

Key Action Suggestions – Provided by RTOC Workgroups

- Protect core program funding: engage AIEO regarding the new GAP guidance and revised Guidebook; undertake detailed review, make thorough comments, conduct education and outreach activities to R9 tribes and support tribal understanding of and participation in the process
- Reinvigorate support for the President's proposed tribal multi-media implementation program: we learned at the last RTOC meeting that AIEO decided not to request funding for this program during most recent budget process; this position is NOT supported by tribes and needs to be overturned.
- Protect tribal water program funding through budget process and other tasks as needed: including targeted 106 funding to make TAS meaningful; continuing to increase or remove the cap on 319 funding; achieving a tribal set aside for wetlands program funding. Includes tasks to gather information to justify budget requests, such as encouraging/assisting R9 tribes to complete WQ assessments
- Work to ensure all R9 tribes have access to technical assist for drinking water and wastewater utility operations: identify gaps in coverage/access and identify reasons for those gaps; work with other agencies / TA providers on regional level to address these needs, and undertake other advocacy as necessary
- Protect tribal solid waste program funding and ensure agency policy reflects tribal solid waste management and implementation needs: this includes taking the lead on invigorating multi-agency efforts to address tribal solid waste program needs, perhaps through the Infrastructure Task Force using the model employed by the ITF to identify and address drinking water/wastewater needs; engaging AIEO regarding the GAP guidance and guidebook, as described above; ensuring robust tribal participation in any efforts to revise EPA's performance measures regarding tribal solid waste issues; and any other work that is appropriate or necessary to ensure that EPA's Agency-Wide Plan appropriately addresses tribal program development and needs.