

## EPA Report for January 28, 2015

### Land Division

#### *Tribal Section*

#### **New Staff**

Please join us in welcoming Michelle Baker (formerly of the Tribal Solid Waste Team) to the Tribal Section. Michelle will be working with Tribes in Northern California, and has a long history of working with Tribes on solid waste issues, and we are very excited to have her on our team!

#### **GAP Workplan Reviews**

GAP Project Officers continue the process of reviewing FY16 workplan proposals, and will be in contact soon to negotiate workplans via GAP online.

#### **RTOC Election**

The RTOC election is in full swing. Nominations were due from Tribal Leaders on January 9, 2015 (extended deadline). Ballots will be sent out the week of February 9, due to the extended nomination deadline. Check out the elections website for updates: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/tribal/rtoc/election.html>.

### *Zero Waste Section*

#### **Tribal Waste Assessment Training**

On January 13th, EPA Region 9 and Coyote Valley hosted a tribal waste assessment training, which included a hands on waste sort. More than 14 tribal participants attended, representing eight tribes. All the participants said that they would recommend the training to others, thought it was a good use of their time, and that it increased their understanding of the value of knowing the types and quantities of waste being generated in their communities. Waste assessment data is the foundation of a good Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan. The training at Coyote Valley was the first of five tribal waste characterization trainings EPA will be offer throughout the Region in the coming months.

### Water Division

#### **Funding availability - CWA 319 - Tribal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (Base Program)**

For eligible Tribes, please submit a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 BASE funding request (draft workplan and budget) to your CWA Project Officer by no later than Friday, February 27, 2015. For additional information, please go to <http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/tribal/funding15.cfm>. If you have any questions regarding this announcement please contact your CWA Grants Project Officer or the EPA Region 9 Tribal NPS Program Coordinator, Tiffany Eastman at [eastman.tiffany@epa.gov](mailto:eastman.tiffany@epa.gov).

#### **Funding availability: CWA 106 – Water Pollution Control Program**

For eligible Tribes, please submit a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106 funding request (draft workplan and budget) to your CWA Project Officer by no later than Monday, February 2, 2015. If you have any questions regarding this announcement please contact your CWA Grants Project Officer or the EPA Region 9 Tribal 106 Program Coordinator, Danielle Angeles at [angeles.danielle@epa.gov](mailto:angeles.danielle@epa.gov)

#### **The Request for Proposals for the Wetland Program Development Grants (WPDGs)**

RFP is anticipated to be released this spring. Region 9 will be conducting a biennial WPDG solicitation for multiple year funding beginning this year. This means grant solicitation will go out ONCE every TWO years instead of once a year as it has been in the past. They FY15 WPDG solicitation will cover FY15 and FY16 and the next WPDG solicitation will take place in FY17, covering FY 17 and FY18. Region 9 would like to offer an

opportunity for you to learn more about the two year grant cycle, WPDGs and Wetland Program Plans, and will be offering a webinar in the coming months; please check back at [www.epa.gov/region9/water/wetlands/grants](http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/wetlands/grants) for updates.

### **Superfund Division**

#### **Need Help With Targeted Brownfields Assessments?**

The EPA Brownfields Office offers technical assistance on Targeted Brownfields Assessments year round. An EPA contractor can assist you (no funding and no match, non-competitive) with Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments, land reuse planning, evaluate clean-up options and provide cost estimates based on future use. Contact Jose Garcia for more details, at (213) 244-1811 or [Garcia.Jose@epa.gov](mailto:Garcia.Jose@epa.gov).

#### **2015 National Brownfields Training Conference Registration is Open**

The 2015 National Brownfields Training Conference will be held in Chicago September 2-4. Early Bird registration rates are available until February 1st. More information is available at [www.brownfieldsconference.org](http://www.brownfieldsconference.org)

### **Air Division**

**Note: as of September 24, 2014 the position of tribal co-chair of the RTOC Air Workgroup is vacant, as Jacquelyn Gonzales from Cabazon stepped down.**

#### **Tribal Air Funding**

Proposals for FY16 tribal Clean Air Act funding are due to EPA by February 18th. All tribes in Region 9 were sent letters notifying them of this funding opportunity. Please contact Roy Ford, [ford.roy@epa.gov](mailto:ford.roy@epa.gov) or 415-972-3997 with questions.

#### **Tribal New Source Review (NSR) Rule Updates**

NSR permits are legal documents that the facility owners/operators must abide by. The permit specifies what construction is allowed, what emission limits must be met, and often how the emissions source must be operated.

In December, 2013, EPA proposed a rule to simplify the Clean Air Act permitting process for certain smaller sources of air pollution commonly found in Indian country. The action proposed: (1) general permits and permits by rule for certain source categories, (2) an extension of the minor source permitting deadline for true minor sources within the oil and gas source category, and (3) to change the policy in the Indian Country Minor NSR Rule to allow for the use of general permits (and permits by rule) to create synthetic minor sources. This action will ensure that air quality in Indian country is protected by implementing the Tribal Minor Source New Source Review Rule issued by EPA in July 2011.

The phased in regulation dates and phased in deadlines have all passed, and the rule is in effect in all of Indian Country. Tribes need to contact EPA Region 9 to get a permit for new construction or modification of major sources of air pollution, and register any minor sources.

EPA has proposed general permits for eleven categories of emission sources: (1) hot mix asphalt plants; (2) stone quarrying, crushing, and screening facilities; (3) gasoline dispensing facilities; (4) petroleum dry cleaners; (5) auto body repair and miscellaneous surface coating operations; (6) spark ignition engines; (7) compression ignition engines; (8) sawmills; (9) concrete batch plants; (10) boilers; and (11) graphic arts and printing operations. This will streamline the existing process and minimize the burden on reviewing authorities and sources.

Along with the permits themselves, EPA is making available, on its website, several implementation documents and tools to assist applicants in completing the permit application forms on which we are requesting comment. For more information, please go to: <http://epa.gov/air/tribal/tribalnsr.html>.

### **EPA's Proposal to Update the Air Quality Standards for Ground-Level Ozone**

On November 25, 2014, the EPA proposed to strengthen the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone, based on extensive scientific evidence about ozone's effects. The proposed updates will improve public health protection, particularly for children, the elderly, and people of all ages who have lung diseases such as asthma. The updates also will improve protection for trees, plants and ecosystems.

- Proposed primary and secondary range: 65 – 70 ppb
- Currently: 75 ppb
- Level set for both primary “health-based” std and
- Secondary “welfare-based” std (remanded)
- Taking comment on levels as low as 60 ppb
- Science advisors (CASAC) recommended:
- 60 – 70 ppb for primary
- “W-126” seasonal metric for secondary
- 90-day public comment period ends March 17
- Three hearings nationally, one in Sacramento February 2, 2015
- Final rule court-ordered deadline: October 1, 2015
- Designation decisions by October 2017
- [www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution](http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution)

### **Upcoming classes at the Institute for Environmental Professionals (ITEP) classes:**

#### **2015**

Feb 3-6 – Clean Air Act and Permitting	Las Vegas, NV
Mar 2-6 – Air Pollution Technology	Flagstaff, AZ
Apr 7-9 – GIS for Air Quality	Las Vegas, NV
Apr 14-16 – Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities	TBD
Apr 28-30 – Air Pollution Modeling	Las Vegas, NV
June 2-5 – Introduction to Tribal Air Quality	TBD
Spring 2015 – Treatment as a State (TAS)	TBD