USEPA, REGION 9 GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (GAP) GRANTS



Tribal Environmental Conference October 20, 2011 Pala, CA

GAP Project Officers Tribal Program Office

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Note: Current list and map of Project Officers and Tribes available by contacting your Project Officer

Tribal Program Office Goals

Provide program guidance and flexibility.

- Develop and maintain relationships with tribes through site visits, training, Annual Conference, new GAP grantee training, and personal contact.
- Facilitate government to government consultation with tribes when appropriate.
- Work collaboratively and cooperatively with advisory councils, including the RTOC, NTOC, and the Tribal Science Council.
- Remove barriers to comprehensive tribal program implementation.

Tribal Program Office Goals, Cont.

- Provide training to EPA personnel and EPA partners: "Working Effectively with Tribal Governments."
- Resolve cross-media issues affecting tribes.
- Award GAP grants to eligible tribes in Region 9.
- Ensure effective GAP grant management.



What is the General Assistance Program (GAP)?

General Assistance Program (GAP):

The "Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act of 1992" (Act.) was enacted by Congress to allow tribes to build an environmental program.

Who is Eligible to Receive GAP Funds?

Federally Recognized Tribes

Inter Tribal Consortia



GAP Award Amounts

- New recipients are awarded a minimum of \$75K.
- Continuing recipient awards typically range from \$75K to \$120K.
- Tribes are welcome to apply for additional funds, where supported by a robust workplan. Award of additional funds is dependent on availability, and at the discretion of the Region.

Mandatory Tasks Under GAP

The following tasks must be completed at least once by each GAP recipient:

- Environmental Inventory identify the Tribe's actual or potential environmental or human health issues. TPO recommends updates every 5 years.
- Environmental Plan After an inventory is complete, tribes can develop and implement a plan to address priorities. TPO recommends updates every 5 years.

Financial Assessment – financial procurement and property management systems must meet 40 CFR 31 and OMB Circular A-87 requirements. TPO recommends one assessment per 4-year grant.

GAP Work Plan Requirements

The following must be included in the work plan:

- Work Plan Components
- Work Plan Commitments for each work plan component
- Work years and funding needed to complete activities under each component
- Identification of Grant outputs and outcomes
- Descriptions of Tribal and EPA roles and responsibilities for carrying out grant activities
- A progress reporting schedule (typically quarterly)
- A joint (Tribal/EPA) Grant performance evaluation process

Examples of GAP Activities

- Hiring and Maintaining Environmental Staff Positions
- Attending Environmental Trainings, RTOC and Conferences
- Conducting Environmental Education
 & Outreach
- Developing Environmental Codes and Ordinances

Solid and Hazardous Waste Activities

- development of integrated solid waste management plans (ISWMP);
- development of solid waste codes/ordinances;
- development of solid waste enforcement programs;
- Other implementation of solid and hazardous waste activities may include (but is not limited to):
- removal of junk automobiles, scrap metal and/or used tires;
- planning and conducting household hazardous waste cleanup days; conducting outreach on reducing or minimizing HHW generation;
- establishing recycling collection areas;
- cleaning up open dumps.



Water Asset Protection (Drinking Water and Wastewater) Development and "test drive" of drinking water and wastewater asset protection programs. At the end of the 1-3 year "test

drive" period, the tribe must have established a sustainable program, with the technical, financial and managerial capacity to properly maintain the program over time.

Clean Air Act: Eligible Activities

Attend training

- Develop an Emissions Inventory
- Conduct air program needs assessment
- Acquire of existing air quality data from neighboring jurisdictions
- Investigate impacts of neighboring sources on tribal air quality
- Participate in regional initiatives
- Conduct community outreach/education
- Develop a Draft Monitoring Plan
- Submit a CAA 103 Proposal

Chemical Emergency Planning/SARA Title III- Activities

- Establish and appoint members of a Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC) and/or Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).
- Develop hazardous material program codes and regulations.
- Identify and assess potential chemical emergency sources (hazardous analysis).
- Develop a Tribal Chemical Emergency Preparedness Response Plan and/or Chemical Emergency Notification Plan.

Have appropriate staff take awareness training.

- Conduct community outreach to assure knowledge of and responsiveness to an emergency plan.
- Conduct periodic emergency exercises.

Underground Storage Tank Activities

- Identify/develop an inventory of all operating and abandoned UST sites and compare with EPA's existing inventory.
- Develop a process to notify EPA of the installation of any new UST systems.
- Develop codes, regulations, ordinances and training requirements.
- Provide training and workshops for tribal staff for both UST preventative and LUST management activities.

Radon

- Obtain radon training (testing and mitigation)
- Write a Quality Assurance Field Sampling Plan to test for radon.
- Conduct community outreach on radon.
- Conduct radon sampling for assessment purposes.
 - Radon test kits may be available from EPA.
 Contact your Project Officer.
- Conduct community outreach on sampling results.
- Encourage radon resistant new construction (develop construction codes for radon-resistant buildings).

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Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

- Assess current and historical pesticide use, sale and distribution, and identify pesticide concerns on tribal lands.
- Develop pesticide codes, regulations, ordinances and/or policies necessary to implement them.
- Provide education and outreach on pesticide safety or alternatives to pesticides.
- Develop mechanisms to report and respond to pesticide incidents.
- Attend appropriate EPA and non-EPA training.
- Apply for pesticide cooperative agreement funding, if available.

Toxic Substances Control Act Asbestos

- Develop and/or provide published informational material on asbestos, its hazards, and where it might be found in the home, schools and other buildings.
- Increase awareness of what practices may disturb asbestos-containing materials (ACM) and promote good management practices to minimize disturbance of ACM and the release of airborne fibers.

 Provide training to tribal environmental staff to develop capability and expertise to address tribal asbestos concerns in public buildings.

Toxic Substances Control Act Lead

- Educate tribal and community members regarding the dangers of lead and areas in which lead poisoning can occur.
- Increase community awareness by encouraging community involvement in a lead prevention project.
- Conduct inspections and risk assessments of tribal housing units (requires EPA certification).
- Increase awareness of what practices may disturb lead based paint.

Pollution Prevention

- Identify waste streams or pollution sources that could be addressed through pollution prevention strategies.
- Develop a tribal pollution prevention policy.
- Measure or conduct outreach on the reservation's carbon footprint and develop a source reduction plan for carbon dioxide.
- Review and modify tribal environmental regulations to incorporate source reduction.
- Develop an outreach program on the use of the alternative products, including energy.
- Coordinate activities at government facilities and businesses to conserve energy and water, reduce solid waste and purchase greener products.

QAPP Development

 All environmental sampling must be covered under an EPA-approved Quality Assurance document (QAPP, SAP, SOP).

 GAP can be used to develop Quality Assurance documentation when not funded by another EPA program.

GAP Application Process: Important Dates To Remember

- 1) Funding Announcements posted to EPA website on October 14, 2011
- 2) Tribal Proposals must be submitted in GAP online by December 14, 2011
- 3) GAP Full Applications with revised work plans deadline is April 13, 2012 or as indicated in the guidance letter
- 4) Grant awards will be made by September 30, 2012

Funding is jeopardized if materials are received after the due dates.

For FY2012, work plans <u>must</u> be negotiated in GAP Online. For more information about GAP Online, contact your Project Officer.

Tribal Travel Fund (TTF) Update

The travel fund supports travel to RTOC meetings, and training.
 The priority for utilizing the TTF was set by the Tribal Caucus as follows:

- 1. RTOC Representatives
- 2. Tribal Workgroup Leads
- 3. Tribal Leaders & Other Environmental Staff

Contacts

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OUR WEBSITE:

http://epa.gov/region09/tribal

