

EPA Report

Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting

February 14, 2013



Career Moves!

- In January of 2013, Region 9 bid farewell to more than 50 career employees. Among them, we were sad to lose several of our long-standing colleagues in tribal work, including:
 - Nate Lau (Communities & Ecosystems Division),
 - Dave Tomsovic (Tribal Lead Program),
 - Pat Eklund (Exchange Network Grant Program),
 - Jo Ann Asami (Office of Regional Counsel),
 - Michael Hingerty (Office of Regional Counsel),
 - Mary Keil (Underground Storage Tanks Program),
 - Carolyn Douglas (Brownfields Program),
 - Rich Vaille (Waste Division),
 - Lea Weinstein (Human Resources).



**Communities and Ecosystems
Division**
Tribal Program Office

Consultation on GAP Guidebook

- On November 16, 2012 the U.S. EPA Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) opened the consultation period for the revised “Guidance on the Award and Management of General Assistance Agreements for Tribes and Intertribal Consortia” or GAP Guidebook.
- Tribes will have until February 22, 2013 to participate in consultation with the OITA.
- Interested Tribes can submit comments through the "submit comments" link on the webpage or in writing to the identified point of contact. For more information, please see the following web page:
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/oita/tconsultation.nsf/x/E3A0E8CB47255AD585257A8600606C3D?opendocument>.

FY2014-2018 US EPA Strategic Plan – Tribal Consultation and Coordination

- Early in 2013, EPA will initiate consultation and coordination on the FY2014-2018 Strategic Plan by sending notification letters to all federally recognized Tribes outlining opportunities for engagement. The formal comment period on the plan will begin in the summer of 2013.

New Ways to Submit GAP Grant Applications Electronically!!

EPA is finding new ways to “Walk the Talk,” and now final GAP application materials may be submitted electronically through:

- **Electronic submission using Grants.gov:**
 - If you wish to apply for your assistance agreement electronically via Grants.gov, go to: <http://www.grants.gov> and click on the “Get Registered” on the left side of the page. Note that the registration process may take 3-5 business days to complete.
- **Electronic submission via email to the Region 9 Electronic Mailbox:**
 - The application kit with instructions for completing all of the necessary forms may be downloaded at the following web site: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/applying.html> . Scan the completed materials, attach a copy of the final work plan submitted in GAP Online, and email them to GrantsRegion9@epa.gov.

Note: If preferred, materials may still be submitted via hard copy and mailed to the Grants Management Office.



Air Division

Clean Air Act Funding

- The announcement for FY 14 Clean Air Act (CAA) funding was posted in November 2012. Proposals are due February 15, 2013. Tribes will be notified of their funding status by summer 2013.
- For more information:
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/tribalcaa.html>

Particulate Matter Standards

- EPA proposed revisions to the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for particulate matter (PM) standards in June 2012.
- In December 2012, EPA finalized the proposal by strengthening the annual fine particle ($PM_{2.5}$) standard to 12.0 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), from 15.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.
- EPA retained the 24-hour fine particle standard of 35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, the primary PM_{10} 24-hr standard, 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and the secondary $PM_{2.5}$ and secondary PM_{10} standard.
- For more information:
<http://www.epa.gov/pm/actions.html#jun12>

San Diego County Redesignation to Attainment for 1997 Ozone Standard

- Region 9 is working on a proposed air quality rulemaking to redesignate San Diego County and Indian country in San Diego County for the 1997 ozone standard.
- Ambient air monitoring data shows air quality in San Diego County has improved and is now attaining the 1997 standard. EPA plans to soon propose an action on this redesignation, and if approved, will redesignate San Diego County and areas of Indian country currently in nonattainment, to attainment for the standard.
- This action will not impact the recent nonattainment designation of tribes, or San Diego County, for the more stringent 2008 ozone standard.
- If you have questions about this upcoming action, please contact:
 - John Ungvarsky, Air Planning Office, ungvarsky.john@epa.gov, 415-972-3963 or
 - Maeve Clancy, Air Grants and Program Integration Office, clancy.maeve@epa.gov, 415-947-4105.

Tribal New Source Review (NSR) Rules

The Tribal NSR rules create pre-construction air permitting programs for new minor sources and modifications in Indian country, and for new major sources and modifications in Indian country in nonattainment areas. EPA will continue to regulate major sources and modifications on Tribal Land in attainment areas under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Program. The NSR rules are being implemented as follows:

- **Registration Phase:**

- All existing true minor sources must register by March 1, 2013.
- All new true minor sources constructed before September 4, 2014, have 90 days after construction to register.

- **Full Effect of the rule**

- All new minor sources built after September 4, 2014 must obtain pre-construction permits
- All modifications at existing true minor sources, including those already registered, must obtain a minor permit prior to the modifications.

New and modified major sources are now subject to the rule and required to obtain pre-construction permits. If you have questions about facilities on your reservation that may need permits, please contact Geoffery Glass, Air Permits Office, glass.geoffrey@epa.gov, 415-972-3498.

Navajo Generating Station

- On January 17, 2013, EPA issued a proposed best available retrofit technology (BART) determination for Navajo Generating Station. Once the proposal is published in the Federal Register, there will be a 90-day public comment period and several public hearings throughout Arizona, including Indian country.
- For more information:
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/navajo/index.html#station>

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) Training

- February 25-March 1, 2012—Air Pollution Technology—Las Vegas, NV
- Mar 12-15—Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities—Tucson, AZ
- May 14-17—Weatherization and Indoor Air Quality—Las Vegas, NV
- June 4-6—[Air Pollution Dispersion Modeling](#)—Flagstaff, AZ
- For more info:
http://www4.nau.edu/itep/air/training_aq.asp



Waste Management Division

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- **What:** Pollution Prevention Grants Program - The Pollution Prevention (P2) grant program funds state and tribal technical assistance projects to help businesses identify better environmental strategies and solutions for reducing or eliminating waste at the source. EPA anticipates it will award approximately \$4.1 million in total program funding during Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 to support projects in FY 2014. P2 grants will be awarded in the form of grants and/or cooperative agreements. All awards will be issued and managed by EPA's Regional Pollution Prevention Program Offices.
- **Where:** For the RFP, go to:
<http://www.epa.gov/p2/pubs/grants/ppis/2013rfpp2grant.pdf>
- **When:** Proposals are due Thursday, March 14, 2013
- **Who:** Contact Jessica Counts-Arnold at 415-972-3288 or counts-arnold.jessica@epa.gov for more information.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- **What:** Casino Webinars - Each presentation will feature tribal casino facility managers or environmental staff who will discuss their experiences, results, successes and lessons learned in implementing their projects
- **When:** The series is *free and open to anyone* and is scheduled for the 4th Tuesday in each month at 2ET/1CT/noonMT/1IPT/10AK.
- To register and participate in a session click on the title of the session you are interested in. You will be automatically sent to a GoTo Webinar registration page. It only takes a minute to register.
 - [Feb 26 – Energy Efficiency Part 2 :The rest of the picture](#): Beyond lighting – how are casinos saving big money
 - [Mar 26 – Products and Green Building](#) : How can you incorporate green building concepts and greener products into your casino operations?
 - [April 23 – Solid Waste and Food Recovery](#): How casinos are minimizing food and other solid waste.
 - [May 28 – Ventilation and Smoke Reduced/Free Facilities](#): Improving casino indoor air quality
 - [June 25 – Amenities \(golf courses, pool, spa facilities etc\)](#): Greening opportunities in golf course design and maintenance, pool facilities, and other amenities

Want to Host a Tribal Solid Waste Training?

- **What:** The EPA Region 9 Tribal Solid Waste (TSW) Team is looking for tribes to host solid waste training in FY13.
- **Why:** The TSW Team will work with a contractor to conduct 2-3 FREE trainings in the topic areas included below. If your tribe is interested in hosting a workshop, please contact the TSW Team.
 - Potential topic areas include:
 - How to Write an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan
 - How to Develop Recycling Strategies for Tribes
 - How to Develop Source Reduction Strategies for Tribes
 - Developing Tribal Solid Waste, Recycling Codes and Ordinances
 - How to Develop and Operate a Tribal Transfer Station
 - Developing a Tribal Zero Waste Program
- **When:** Respond to the TSW Team by March 2, 2013 to host a workshop in FY13.
- **Who:** Contact Nancy Sockabasin, sockabasin.nancy@epa.gov or 415-972-3772 for more information or to be a host.



Water Division

Clean Water Act Section 319 – Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program Workshop for Indian Tribes – May 20-23, 2013

- Learn how to implement an effective Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program using water quality data to guide the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and thinking outside the reservation boundaries using the watershed approach.
- Registration forms will be available February 2013 at www.tetrattech-ffx.com/tribal/region9/. If you have any questions about the registration, please contact Liz Hiatt at liz.hiatt@tetrattech.com or 703-385-6000, ext. 360.
- If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact:
 - Tiffany Eastman, Eastman.tiffany@epa.gov or
 - Audrey L. Johnson, Johnson.audreyl@epa.gov.

CWA Section 319 FY2013 Funding

- The FY2013 Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 - Tribal Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution Control grant program funding requests for base funds are due to your CWA Grants Project Officer by March 1, 2013.
- The guidelines for base funds can be accessed via the following link:
<http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/tribal/funding13.cfm>.
- If you have any questions, please contact your CWA Grants Project Officer or Audrey L. Johnson at johnson.audreyl@epa.gov for more information.

Funding Available: Source Water Assessment and Protection Program (SWAP)

- EPA Region 9 intends to award over \$290,000 through Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperative Agreements (DITCAs) ranging in size from approximately \$25,000 to \$85,000 for SWAP activities.
- The purpose of the funding will enable federally recognized tribes and eligible tribal consortia within EPA Region 9, who operate at least one public water system (PWS), to identify and assess any possible threats (potential sources of contamination) to their public drinking water supply sources and to develop measures to protect these sources against those threats.
- Region 9 has been accepting proposals according to the following proposal submission schedule: Proposals received by March 27, 2013 will be awarded by August 30, 2013.
- Please contact: Jamelya Curtis at (415) 972-3529 or curtis.jamelya@epa.gov for hard copies or more information. <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal/tribal-sdwa.html#swp>