	100	95
038	Project N	South	2026-04-01	2026-06-30	In Progress	80	77	74	72	75	78	81	83	85	87	79
039	Project O	East	2026-05-01	2026-07-31	On Hold	66	63	60	58	61	64	67	69	71	73	65
040	Project P	West	2026-06-01	2026-08-31	Completed	99	96	94	92	95	97	99	100	100	100	97
041	Project Q	North	2026-07-01	2026-09-30	In Progress	87	84	81	79	82	85	88	90	92	94	86
042	Project R	South	2026-08-01	2026-10-31	On Hold	73	70	67	65	68	71	74	76	78	80	72
043	Project S	East	2026-09-01	2026-11-30	Completed	91	88	86	84	87	89	91	93	95	97	90
044	Project T	West	2026-10-01	2026-12-31	In Progress	79	76	73	71	74	77	80	82	84	86	78
045	Project U	North	2026-11-01	2027-01-31	On Hold	68	65	62	60	63	66	69	71	73	75	67
046	Project V	South	2026-12-01	2027-02-28	Completed	93	90	88	86	89	91	93	95	97	99	92
047	Project W	East	2027-01-01	2027-03-31	In Progress	85	82	79	77	80	83	86	88	90	92	84
048	Project X	West	2027-02-01	2027-04-30	On Hold	63	60	57	55	58	61	64	66	68	70	62
049	Project Y	North	2027-03-01	2027-05-31	Completed	97	94	92	90	93	95	97	99	100	100	96
050	Project Z	South	2027-04-01	2027-06-30	In Progress	82	79	76	74	77	80	83	85	87	89	81
051	Project AA	East	2027-05-01	2027-07-31	On Hold	70	67	64	62	65	68	71	73	75	77	69
052	Project AB	West	2027-06-01	2027-08-31	Completed	94	91	89	87	90	92	94	96	98	100	94
053	Project AC	North	2027-07-01	2027-09-30	In Progress	88	85	82	80	83	86	89	91	93	95	87
054	Project AD	South	2027-08-01	2027-10-31	On Hold	65	62	59	57	60	63	66	68	70	72	64
055	Project AE	East	2027-09-01	2027-11-30	Completed	96	93	91	89	92	94	96	98	100	100	95
056	Project AF	West	2027-10-01	2027-12-31	In Progress	80	77	74	72	75	78	81	83	85	87	79
057	Project AG	North	2027-11-01	2028-01-31	On Hold	69	66	63	61	64	67	70	72	74	76	68
058	Project AH	South	2027-12-01	2028-02-28	Completed	92	89	87	85	88	90	92	94	96	98	91
059	Project AI	East	2028-01-01	2028-03-31	In Progress	86	83	80	78	81	84	87	89	91	93	85
060	Project AJ	West	2028-02-01	2028-04-30	On Hold	64	61	58	56	59	62	65	67	69	71	63
061	Project AK	North	2028-03-01	2028-05-31	Completed	98	95	93	91	94	96	98	100	100	100	96
062	Project AL	South	2028-04-01	2028-06-30	In Progress	83	80	77	75	78	81	84	86	88	90	82
063	Project AM	East	2028-05-01	2028-07-31	On Hold	72	69	66	64	67	70	73	75	77	79	71
064	Project AN	West	2028-06-01	2028-08-31	Completed	95	92	90	88	91	93	95	97	99	100	94
065	Project AO	North	2028-07-01	2028-09-30	In Progress	89	86	83	81	84	87	90	92	94	96	88
066	Project AP	South	2028-08-01	2028-10-31	On Hold	67	64	61	59	62	65	68	70	72	74	66
067	Project AQ	East	2028-09-01	2028-11-30	Completed	91	88	86	84	87	89	91	93	95	97	90
068	Project AR	West	2028-10-01	2028-12-31	In Progress	77	74	71	69	72	75	78	80	82	84	76
069	Project AS	North	2028-11-01	2029-01-31	On Hold	66	63	60	58	61	64	67	69	71	73	65
070	Project AT	South	2028-12-01	2029-02-28	Completed	93	90	88	86	89	91	93	95	97	99	92
071	Project AU	East	2029-01-01	2029-03-31	In Progress	87	84	81	79	82	85	88	90	92	94	86
072	Project AV	West	2029-02-01	2029-04-30	On Hold	62	59	56	54	57	60	63	65	67	69	61
073	Project AW	North	2029-03-01	2029-05-31	Completed	96	93	91	89	92	94	96	98	100	100	95
074	Project AX	South	2029-04-01	2029-06-30	In Progress	81	78	75	73	76	79	82	84	86	88	80
075	Project AY	East	2029-05-01	2029-07-31	On Hold	74	71	68	66	69	72	75	77	79	81	73
076	Project AZ	West	2029-06-01	2029-08-31	Completed	99	96	94	92	95	97	99	100	100	100	97
077	Project BA	North	2029-07-01	2029-09-30	In Progress	85	82	79	77	80	83	86	88	90	92	84
078	Project BB	South	2029-08-01	2029-10-31	On Hold	70	67	64	62	65	68	71	73	75	77	69
079	Project BC	East	2029-09-01	2029-11-30	Completed	92	89	87	85	88	90	92	94	96	98	91
080	Project BD	West	2029-10-01	2029-12-31	In Progress	79	76	73	71	74	77	80	82	84	86	78
081	Project BE	North	2029-11-01	2030-01-31	On Hold	68	65	62	60	63	66	69	71	73	75	67
082	Project BF	South	2029-12-01	2030-02-28	Completed	94	91	89	87	90	92	94	96	98	100	94
083	Project BG	East	2030-01-01	2030-03-31	In Progress	88	85	82	80	83	86	89	91	93	95	87
084	Project BH	West	2030-02-01	2030-04-30	On Hold	65	62	59	57	60	63	66	68	70	72	64
085	Project BI	North	2030-03-01	2030-05-31	Completed	97	94	92	90	93	95	97	99	100	100	96
086	Project BJ	South	2030-04-01	2030-06-30	In Progress	82	79	76	74	77	80	83	85	87	89	81
087	Project BK	East	2030-05-01	2030-07-31	On Hold	71	68	65	63	66	69	72	74	76	78	70
088	Project BL	West	2030-06-01	2030-08-31	Completed	95	92	90	88	91	93	95	97	99	100	

Regions Represented

Region IV.....	1 (NC)
Region VI.....	1 (TX)
Region VII.....	1 (NE)
Region VIII.....	8 (ND, SD, UT)
Region IX.....	1 (CA)
Region X.....	1 (AK)

* Housing Authority of the Village of Winnebago
1st document # 8-1, 295-33 submitted 6/30/10, processed 7/02/10

Oglala Sioux (Lakota) Housing

(Program Name)

Pine Ridge, SD
(Location)

LOW INCOME TRIBAL HOUSING REPORTING CARD

Total number of tribal low income units currently owned or managed: 1713

Additional units needed: 4000

Units requiring modernization in service area: Total 2000 Our Units 540

Activities

1. Funds budgeted in previous fiscal year (01/01/2009 to 12/31/2009):

New construction or acquisition	<u>1,398,887</u>
Modernization of our units	<u>3,875,888</u>
Maintenance of our units	<u>6,703,322</u>
Mgmt/Planning/Administration	<u>3,943,001</u>
Other	<u>387,046</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 16,308,144</u>

NAHASDA grant for this previous fiscal year: \$ 10,728,063

Other grants and loans amount (including ARRA): \$ 5,580,081

Units ultimately to be developed by us 39 (to date 21 units started or completed)

Units to be modernized by us 302 (to date 274 units started or completed)

Percentage of these funds committed for expenditure as of this date (100 %)

Percentage of these funds expended as of this date (100 %)

2. Funds budgeted in current fiscal year (01/01/2010 to 08/19/2010):

NAHASDA grant for this current fiscal year: \$ 11,562,767

To date other grants and long term loans obtained for this current fiscal year: \$ 4,900,00

Percentage of funds already obtained this current fiscal year that are committed as of this date
(75 %)

Percentage of funds already obtained this current fiscal year that are expended as of this (60 %)

Housing Profile

Service area:

Description Pine Ridge Indian Reservation . Square miles 3700 .

Tribally enrolled members 42,357 . Total population 45,432 . Unemployment rate 86%

Year our program began: 1961 . Date first 1937 Act or NAHASDA grant was received: 1961 .

We are a reservation: Yes X No . Name of tribe(s) Oglala Sioux Tribe .

Number of employees: 150 . Average number of occupants per rental unit: 12 .

Total:

Low income tribal units we have developed since inception of our program 1713 .

Units we now own, manage or hold; rental 1338 lease/purchase 326 mortgage 49 .

Contact Information

CEO/Executive Director: Paul Iron Cloud

Telephone: 605-867-5161 Fax: 605-867-1095 E-mail: doyle.poh@oslh.org

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 603 Pine Ridge, SD 57770 Web Site:

*An asterisk placed next to any number indicates an estimate. Definitions and explanations are on the back of this card.