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NACo applauds Interior for timely PILT payments

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Association of Counties (NACo) today applauded the U.S. Department of Interior for the timely disbursement of the FY 2011 Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) payments to counties. More than 1,850 counties and local governments will be receiving payments totaling $375 million.

Last year the department indicated that the FY 2010 payments to counties would be delayed until late July, which would have caused significant financial complications to counties nationwide whose fiscal year ends June 30. NACo is pleased that there was no delay in the disbursement of the FY 2011 PILT payments which are critical to the operations of nearly two-thirds of the nation’s counties.

“On behalf of our member counties who depend on these critical payments, NACo applauds Secretary Salazar for ensuring that counties will receive their payments as promised,” said NACo Executive Director Larry E. Naake. “NACo is proud to be the only national organization that lobbies for PILT, which helps local governments deliver county services to the public.”

PILT, enacted in 1976 with NACo’s strong support, helps local governments provide essential public services such as education, solid waste disposal, law enforcement, roads and infrastructure, search and rescue, health care, environmental compliance, fire fighting, parks and recreation and other important community services.

For information about the PILT Program and the 2011 payments to counties, please visit www.doi.gov/PILT. To learn more about the PILT program, previous PILT payments, or NACo, please visit http://www.naco.org, keyword PILT, or contact Ryan Yates at ryates@naco.org.

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information about NACo, visit www.naco.org.