

**EPA Report
October 18-19, 2010 RTOC**

Communities & Ecosystems Division

Tribal Program Office Staffing Update

- Sheryl Bilbrey is the acting Associate Director for Environmental Justice and Tribal Programs, after serving as Chief of Staff and Special Assistant to multiple Regional Administrators over the past two years where she provided leadership for Region 9's most visible and politically sensitive projects.
- Christopher Cagurangan joined the Tribal Program Office in July 2010. Chris will be working with Southern California Tribes. Prior to joining the team Chris was a chemist and laboratory certification officer at the Region 9 Lab.
- Destinee Cooper joined the Tribal Program Office in August 2010. Destinee will be working with Southern California and Colorado River-based Tribes. Prior to joining the team she worked at UC Davis, UC Berkeley, and Stanford doing outreach to Native American High School and college students. Destinee has two Bachelor of Science degrees, in Cell & Molecular Biology, and Environmental Toxicology.

Resource Guide for Tribal Governments & Tribal Communities: Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning in Indian Country

- EPA Region IX is finalizing a "Resource Guide for Tribal Governments & Tribal Communities: Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning in Indian Country." The guide contains information on preventing childhood lead poisoning, federal agency grant funding opportunities, regulatory requirements on lead-based paint and lead hazards, and related information. The Resource Guide will be distributed to Region IX tribes by email and announced in monthly tribal newsletter.

Contact: David Tomsovic. EPA Region IX, Communities & Ecosystems Division, Toxics Office. Phone: 415-972-3858. Email: tomsovic.david@epa.gov,

Tribal Program Project Officers List can be found at:

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/grants/index.html>

Air Division

Ozone Standard

- EPA is currently reconsidering the 2008 Ozone standard.

- The new standard was proposed in January 2010, with a range of 0.060 to 0.070 parts per million (ppm) 8-hr primary standard (to protect human health); and a range of 7 to 15 ppm-hours secondary standard (to protect wildlife and vegetation).
- Final standard Fall 2010.
- **More information:** <http://www.epa.gov/air/ozonepollution/actions.html#jan10s>; Colleen McKaughan, mckaughan.colleen@epa.gov

Pinal County, AZ Designation/Redesignation

- EPA is working to designate Pinal County, Arizona, as non-attainment for PM10 and PM2.5. Tribal lands might be included in the non-attainment area.
- The majority of tribal lands will be deferred due to ongoing consultation with the impacted tribes.
- **More information:** Ginger Vagenas, vagenas.ginger@epa.gov

Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART) Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs) for Power Plants on Navajo Nation

- EPA promulgates FIPs in tribal jurisdictional areas as necessary to protect air quality. BART provisions of the Regional Haze Rule require reductions in the emissions of air pollutants that impact visibility.
- There are two Regional Haze BART-eligible sources on the Navajo Nation: Navajo Generating Station (NGS) and Four Corners Power Plan (FCPP).
- August 2009 - EPA issued the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) to seek public input on two factors for NGS and FCPP - cost effectiveness and visibility benefits.
- FCPP rulemaking proposed October 6, 2010, 60 day public comment period and public hearings.
- Proposed rulemaking on NGS anticipated spring 2011.
- **More information:** <http://www.epa.gov/region9/air/navajo/index.html#proposed>; Anita Lee, lee.anita@epa.gov .

Tribal Clean Air Act Funding for FY 2012

- Funding announcement expected November 2010, proposals due January 2011.
- Letters will be sent to all R9 tribes announcing the funding announcement, and a link will be posted on the R9 website.
- More information: Sara Bartholomew, bartholomew.sara@epa.gov.

Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) Request for Proposals (RFP)

- RFP for FY11 DERA funding expected November 2010, \$60 million will be available nationally.

- Funding will be set aside for tribal projects, and tribes will be able to apply for smaller projects (\$30K funding threshold for tribes vs. \$300K for other applicants). Tribal applications will be evaluated against each other by EPA HQ.
- More information: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/diesel/grantfund.htm>.

Upcoming Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) Trainings

- GIS for Air Quality, November 16-18, 2010. Las Vegas, NV.
- Air Monitoring Data Management, December 7-10, 2010. Phoenix, AZ.
- Introduction to Tribal Air Quality, January 11-14, 2011. Flagstaff, AZ.
- Improve and Protect Air Quality in Indian Country, January 25-28, 2011. Las Vegas, NV.
- **More information:** http://www4.nau.edu/itep/air/training_aq.asp.

Water Division

Tribal Office staff updates:

- Loretta Vanegas returned to the Tribal Office in September 2010 after a 6-month detail to the Office of the Regional Administrator. Vanegas will be responsible for Clean Water Act grants for Tribes in Arizona and Southern California in addition to co-leading the Clean Water Act Indian Set-Aside grant program.
- Mariela Lopez joined the Tribal Office in August 2010 for a one-year detail assignment. Lopez will be responsible for Clean Water Act grants for Tribes in Arizona, Clean Water Act Indian Set-Aside grants and Tribal Border Infrastructure Interagency Agreements with the Indian Health Service for Tribes throughout the Region.

Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106 Water Pollution Control Grant Program for Tribes:

Purpose:

The Water Pollution Control Program assists Federally-recognized Indian Tribes with achieving environmental results by developing institutional capacity for administering water quality programs to protect, improve, and enhance natural resources.

Eligibility: Tribes must have CWA 106 Financial Assistance Eligibility in order to receive CWA 106 funding. First time applicants must submit a complete (FAE) application by January 14, 2011. Please contact Danielle Angeles (415) 972-3441 or angeles.danielle@epa.gov if interested.

Deadline: Draft proposals due to WTR-10 Project Officers on February 1, 2011.

For more information, please contact your Clean Water Act Grants Project Officer or Danielle Angeles.

Region 9's FY 2011 Funding Opportunity for Tribal Water Pollution Control Program Grants link: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal/tribal-cwa.html#wtrpollution>

Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grant Program for Tribes – BASE Funding*

Purpose:

The Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program assists Federally-recognized Indian Tribes develop and implement polluted runoff control programs and watershed based plans that address critical water quality concerns and achieve positive environmental results.

Base Funding Allocation:

- \$30,000 for Tribes with 1,000 square miles or less.
- \$50,000 for Tribes with more than 1,000 square miles.

Deadline for BASE funding only: Proposed work plan and budget due to your Clean Water Act Grants Project Officer by March 1, 2011.

For more information, please contact your Clean Water Act Grants Project Officer or Tiffany Eastman, EPA Region 9 Tribal NPS Program Coordinator at eastman.tiffany@epa.gov.

*Competitive funding information is not available as of 10/4/2010.

Region 9 Pilot: Water Quality Assessment Report Template Version 2010

The Water Quality Assessment Report (WQAR) template, Version 2010 was released to Region 9 Tribes on September 13, 2010. The template was originally developed and released last year by EPA Region 9 and the RTOC Clean Water Act Work group as a mechanism to describe water quality in Region 9 Indian Country.

The Region 9 Pilot WQAR Template: Version 2010, accompanied with the Narrative (Tab 5) and water quality data in WQX / STORET format will satisfy the annual reporting requirement for receiving CWA Section 106 funding. Tribes participating in the CWA 106 program are asked to please return the *completed* template to your CWA 106 Project Officer no later than **Wednesday, February 2, 2011**. Contact: Audrey Johnson, Johnson.audrey1@epa.gov, (415) 972-3431; Janis Gomes, gomes.janis@epa.gov, (415) 972-3517; Chris Chen, chen.christopher@epa.gov, (415) 972-3442.

Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Funds

Overview:

EPA Region 9 is pleased to issue the 2011 guidance and procedures for applying for assistance from the Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside (DWTSA) program. This program provides funding for tribes within Region 9 (California, Nevada, and Arizona) for public drinking water system infrastructure. Funds are awarded through direct grants to tribes or interagency agreements with the Indian Health Service. The funding will be used to address the most significant public health threats for public water systems.

- <http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/dwtsa.html>
- <http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/pdfs/2011-DWTSA-Guidance.pdf> **Full text announcement (PDF)**
- Attachment 1: [Project Proposal Form \(.doc\)](#)

Up to \$6 million of FY 11 funds may be available. In addition, projects ranking higher than Health Category K may be considered under the anticipated FY12 appropriation. Matching funds are not required; however, in cases where commercial entities and/or non-tribal populations receive water from the public water system, EPA may ask the tribe to provide a matching contribution.

Important Date: **November 5, 2010:** *EPA must receive proposals by this date, including 3 copies of the proposal form, tribal government endorsement, and any preliminary feasibility studies and supporting documents. Proposals received after November 5, 2010 will not be considered for funding.*

Contact: Linda Reeves, 415-972-3445 or reeves.linda@epa.gov

17th Annual California Aquatic Bioassessment Workgroup

November 16-17, University of California, Davis

Registration:

There is no fee to attend, but registration is required.

Pre-registration: participants should register at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/academy/>
(go to Schedule on left hand menu, scroll to CABW listing, click on date, and follow registration instructions from there)

In-person registration: 8 am-9 am on November 16 and 17, 2010

Contact Person:

Jim Harrington
(916) 358-2862,
jharring@ospr.dfg.ca.gov

Waste Division

Transfer Station Training

What: We are planning to conduct another Transfer Station Training in FY11 and we are looking for a tribe to work with EPA to host the 2.5 day event.

If your tribe has a transfer station you would like to showcase, meeting space for approximately 35 participants, hotel rooms in close proximity to the meeting space, and you are interested hosting the event, please contact EPA.

Contact: Nancy Sockabasin (415) 972-3772, or sockabasin.nancy@epa.gov

Free Waste Characterization Audit Trainings. We are looking for three to four Tribes to host this training. A free waste characterization audit will be conducted for the hosting Tribe.

Criteria for Hosting Audit Training:

- The tribal facility has adequate space to safely conduct the waste audit with up to 20 people participating (neighboring tribes will be invited to participate);
- There is sufficient solid waste to conduct a waste characterization audit (at least 2,000 lbs);
- The Tribe has staff to assist in coordinating the training with U.S. EPA and waste hauler (if applicable);
- The tribe can provide 18 months of solid waste generation and disposal data (volume, weight, cost/ton) and any past solid waste studies. (*Ideal, not required*)
- The Tribe agrees to share environmental results for public educational and outreach purposes.

Web Features Wanted!

- **What:** We are looking for success stories to feature on our website. If you have any solid or hazardous waste project that you would like EPA to highlight, please contact us. Topic ideas for stories include: Greening your event, casino, or housing; managing a dumpsite after cleanup; or any other recycling, composting, or cleanup programs.
- **Why:** Get the word out about your great project!
- **Where:** <http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/tribal/success.html>
- **Contact:** Charles Swanson (415) 947-4219, or swanson.charles@epa.gov