



September 25, 2015

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) within the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is committed to meaningful consultation with federally recognized tribes on FDA's implementation and enforcement of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (Tobacco Control Act), a law designed to promote public health by reducing the death and disease caused by tobacco.

On October 26, 2015, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (EDT), FDA will hold a consultation webinar to provide information on compliance with and enforcement of the Tobacco Control Act regarding retail sales of tobacco products on tribal lands. Specifically, this webinar will discuss tobacco retailer responsibilities under the Tobacco Control Act and give an overview of FDA's retailer compliance check inspection program. FDA will also discuss inspections for compliance with the sale, marketing, labeling, and advertising requirements for tobacco retailers and the actions FDA may take if violations are found during these inspections. This is an opportunity for participants to provide feedback and ask questions. **You can register for this consultation webinar by using the following link: <http://bit.ly/fdaconsultation2015>**

Retailers play an important role in protecting children and adolescents by complying with the Tobacco Control Act. The most commonly observed violations are sales of tobacco products to minors. It is important that we work together to protect kids by making tobacco products less accessible and attractive to them. Furthermore, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Indian and Alaska Native youth are at a greater risk of becoming addicted to cigarettes than any other minority group in the United States.¹ Many of these children will become addicted before they are old enough to understand the risks, and may ultimately die of tobacco-related diseases.

For more information about retailer education, FDA has a tribal retailer training video and other retailer education materials at:

<http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/StateLocalTribalandTerritorialGovernments/ucm451023.htm>

¹ CDC. Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). Youth Online Home. High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Smoked a Whole Cigarette for the First Time before Age 13 Years. 2013.
<http://nccd.cdc.gov/YouthOnline/App/Default.aspx>

For general questions about this consultation webinar, contact: Evonne Bennett-Barnes, CTP/Office of Compliance and Enforcement, Evonne.Bennett-Barnes@fda.hhs.gov.

FDA honors the government-to-government relationship it has with Tribes. Our mission at CTP is to make tobacco-related death and disease part of America's past, not America's future. Retail inspections help protect youth from the dangers of tobacco. By working together, we can ensure healthier lives and communities.

Sincerely,

Mitchell Zeller
Director, Center for Tobacco Products