

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

July 12, 2012

Notification of Consultation and Coordination on “The Environmental Protection Agency-Wide Plan to Provide Solid Waste Management Capacity Assistance to Tribes”

Dear Honorable Leader:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is initiating consultation and coordination with federally-recognized Indian tribes on the draft document entitled: *The Environmental Protection Agency-Wide Plan to Provide Solid Waste Management Capacity Assistance to Tribes* (the Plan). The draft document is designed to develop and implement an Agency-wide approach for providing effective tribal solid waste management capacity assistance that is consistent with EPA’s authority.

The Plan implements recommendations made in the March 21, 2011, U.S. EPA, Office of Inspector General (OIG) Evaluation Report *EPA Needs an Agency-Wide Plan to Provide Tribal Solid Waste Management Capacity Assistance*. The Report and recommendations generally focused on internal EPA program management issues and can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2011/20110321-11-P-0171.pdf>. EPA agreed with the OIG’s recommendations and has committed to developing a draft Plan that includes the following:

- A detailed description of the roles and responsibilities for each headquarters program office, as well as the regional counterparts to each program office;
- Resource information for each headquarters program office and their regional counterparts, which will include both staffing and funding information;
- Proposed new performance measures for consideration in the next EPA Strategic Plan. EPA intends to focus on outcome oriented measures and ensure that internal controls are a significant factor in selecting new proposed measures. EPA will also attempt to align the proposed measures with the Tribal Decision Maker’s Guide and the Guidebook for Building Tribal Environmental Capacity (currently in draft form);
- Specific procedural requirements for open dump assessment, and the associated data collection and data entry. EPA will ensure that consistent technical information is available to EPA staff and tribal program managers by evaluating all of EPA’s information products relating to tribal solid waste management programs, and then making commensurate revisions to EPA’s web pages;
- An assessment of all the existing coordination activities. The Plan will propose instituting specific coordination procedures, including when and how program offices and Regions should raise issues for the appropriate input and direction; and
- A specific timeline for all outstanding activities.

The Plan reflects the EPA tribal waste management program priorities and addresses the OIG recommendations. EPA believes that the implementation of the Plan will enhance EPA's ability to provide consistent and effective solid waste management capacity assistance to tribes. The Plan is a dynamic document that is subject to further refinement as priorities and resources change.

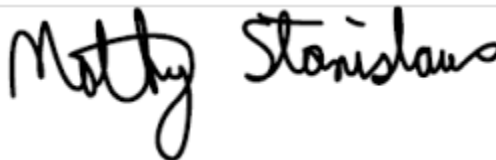
This consultation and coordination process will be conducted in accordance with the EPA Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes (<http://www.epa.gov/tribal/consultation/consult-policy.htm>). EPA invites you and your designated consultation representative(s) to participate in this process. EPA's anticipated timeline for the consultation and coordination period is expected to extend from July 23, 2012 – September 24, 2012.

Enclosed is a consultation and coordination plan for this action that includes a description of the actions under consultation and the process EPA intends to follow, including a timeline for the consultation and coordination period and information on how you can provide input on this action. This information is also available on EPA's Tribal Portal (www.epa.gov/tribal/consultation).

The official EPA contact person for this consultation and coordination process is Michaelle Wilson, Branch Chief of the Federal, State and Tribal Programs Branch, available at (703) 308-8790 or (wilson.michaelle@epa.gov). Your staff may also contact Kim Katonica at (703) 308-6087 or (agencywideplan@epa.gov) should you have any questions regarding this action.

I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Mathy Stanislaus
Assistant Administrator

Enclosure

Tribal Consultation and Coordination Process and Timeline

As part of the tribal consultation and coordination process, EPA is announcing a review and consultation period for the draft document entitled: *The Environmental Protection Agency-Wide Plan to Provide Solid Waste Management Capacity Assistance to Tribes* (the Plan). Consultation on the draft Plan is an important step in an ongoing partnership in which EPA is committed to working with the tribes to protect human health and the environment. The goal of consultation and coordination is to ensure that tribal officials have the necessary information to provide valuable input on the draft Plan.

We request your consultation and coordination input on the draft Plan by September 24, 2012. In addition, EPA welcomes suggested alternatives and/or substitute language that best reflects your input. Input may be submitted electronically to Kim Katonica at (agencywideplan@epa.gov). Written input can be sent to EPA at the following address:

Kim Katonica, U.S. EPA
Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code 5303P
Washington, DC 20460

In addition, input may also be faxed to Kim Katonica at (703) 308-8433. To view the draft Plan, please visit the following website: <http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/wyl/tribal/capacityassist.htm>.

To begin the consultation and coordination process, EPA scheduled one national conference call and one webinar to discuss the draft Plan with you. The table below lays out the schedule and timeline for government-to-government consultation and coordination during this process. The national conference call and webinar will each include two segments. The first segment will be used to coordinate and share information between EPA and tribal representatives. The first segment will also provide an opportunity for clarifying questions to be asked and discussed. The second segment will provide an opportunity for consultation input from tribal leaders or their authorized representatives. In addition, EPA is seeking other opportunities (e.g., National Tribal Caucus Conference Calls, Regional Tribal Operation Committee Meetings, other national tribal conferences and/or meetings) to coordinate with tribes on the draft Plan.

Date	Event	Contact Information
July 23, 2012 – September 24, 2012	Review and Consultation Period – Deadline: September 24, 2012	Kim Katonica Phone: (703) 308-6087 Fax: (703) 308-8433 E-mail: agencywideplan@epa.gov
August 16, 2012 2:00 – 3:30pm (EDT)	National Conference Call	Call-in Information: Conference Call Line: (866) 299-3188 Conference Call Code: 703 307 6087
September 12, 2012 2:00 – 3:30pm (EDT)	National Webinar Conference	Webinar Address and Information: To register for this webinar, please go to: https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/794276090
September 24, 2012	Deadline for Submitting Comments	Kim Katonica Phone: (703) 308-6087 Fax: (703) 308-8433 E-mail: agencywideplan@epa.gov

For questions or additional information on the draft Plan, you may contact members of the *Agency-Wide Plan Workgroup* (see the list below). **Note: The list only includes members of the RCRA Tribal Waste Management Program.**

EPA HEADQUARTERS/ REGION	STATES	CONTACT NAME	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Headquarters		Kim Katonica	(703) 308-6087	Katonica.kim@epa.gov
Region 1	ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, and CT	Juiyu Hsieh	(617) 918-1646	Hsieh.juiyu@epa.gov
Region 2	NY, NJ, PR, and VI	Lorraine Graves	(212) 637-4099	Graves.lorraine@epa.gov
Region 4	KY, TN, NC, SC, MS, AL, GA, and FL	Davy Simonson	(404) 562-8457	Simonson.davy@epa.gov
Region 5	MN, WI, IL, MI, IN, and OH	Dolly Tong	(312) 886-1019	Tong.dolly@epa.gov
Region 6	NM, TX, OK, AR, and LA	Roger Hancock	(214) 665-6688	Hancock.roger@epa.gov
Region 7	NE, KS, IA, and MO	Gayle Hubert	(913) 551-7439	Hubert.gayle@epa.gov
Region 8	MT, ND, WY, SD, UT, and CO	Susanna Trujillo	(303) 312-7008	Trujillo.susanna@epa.gov
Region 9	CA, NV, AZ, and HI	Nancy Sockabasin	(415) 972-3772	Sockabasin.nancy@epa.gov
Region 10	WA, OR, ID, and AK	Fran Stefan	(206) 553-6639	Stefan.fran@epa.gov