

**Regional Tribal Operations Committee
Tucson, Arizona
February 14, 2013**

Opening Prayer provided by Michael Juan

Welcome Remarks provided by Jerry Carlyle, Vice-Chairman of San Xavier District.

Jerry Carlyle talked about his visit to Mexico City. When you visit other countries and see the things that they don't have, you appreciate what you do have. Native People are the guardians of the Earth, we use everything, the Creator says he has everything laid out for you; medicinal plants, natural carpet you call the Earth. He welcomed and thanked everyone for all that you are doing and he supports what you are doing. He also wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and to also give live things for gifts and he wished Arizona a Happy Birthday, 100 years old.

Jerry mentioned a grant that the District received for installation of a solar canopy to power the Community Building which they were paying \$1,000 a month for electricity. The canopy will alleviate the electricity cost. We are moving in the right direction and it's because of people like you, for providing the grants. The San Xavier District recently built an Administration Building that houses all their Departments. The building is LEED certified.

The District is also working on installation of a 5 megawatt solar plant at the Asarco Mission Mine tailings. There is nothing you can do with mine tailings, so we had an idea to build a solar plant. The site is 3 miles by 1 mile square and is capable of handling 200 megawatt. We are making use of these lands to generate power.

Enrique Manzanilla thanked Jerry for his words. LEED building and what you are doing in solar farm, using the disturbed site. You have embodied a lot of key messages, what to do with disturbed lands. Tohono O'odham is excellent hosts, there was a great visit yesterday at the wetlands; thanked Tohono O'odham for their hospitality.

Introductions: everyone provided Introductions.

Welcoming Remarks by EPA

Enrique Manzanilla provided welcome to everyone. He noted that:

- Regional Administrator has been to 76 tribes so far, he wants to visit them all. Extends appreciation to tribes when Regional Administrator goes out to visit. It's always a scheduling challenge.
- Joann Chase is here to discuss GAP guidebook and for you to ask questions
- Navajo Nation Generating Station - In addition to the relationships built through our work together, we continue to make engaging at a government-to-government level with tribes on issues that may affect Indian Country a priority. The impact of these discussions was most recently felt in the Agency's announcement last month proposing a Federal Implementation Plan for the Navajo Generating Station. The Agency's final proposal was affected significantly by conversations with tribal leadership in consultation, as well as through stakeholder engagement and careful analysis of the information gathered.
- Try to schedule this meeting in time, State of the Union address, we still don't have a 2014 budget, but we still don't have a 2013 or 2012 budget. It's important to listen to the State of the Union Address, Washington's ability to manage the Nations affairs in reasonable manner. The President mentioned that he will shortly deliver the 2014 budget and he stated his priorities and those will

be illustrated in that budget; we are in a challenging budget; we still have work to do, programs that tribes take on.

- Continuing resolution ends at the end of March. All federal agencies are starting preparations. Certainly going to have to be strategic.
- RTOC elections are in full swing and encourage your vote, thanked those that participated in the nomination process.
- Thanked everyone.

Comments/Questions:

- Clay Bravo: when in San Francisco, talking about budgets, Jared assured us that tribes would not have budget cuts; we want to remind the agency and want to make sure Jared holds his word.
- Marie Barry: wondering if any news 2014 budget. Are we going to hear from grants management on furlough; paper work; end of March
- Enrique: would think so, will know by March 1st.
- -- **ACTION ITEM** -- Enrique will send information by March 1st. Lead, Laura Ebbert.

November Issues Review

Lori Lewis provided a review of the five items (can be found on website) however will highlight only 2.

- a) #2 fish consumption study - request to invite Frasier Schilling. The request is you are interested in hearing more and Frasier is available. If interested email Co-Chair Antone.
- b) Shortness of meeting at Conference; some people felt it was unacceptable. Co-Chair Antone stated that this is the first time we combined the RTOC meeting; Owens Valley asked if okay to do a one day meeting and he made the decision on his own. Throughout the year he reminded people but as the day got closer, he received concerns about the one day meeting. He didn't have enough time to get input from the Representatives. He wasn't at work when he made that decision. At the Tribal Caucus Meeting on Tuesday (2/12/13), he was asked again, and the consensus was to have a one-day meeting at Conference. Tribal Leaders liked the one-day meeting, and a longer time for the conference and it helped us focus on certain issues. There was also concern about the short time frame for doing something when asked. For this year, there will be a one day RTOC meeting.
- c) Lori reported that the 3 other action items that have been complete or have received updates.

Webinar - Mariela announced that the people on the phone can hear but cannot ask questions. Most people on the phone right now are from EPA R9.

Erica Helms-Schenk stated that we didn't receive the action items but did receive the minutes.

Mariela - reminded everyone that the action items are put on the website. She posted in November after the Conference. Co-Chair Antone stated that he tries to attach to the minutes which were finalized in December.

Strategic Planning:

Lori Lewis stated that we talked about the Strategic Planning at the August meeting and it's an ongoing process; a shared effort that it started in 2011. It has been in the works for 2 years in developing these documents. Because EPA is our counterpart in this effort, in August we had the café, out of that came a lot of ideas.

Comments/Feedback on the Strategic Planning:

- Beverly Harry: provided an analogy and used her personal background, she has 2 kids ages 32 and 20. The 20 year old is in college at UNR studying environmental sciences, if she had been spooked by realizing she was pregnant next month, her husband and her are on a fixed income, they would have to make adjustments in order to support another child, since they have a child in college that would be really tough. So when we think about the EPA Agency, in the early 80's the

106 grants came about, there were tribes who applied for 106 funding and went through the process of TAS. If we look at the air quality grants, there are only 30 applicants who have to compete it is really difficult when EPA is trying to push for new developments within Indian Country, applying for TAS when there is the same amount of funding available. She sees EPA has to be more creative in how to spread the money; looking at developing TAS capabilities within tribal nations across the nation. How is EPA going to care for another child? How are you going to support another child, when EPA is pushing this? It is important for tribal governments, having to care for their reservations. The regulatory scheme is something we need to work on, developing and it is slow. In the late 80's we were still monitoring Pyramid Lake, nutrient studies we finally got the capability of implement the water standards and shortly our TAS. She sees the importance of adding one more kid. EPA has to assure that child will be given the same amount of treatment as every child that has come on board. If there is only 30 applicants for TAS and not making the previous, to suffer less because one more child is on board.

- Kate Sloan: should follow what is specific to EPA and how to build the tribal capacity; it is really complicated; not every tribe has the ability to chase every funding.
- Marta Burg: these concepts were sent out. In the Caucus meeting was the first time we talked about having strategic direction.
- Enrique Manzanilla: the pressure you need to keep on EPA; the question is, if you say these are our priorities (his opinion) how do you advance on your priorities. You should say, EPA help us with these other agencies. If you look at the RTOC charter, it would not be exclusively about EPA. It's us looking at certain realities. Based on disproportionate Indian Country, it is an EPA mandate, there are other agencies out there that can provide other resources. What are all the tools available to us? What are the ones you're going to push on? We also heard this from the body here, there are other agencies, there are good stories (case studies) already where they have done some of this. Let's look at this broadly as it is to further advance your priorities.
- Bill Campbell: ITCN receives small pesticide grant for Agriculture from State and the State gets their money from EPA.
- Clay Bravo: if we are going to be TAS, then the agency should treat as TAS. Can we have direct funding?

Laura Ebbert: information capture from the meeting; we have 18 bullets and need to do something with it. She organized it with broad categories. Past RTOC successes and accomplishments; what are we good at? This was sent out and now looking for concurrence from WG. The document is on the website. Where do you want to go from here on this? What will help you move you there? Laura briefly described how the 3 points were developed. Looked at RTOC work, seem to be the ones that were categorized. The strategic directions came from the categories of meeting sphere. Corn sent out draft documents. Or are there ways to reshape.

Comments/Feedback:

- Marta Burg: a few options, we can continue discussing today or schedule a time for the Strategic Plan Workgroup discussion or conference call to move through to next steps. The agenda today is full.
- Co-Chair Antone: we have had conference calls and these are announced but nobody participates; but when we get to the meetings, everyone is in an uproar.
- Alex Cabillo: we have a better sense of what it looks like; back in August, he wasn't sure what we were doing. We shared a lot of things but never knew what we're doing. He wants more conference calls.
- Syndi Smallwood: thanked those who are able to make the calls, we are all busy; if we want participation, please don't schedule calls on top of conference calls.
- Nina Hapner asked if to have the co-leads on the call. She will not be able to be on all the calls; she thanked everyone who does participate. She has had not had a chance to review it and

would like that opportunity. It's written well but it is sterile. Strategic Planning has helped us tremendously and moving forward. As EPA representatives have worked with tribes for many years, you move too fast and tribes put on the brakes; would like time to review. If there is a call, please ask the co-leads to be on the call.

- Nancy Sockabasin clarified question the co-leads for Workgroups? Yes.
- Paula Britton: We get many documents to review. She needs time to review; needs time to look at what we discussed and what is developed; needs to contrast. Everything needs to come back to tribes. It concerns her when we are participating in a process and left in the dark.
- Beverly Harry: add priorities ending. Concern is there is some disparity versus acres for non-point funding. If you are less than 1/2 acre you get 30k funding; if you are above, you get 45k. She sees that as a huge problem. When you look at the funding that goes to the state and the funding that goes to the tribes.
- Kate Sloan: maybe we need another working group session to get us where we need to go.

- Laura Ebbert: it looks like we will carry this discussion onto the next meeting or the following meeting since elections are next meeting.
- Enrique: a Workgroup is a more manageable group that comes before this larger body. This is part of the process; the Workgroup will continue working. It's not meant to replace the judgment of this body, but to do the work; this body has to decide what to do. Let's have some more participation; we've received a lot of valuable information, it is working.

Co-Chair Antone stated that he will send out notice with several potential dates for the conference call. It was noted that the first week of March is a water rights conference in California.

Melody Sees stated that she brought up an issue on Tuesday about draw downs. She spoke with Laura Ebbert who took care of it and they now have their money. Co-Chair Antone mentioned that he hasn't given his tribal caucus report but thanked her.

Tribal Caucus Report

Co-Chair Antone provided overview from the Tribal Caucus Meeting.

- Discussion on FTE's
- Solid Waste is fundamental to Tribes
- Concern from Kate Sloan stating that budgets and Solid Waste activities are being cut from GAP workplan
- QAPP, Eastern California Tribes have asked when the new guidelines would be coming out
- Drawdowns, Melody Sees already commented on the update the issue has been resolved.
- Sustainable Infrastructure WG - Lorraine Wright is the primary
- Tribal Science Council - John Mosley who was alternate is now primary and Kate Sloan is alternate. Co-Chair Antone asked if everyone is agreement with this selection. Everyone agreed. Co-Chair Antone will prepare letter.
- NTC Report - Clay report on the elections update; Corn will let Clay provide the update of NTC report
- GAP guidebook discussion - asked Luke to be prepared to answer comments and why those were/weren't included in the draft; call with OIEO to talk about guidebook, biggest concern is Solid Waste. We input a lot of info on GAP online so why are they only using TAS?
- Strategic planning discussion – this was discussed earlier today and now we know what we need to do.
- Presentations by various Tohono O'odham Nation Departments -- TOUA, Wildlife and Vegetation Program and Rocky Mountain spotted fever.
- Marta Burg - Climate Change Workgroup, Kate Sloan had volunteered so are we interested

Comments/Feedback:

- Michelle Baker announced that for Rocky Mountain spotted fever, HUD provides funding for yards and pest. The contact person is Sara Olsen, Arizona Contact, perhaps California contact too. Not sure for Nevada. Contact Michelle if you have any questions.
- Kate Sloan clarified her action item; she had conversation with Project Officer on GAP; the Solid Waste component was getting scrutinized for cleanups; when she reads the RFP, GAP includes Solid Waste the question is, if not community cleanups, then what? Is this a regional or headquarter directive? It's an "ask" for more information.
- Teri Red Owl clarified her action item, the QA division is relaying this to the PO; we feel the PO is not passing this on. We have one tribe in our area that was not aware of this.
- Laura Ebbert: co-lead on charter WG, there was a session yesterday and some conference calls. She would like to carry the conversation that started yesterday, into next meeting. She will send out the revised documents that they did receive and please review by next mtg. -- **ACTION ITEM**
- Marta Burg: Kate's questions regarding O&M is not allowed, this might be a guidebook question, 2006 guidance on how EPA implements or allows the funding says that O&M is allowed, but low priority. There has been some discussion lately that restricts or prohibit; she is going to keep asking until we get clarification. Where is the right time to have this discussion? Laura Ebbert will be happy to bring it up at next meeting.
- Co-Chair Antone: draft EJ comment letter we have more time to prepare comment letter as comment period was extended. Marta Burg had a question on the EPA policy on EJ, she would like to have an opportunity from Tribal Caucus to discuss: #1 should we write a comment letter? #2 what would the points be? Co-Chair Antone will put up a sign up sheet for this.
- Beverly Harry: Pyramid Lake request, will initiate, arsenic treatment in Sutcliff community, the plant is being constructed, could you provide some resources, training, to fulfill obligations on reporting criteria, consumer confident reports, SOPS, QAPP, to run the facility. Co-Chair Antone will have to ask Mryt and will follow up on this.

NTOC Report

Clay Bravo reported that the most recent meeting was in Palm Springs.

- Discussion on new tribal EPA paradigm, building with the agency and what that might look like. Looking at several different options in terms of developing relationship.
- Climate Change, where does this fit in? Air or Water? It is an important discussion even at the Region level.
- Hydro fracturing, the National Working Group is looking for people.
- NTOC Elections results.
- How much money does each Region receive? GAP means "get all programs".
- Any questions, forward to Corn or Erica or Marie or Stephen.

Comments/Feedback:

- Erica Helms-Schenk, a couple RTOC Meetings ago, working effectively with tribes, the training is 90% completed and they will be posted that version; put on the EPA portal or elsewhere. They are holding off on completing that plan until the GAP plan is completed.
- Luke Jones replied regarding the training. They are mid-90% complete, almost 100%. Most of all EPA employees have completed the training. Today Joann will report out later. It's not developing, but implementing.
- Laura Ebbert, the new HQ training on national and regional affecting working with tribal governments. If you haven't looked at, then do. If you have comments, then provide to Laura. They are interested in getting better. They provided the training to State of California.
- Syndi Smallwood requested a copy of the training and she has never received it.

- Laura Ebbert stated it is on the portal. She will send it to Corn today who will send it Tuesday.
- Luke Jones stated that it should be sent to all tribes in PDF format. If Laura has a version that is accessible then send it out.
- Bill Campbell asked if the training is available to states. Laura Ebbert said yes and will talk with Bill about it.

Tribal Eco-Embassador Program

David Stone from Tohono O'odham Community College provide a presentation on the glass recycling project.

Questions/Comments:

- What material is used for pipes and cost? Should present at R9. Field Tour for Tribes?
David: part of the program has required us to share this information, we welcome visitors; the pipes are steel. Not everything is a waste, though every aspect should be rethought, perhaps bamboo or natural material, there are always challenges. He thinks that will change.
- 300 psi, have you done core samples?
David: yes, at UoA and at ASU. The information so far, net paste (without aggregate) this rusty cement is stronger than Portland cement, 6000 to 10,000 psi. means you are super strong cement.
- Rob Roy: Amazing project. Materials used right now, what is the cost difference between making this material and concrete? How inert is the materials? How does it weather?
David: cost is a lot, theoretically it should be cheaper. Steel dust is delivered to the Sells Solid Waste facility, 65 tons of it. The transportation was expensive, the material was practically nothing. Weather ability, it seems to be stable. There is a bi product, hydrogen gas.
- Lorraine Wright: this is stunning; she would take a chemistry class.
David: the prize would be to see this succeed. He is out here, he choose to go where he thought he could do the most good. David forgot to bring samples but invited everyone to see their project; or he can go to other Tribes to showcase their project.
- Robert Sixkiller: asked if he would incorporate art work into the design?
- David: thanked TON EPO who has been critical in making this project a success and thanked them. The art work is a good idea. Before we create Snake Town, we have to get others involved. There is artistry and crafts and hope to have a studio set up to utilize the materials.
- Rosalynde: are you interacting with the national building code? For environment and human habitation? For long term goal, have you considered the cost analysis for commercial how does that play in?
David: could she become our global manager? Those are issues that go beyond what we are working on. As far as building code and conforming to American standards/measurements ATSDM, that is a very long process. Many government agencies are starting to speed things up.

GAP Guidance

Joann Chase and Luke Jones, AIEO reported on the Guidance. It is making good progress. Senior officials are engaged in the budget progress, 2 measures, EPA approval monitoring assessments (QAPP) an indicator of capacity AND number of tribes that are implementing federal programs TAS and direct implementation programs. That is not an adequate way to report the successes; they recognize they need a far wider range to effectively tell the story. Leadership is committed to growing the program. 2013 proposal budget called for 30 million increases for GAP, very proud of that. That reflects the commitment to the program. All the recipients submit information, we have records that tribes have submitted; do not have the framework to capture and report correctly. Wide wage of indicators and we are making good progress. Some of the comments in first round, stressed many of tribes may not pursue the resources to build their programs for implementation. One of the things we've done is evaluating the visible non-TAS capacity; raised the indicators. The other, was the document is incomplete, there is no implementation. The

joint planning process and their expectations is Headquarters creating extra burden. EPA leadership is committed to a government-to-government relationship. The activities are including in the workplan, are agreed upon and must meet the goal. It is a mutual planning process. 4 elements - EPA identify regulated universe; EPA provide information about programmatic priorities; identified mutual roles and responsibilities so tribes meet their long term goals.

Questions/Comments:

- Beverly Harry: the Inspector General (IG) had findings, has the IG reviewed the document to say the recommendations he/she made, are included? If tribes find that the guidance has problems, in final draft is complete and implemented, will tribes have the ability to come back to EPA to say there are some things that are not working for us nor helping our nations? Within the funding provisions, the tribes would be given language within the document to state that funding will change with the times. The costs are always increasing, salaries, daily management activities, etc..
- JoAnn Chase: Funding is constantly a battle. The NTC does come and make recommendations; they have done a good job and reminding the Agency. We are in some challenging times. The NTC recommended the first part of the process. The second process is going to the Hill. She could make a commitment and continue to advocate for increase with support by the Agency. However the President's budget isn't always supported. As we move forward there will be an opportunity to come back and start the dialogue. We are in a process to move forward with this guidance. It doesn't mean we can't return to review.
- Luke Jones response on IG. We have had productive meetings with the IG. It was proposed at agency weakness. You don't want to be on that list when you're asking for more money.
- Lorraine Wright- can you explain distinction between them identifying GAP as agency weakness and how the agency is carrying out the problem, they make it look like their against the GAP. Need to clarify that it's not the tribes fault and it's EPA's.
- Bill Campbell: GAP on-line to report our progress. The guidance itself more bullet points of taboo's than what is allowable. He doesn't understand. Tribes have their needs and that is what the money is for.
- Marta Burg: How is it used to report performance?
- Luke Jones: we are going to be improving how gap on-line reports that function. Right now, the only performance measures that we are using. We don't use gap on-line to report that information. Having a usable and central system, is giant step in the right direction. We have used GAP on-line for anecdotal information, Solid Waste projects we can pull information like that and it has been useful.
- Melody Sees: We're required to use it and you're not? We can't use it when our Project Officers don't review and approve our work plans. If we are going to have to use TEP, we are going to have to base our proposals on. What is the purpose of having to work on these plans? The chapter that got left out, we never got to comment on that. Plus the audit was done on 10 tribes, based on there being 500 tribes. This is taking a lot of time and money when we could be doing and use the money on other stuff. Comments were not included in the revised document. This is going final next month?
- Luke Jones : No. The new guidance will be released in May.
- Melody Sees: You say it's not rushed, but we feel rushed.
- Rob Roy: the original purpose of this document; measurement of tribal successes. He is not sure how GAP on-line is efficient than paper or email reporting. Luke says it is like a measuring stick.
- Luke Jones: it is a step in a direction that the senior leadership as essential. What can we do to prepare this program for growth? We are putting in place a framework for how we can better capture the story. We are going to identify how we can tell that story.

- There are many indicators in the report. How will they be reported back to show progress? Luke is looking at modifications to GAP on-line to capture that.
- Gayle Honanie (webinar): does that mean all our past reporting hasn't been reported?
- Luke Jones: we have not compiled all the information. However we have used information by tribes by the reporting and deliverables as illustration that has really helped our management.
- Syndi Smallwood: the first 20 pages are new and is part of the final draft is disturbing to her. Collaborating with tribes. These pages were added without collaboration with tribes. These were not in the initial document that we committed on. 2) You say it is an example, but you don't say it is an example. There are going to be some project officers that will say you can only do this.
- JoAnn Chase: thanked her for the comments. We know we have to make changes. We come here sincerely. We know we have a lot of work to do. We do not want to restrict you that were not our restriction.
- Paula Britton: she works for a tiny tribe. She has her indicators; one of those things is to collaborate and come up with beneficial actions. How are her indicators going to fit under her program? How many tribes have indicators that don't match up with the GAP? She also had concerns on the checklist.
- Luke Jones: in the first 20 pages, section 3, performance measurement, EPA to rely on indicators... You may want to have funded indicators, inter-governmental arrangements, we've captured. Tribes participating in GAP, do not have to build all the capacity in the guidebook, they do not have an expectation.
- JoAnn Chase: we need to do a better job at clarifying some of this. We can address these areas that are causing some confusion. That is very helpful. We are going to go back and do the very best we can.
- Kate Sloan: we are concerned about, serves two audiences (tribes as measuring tools) (EPA informing EPA staff, that is allows for maximum flexibility); it is great having measures of successes. The TEP need to be adaptive if those are the matrix of what we are using, it is important that the flexibility be clearly stated for both tribal and EPA. In recognition that the TEP to be adaptive. We have to go back to our Councils, why we can and can't do certain things with our funding. She sees the list of what we can't do, where does that come from? It does not show the reference. If this isn't a regulation, then that clearly needs to be stated. And let's revisit the TEPs.
- Luke Jones: the first 20 pages include program restrictions. A series of bullets, the second set there are five of them.
- Kate Sloan: What is the policy that supports these? Luke Jones replied that this is the guidance. JoAnn Chase said that they will look at it for clarity.
- JoAnn Chase in response to Gayle Honanie. We are here to listen. We appreciate the frustration and she needs to be responsive. She will talk directly with Gayle on her issues.
- Samuel Picyune (webinar participant): agreed with checklist.
- Lauryne Wright would like to receive the information from legal review is coming from. They reference establish policy. If an EPA attorney hasn't reviewed it. It is guidance but you say it is policy. Guidance is guidance. The concern is about Project Officers who don't understand the difference. Once again, this is in fact guidance for Tribes it has to stay that way. If it is a document that EPA is going to put out as policy then the lawyers needs to review it. You don't have to listen to a GS8 or 9 to be told what to do.
- JoAnn Chase: a G14 or SCS. You don't need to be told by anyone.
- Beverly Harry: with Lisa Jackson stepping down, a new administrator will be nominated news on the web and your (JoAnn Chase) name popped up. When we are looking at a possible change,

any new administrator denotes a really big change. We want to make sure that the Native American policies change was well. Tribes want to be assured, the sensitivity is present, cultural or environmental sensitivity. If you could sneak a question into the confirmation hearing that would be appreciated.

- JoAnn Chase: Lisa's priorities, one was strengthening the relationship with tribes, but that also comes from the President. We can build on that. Who steps in those shoes? That foundation of commitment is there to stay. The Tribes have been active and strong in the process. Our office is ready and we want to be able to provide that person with information.
- Rob Roy: we are always looking for more money. GAP allocation has increased. Do you feel the current base is adequate for the additional work that is needed from the gap guidance?
- Jon Mosley: include dispute resolution to guide us away from any disputes. There is a policy in R9 when we have a dispute with Project Officer. He would like to see it incorporated into the document. With regard to Inter-Tribal Consortia, when your building capacity, consortia's can't do that, they can't take enforcement actions or building capacity. Tribes get treated TAS; but we're better. Tribes have jurisdiction whereas states don't. Our capacity has been limited by funding. When funding has been cut, it is a capacity building cut. That creates a disparity it is an EJ issue.
- Marta Burg: (read from a page)
- What is more complex program development?
- Comment: there is such a lack of funding to support on every level, even for tribes who have sophisticated systems.
- Luke Jones: GAP can only go so far. It is not the only program in town. There are limitations on GAP and we acknowledge that.
- Melody Sees: There is no other funding. We apply for air funding but there is no money in CAA. People say to her to keep applying. We can't get 106 funding, but we have to get a TAS, which will have to be written into GAP. There is no other media funding that is the reality.
- Nina Hapner: on page 6, fourth bullet point. For small environmental programs we get tasked to do a lot of things. There always has to be a point of contact for IHS. In the new guidebook, she wouldn't be able to be the point of contact. One of these years, when our set-aside comes through, she would like to see more than 3%. We have media programs that we do not get no funding.
- On page 37, under 'G' - that EPA pesticide program staff have looked at what FIFRA is. FIFRA is referenced as agricultural; it is not. We work really hard on educating tribes on pesticides. This is misleading and it makes it difficult to get buy in from other media. There is a lack of information. When you say project officers are looking at this, this is misleading.
- JoAnn Chase asked for Nina's information to perhaps get assistance for language changes.
- Marie Barry: how is this going to roll out in the regions? In the introduction, this is not the final, this is guidance if some of the work that we do, falls under a different name, and then it is okay. How are you going to roll it out when it is final? In the different regions?
- Luke Jones: it will be released. Most of the gap recipients are well into negotiating FY14, we anticipate most gap recipients will restructure referencing this guidance. We are not ready to roll out the changes for gap online. We don't expect that on May 1st that it will be immediate be dropped on you.
- Marta Burg: the guidance document is new. The new guidance is replacing it. Nobody has submitted comments. It might go undergo a lot of changes. We might want to see another revision before it goes final. There is so much new stuff in there and it will impact tribes in so many levels.
- JoAnn Chase: this won't go around for another consultation. In the time period we have. How can we be creative? How can we work with you on the revisions one more time? She doesn't know how we can do that. How can we have more review before it goes final?
- Marta Burg: where is the source of the deadline?

- Luke Jones: 2008 report, in 2009 we were to respond. We had a new administration and administrator come in. We worked to extend the time. The Consultation Policy that availed them a rationale. With a lot of involvement, we were able to commit to have it done by Sept 2012. As a result due to the amount of comments we received, we have pushed the final to be done by May. This is the 3rd or 4th push back.
- JoAnn Chase: our leadership has said that we will meet the deadline.
- Brenda Ball: compactly building, page 5 under restrictions. Then on page 2 of appendix, it discusses compactly building. When is she implementing and when is she enhancing? It conflicts.
- Luke Jones: the restriction was acknowledging the planning establishing the program. It includes a test phase, how do you know the program you design works unless you test it out. Once you have competency in place, it should not end. We then look to the next plateau. That is the concept we are trying to embed in there.
- Alex Cabillo: see's the need for the definition for "concept".

JoAnn Chase follow-up items to address specific questions/comments/follow up dialogue:

- 1) Nina Hapner on pesticide concerns
- 2) Marta Burg had general / specific things
- 3) Gayle Honanie to call
- 4) Laurien ___ had questions on certain citation

JoAnn Chase stated to please call them. The agency is switching email systems. If for some reason the emails do not work, please call them and they will be responsive. She thanked everyone for all they do and the feedback and look forward to making it better and for growing the program.

Marta Burg stated that her correspondence/discussion with AIEO will be on behalf of the RTOC, Co-Chair Antone and others are able to participate. Co-Chair Antone is the point of contact.

Contact Information:

JoAnn Chase 202-564-0878

chase.joann@epa.gov

Luke Jones 202-564-4013

jones.luke@epa.gov

Karin Koslow 202-564-0171

koslow.karen@epa.gov

EPA Response to Tribal Caucus Report

Laura Ebbert provided the EPA response to Tribal Caucus Report.

- a) QAPP – Eugenia reported that the outreach is about guidance that is in place. That version of the guidance is what is being shared with tribes. Kristen, Colleen and Laura will make sure EPA staff share the right information.
Time Frame: 2 weeks. -- More information forthcoming!
- b) Tribes on Reimbursement - the Grants Management Office have noticed some issues, but they are aware and are revising. In the meantime, if you could copy your Project Officer that they know there is reimbursement request.
Any additional questions see Laura.
- c) Solid Waste Activities - we are going to do some more talking at the next RTOC meeting. We are supportive that are a part of an effective community and they are important. They are bringing the number of clean up events down. She will talk more about in May. Encourage tribes who do not have a Solid Waste Plan, to develop a plan, EPA staff can assist.

Announcements:

Co-Chair Antone announced:

- May 7 - 9 Next RTOC Meeting in San Francisco, CA. There will be the budget presentation.
- RTOC pre-registration, in the past we have not had to do this, but it is really helpful as we plan the meeting. EPA building is going to be going through changes. There is stringent security screening which is a new system.

Enrique Manzanilla thanked everyone for their comments. It is an important document. He appreciates the activate participation. Thanked EPA staff and those who hung in there on the webinar. Thanked Corn and Tohono O'odham for hosting the meeting. He wished everyone a safe trip and Happy Valentine's Day.

Co-Chair Antone thanked the San Xavier District and programs for the vans. He reminded everyone to turn in the Evaluation sheets to Jackie. Thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting adjourned 4:39pm.