



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

*Week of July 31st –
August 4th, 2017*

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TOP STORIES

NTAA Publishes Policy Response Kit for you to use in responding to a request for comments on the *EPA's Draft National Program Manager Guidances for FY 2018-2019*. Comments are due Friday, August 4. You can find the complete kit (which includes a Fact Sheet, a Tribal template comment letter, the letter submitted by the NTAA EC and TAMS SC, and the complete Draft 2018/2019 OAR Draft NPM Guidance) on [NTAA's Policy Response Kit webpage](#).

Farmington Daily Times – [Navajo Tribal Utility Authority opens first large-scale solar farm](#)

CBS News - [Air pollution deaths expected to rise because of climate change](#)

Wired Magazine - [Trump Wants the EPA Radon Program Cut. So do Some Scientists](#)

New York Times - [As Europe Sours on Diesel, Germany Fights to Save It](#)

HEADLINES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Los Angeles Times - [15 states, including California, appeal EPA delay of stricter air-quality standards](#)

Washington Post – [At EPA museum, history might be in for a change](#)

Washington Post - [EPA won't be able to do the 'right thing' under Trump, says latest protesting official](#)

CNN - [EPA ordered to enforce Obama-era methane pollution rule](#)

Denver Post – [BLM weighing request to mine 4.1 million more tons of coal in northwest Colorado under Trump’s energy policies](#)

E&E News – [Trump admin will still report U.S. emissions to world body](#)

KNAU – [Gila River Indian Community Leaves Water in Lake Mead](#)

Native Sun News – [Shinnecock Bring Indigenous Science to Federal Ocean Policy](#)

NPR – [The Costs of Fighting Wildfires in Montana](#)

Colorlines – [Senators Call for Investigation into Involuntary Job Reassignments for Federal Climate Scientists](#)

National Association of Clean Air Agencies – [Washington Update](#)

Budget Coverage

Colorlines – [READ: Inside the Fight to Advance Environmental Justice in the Time of Trump](#)

The Hill – [House heads into August recess with uncertain path on budget](#)

E-Scrap News – [EPA budget bill moves through House committee](#)

Environmental Leader – [US House Would Take Hacksaw to Clean Energy Budget](#)

Inside Climate News – [U.S. House Hacks Away at Renewable Energy, Efficiency Programs](#)

Climate Change/Energy

Spokane Journal – [Spokane Tribe preps for industrial push](#)

NY Times – [Utility Helps Wean Vermonters From the Electric Grid](#)

NBC Nebraska – [Local farmer builds solar panel array on land to fight Keystone XL pipeline](#)

Star Advertiser – [State approves three Oahu solar farms](#)

PBS NewsHour – [Arctic journey shows the glaring effects of climate change](#)

Bloomberg Technology – [Alphabet Wants to Fix Renewable Energy’s Storage Problem – With Salt](#)

Quartz – [A rare mega-tsunami in Greenland is helping researchers prepare for a new climate-change threat](#)

Native Sun News – [Stormier Arctic Means Warmer Arctic](#)

E&E News – [Forget that big iceberg; a smaller one is more troubling](#)

Colorlines – [STUDY: There May Be Less Time to Fight Global Warming Than We Think](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Reuters - [U.S. regulators approve fix for 326,000 VW diesels](#)

Politico – [Too soon to say whether Keystone XL will be built, TransCanada exec says](#)

Utah Daily Chronicle - [Ute Tribe in Southern Utah Struggles against America’s Last Uranium Mill](#)

Bloomberg Businessweek – [As Tesla Model 3 Hits the Streets, Where Are the Other Electric Vehicles?](#)

WV Public Broadcasting – [Black Lung Still Ravages Appalachia](#)

Native Sun News – [Tribes appeal XL Pipeline permit](#)

NPR – [U.K. To Ban Diesel and Gas Cars In 2040](#)

Colorlines – [Los Angeles to Transition to Electric Buses to Fight Climate Change](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Diesel Forum - [Ports Tell Communities to Wait 18 Years for Clean Air](#)

MultiBriefs: Exclusive – [Upping the ante on indoor air quality](#)

Wired – [Trump Wants the EPA Radon Program Cut. So Do Some Scientists](#)

Photo from the field

Colorlines – [Appeals Court Temporarily Halts Youth-Led Climate Lawsuit Against Trump Administration](#)



Xiuhtezcatl Martinez, 16, speaks at a rally for the federal climate lawsuit, on February 20, 2017 in Denver. Photo: [Christian O'Rourke / Flickr](#)

E&E News – [Western grid integration could be a boon for wind](#)



The Southwest Power Pool is in talks to expand its membership to include utilities from the Mountain West, paving the way for more wind to be brought online. Photo Credit: CGP Grey/Flickr

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UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NTAA Upcoming Calls. The toll-free number is 1-800-309-2350. If you do not need to call toll free, or would like to help conserve NTAA funding, you can call 1-805-309-2350. Both numbers use code 928-523-0526#.

Contact Andy.Bessler@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call!

Volkswagen Settlement Work Group: Stay informed about the VW settlement with these monthly calls	Thursday, August 10, 2pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Help set priorities and plan the upcoming Federal listening session.	Thursday, August 17, 2pm ET
EPA Policy Update Call: Receive updates from EPA	Thursday, August 31, 2pm ET

Merriam-Powell Biennial Conference offering Financial Assistance Tribal Environmental Staff or Citizens

The [Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals \(ITEP\)](#) is offering limited financial assistance toward travel expenses for any tribal environmental staff or tribal citizens who will be attending all 4 days of the Biennial Conference. Applicants must be tribal environmental staff or tribal citizens from within the Southwest or Great Basin region. To apply or for more information please contact, please contact [Nikki Cooley](#), Climate Change Program, NAU Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals.

Students

With generous support from [Science Systems and Applications, Inc.](#), the Biennial Conference is able to offer two \$500 need-based stipends to graduate or undergraduate students who would like to attend the conference. Please send an email explaining your need for financial assistance and how you would benefit professionally by attending the conference to [Lara Schmit](#) by no later than August 11, 2017. Conference information at: <https://nau.edu/Merriam-Powell/Biennial-Conference/>

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) 3-Part Webinar Series

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting a three-part webinar series on the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for communities. Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), the EPA is required to set the NAAQS and review those standards every five years for six common air pollutants (also known as "criteria" air pollutants). There are NAAQS for ground-level ozone (O₃); particulate matter (PM); carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂). These criteria air pollutants are found all across the United States and can harm your health, the environment, and cause property damage.

In this webinar series you will learn how the EPA: 1) sets, reviews and revises the primary (health) and secondary (environmental) standards; 2) designate areas that are meeting or not meeting these standards; and 3) works with areas to meet and maintain these standards.

During each 90-minute webinar, there will be an overview presentation of the topic followed by a question and answer session.

WEBINAR SERIES LINE-UP:

Webinar #1: NAAQS (101) (This session date has passed.)

Webinar #2: NAAQS – Designations (This session date has passed)

Webinar #3: NAAQS - Implementation

(This session will discuss how to attain & maintain the NAAQS and what role the community can play in the implementation process.)

- Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2017
- Time: 1:00 -2:30 PM EST
- Participant Dial-in Number: (800) 309-5450
- Conference ID: 30986885
- Webinar Link: <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/naaqs-implement>

How to Participate: You do not need to register in advance for these webinars. To participate, please click on the webinar link at the date and time shown above. Audio for the webinar will be delivered through the phone line. It is recommended that you call in 15 minutes before the webinar's start time to ensure your participation.

To Join a Webinar: Click on the link and follow these instructions:

1. Click "Enter as a Guest"
2. Type in your first & last name and organization
3. Click "Enter Room"

You will be in the room!

Make sure to use the participant call in number and conference ID for audio

If you have never attended an Adobe Connect meeting before, we highly recommend that you test your connection:

http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm

We look forward to your participation and encourage you to share this invitation with others in the community who may be interested. Information about the NAAQS can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants> and <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/process-reviewing-national-ambient-air-quality-standards>.

For questions about the webinars, please contact Rhonda Wright at wright.rhonda@epa.gov.

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is now online! [Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional's (ITEP's) [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars and other events related to tribes and climate change.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's other trainings and events.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. New courses have been added, so check it out!

ITEP's [2017 and 2018 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location
2017		
Indoor Air Quality – Level 1	September 26-28	Tulsa, OK
Air Quality & IAQ in Alaska	October 10-13	Nome, AK
IAQ Diagnostic Tools	October 24-27	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Fundamentals of Air Monitoring	December 4-6	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
2018		
Introduction to Air Quality	January 9-12	Flagstaff, AZ
CAA & Permitting (tentative)	February 6-9	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Air Quality Computations	February 27- March 2	Phoenix, AZ
IAQ in AK – Level 1	March 13-15	Alaska
Air Pollution Technology	March 20-23	Flagstaff, AZ
GIS for Air Quality	April 17-19	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Air Pollution & Ecosystems	May 15-18	Flagstaff, AZ
Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants	June 5-7	TBD
Quality Assurance (QA) Fundamentals	Open	Online
Building Performance: Improving Energy Efficiency & IAQ	TBD	Online
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online
Tribal Data Toolbox	TBD	Instructor-led Online
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke	Dates TBD	Hybrid (online and classroom)

Note: This schedule is subject to change. [Click here](#) for up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications. If you have questions regarding the pre-requisites or your eligibility for this course, please contact Patricia Ellsworth, Air Quality Curriculum Coordinator, at Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu or phone 928-523-6721. For more information, please visit [ITEP's website](#).

Climate Change / Energy

2017 Southwestern Tribal Climate Change Summit

The La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals, University of San Diego's Climate Education Partners (CEP), and the Climate Science Alliance are collaborating on the *2017 Southwestern Tribal Climate Change Summit*. Registration is now open and please forward to your contacts!

Location: *University of San Diego*

When: *September 19-21, 2017*

Website: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Home/swtcc_Summit

NOTE:

- ✓ *Southwestern Tribes will receive first preference.*
- ✓ *If you submit a registration form, you must also submit an "Attendee Expectation Form."*

Contact: Contact Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu with any questions.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors announces National Radon Training Conference to be held on October 2-4, 2017

CRCPD is pleased to announce that the 27th National Radon Training Conference announcement and registration has been posted to the CRCPD website. You may access the 27th National Radon Training Conference that includes the agenda, hotel, registration, and transportation information by click this link <http://www.crcpd.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=882978>.

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RESOURCES

Now Hiring!

Ak-Chin Indian Community hiring a Water Quality Specialist

Job Title: Water Quality Specialist

Pay Range: \$18.32 - \$21.53 per hour (\$38,102 - \$44,770)

Reports to: Environmental Programs Manager
 Supervises: Not a Supervisory Position
 Closing date: Friday, August 11, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.
 Summary: Under general supervision of the Environmental Protection Director and direct supervision of the Environmental Programs Manager, the Water Quality Specialist will be responsible for a number of water quality activities on the AK-Chin Indian Community/Reservation. This is treated as a non-exempt position. More information: www.ak-chin.nsn.us

AK-Chin Indian Community hiring an Environmental Technician

Job Title: Environmental Technician
 Pay Range: \$14.99 - \$17.61 per hour (\$31,172 - \$36,627 per annum)
 Reports to: Environmental Programs Manager
 Supervises: Non-supervisory position
 Closing date: Friday, August 11, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.
 Summary: Under general supervision of the Environmental Director, and direct supervision of the Environmental Programs Manager, the Environmental Technician performs a variety of skilled and semi-skilled work to maintain and protect the AK-Chin Indian Community's (ACIC) reservation environment and natural resources. This position will also conduct complex technical research and analysis, environmental outreach and other environmental program work to assist the ACIC Environmental Protection Department in providing environmental protection. This is a non-exempt position. More information: www.ak-chin.nsn.us

HUD's Southwest Office of Native American Programs is hiring a new Administrator

Open dates: July 22, 2017 – August 5, 2017
[External Candidate Announcement](#)

The Western Conservation Foundation (WCF), a 501(c)3 organization, seeks to recruit an entrepreneurial Energy Program Manager

Candidate will empower new leaders for clean energy and climate in Colorado, Nevada and across the West. Candidates should be entrepreneurial, detail-oriented self-starters with 6+ years of work experience in campaigns and advocacy. Strong verbal and written communication skills required. Position is located in Denver, although we will consider candidates in NV, AZ or other interior west locations. Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter with a personal or professional example of tenacity to jobs@wcfnd.org with subject line referencing

“Energy Program Manager Opening” by August 18th. WCF is an equal opportunity employer.

For full job description, please contact jobs@wcfnd.org.

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Local Government Advisory Committee: Request for Nominations

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) is a federal advisory committee chartered in 1992 under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) to advise the EPA Administrator “from the field” on a broad range of environmental issues impacting local governments. Current LGAC committee members, and future qualified nominees, hold either elected or non-elected/appointed positions and possess leadership experience—whether managerial or technical/programmatic—in the following contexts: Small community or township government (under 10,000 population); moderate-size or large city government; county government; state government; and, tribal government.

This notice solicits nominations to fill 10–15 vacancies on EPA's LGAC—currently comprised of 35 individuals—beginning in July, 2017. Vacancies are anticipated to be filled by September, 2017.

DATES: Nominations are reviewed on an ongoing basis. However, to be considered for September 2017 appointments, nominations should be submitted by August 10, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations electronically to eargle.frances@epa.gov with a subject heading of `LGAC 2017 NOMINATION'. You may also submit nominations by mail to: M. Frances Eargle, LGAC Designated Federal Officer, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., (MC1301A), Washington, DC 20460. Non-electronic submissions must follow the same format and contain the same information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: M. Frances Eargle, Designated Federal Officer for the LGAC, U.S. EPA; telephone (202)564–3115; email: eargle.frances@epa.gov.

To view and/or receive ITEP’s American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices, click here!](#)

Climate Change/Energy

Sign up for the [Alliance for Green Heat](#)'s newsletter!

To view and/or receive ITEP's [Climate Change newsletter, click here!](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

Attention Region 10 Tribes and Native Villages: Region 10 Tribal Radon Survey

The goal of this survey is to gather information about past and current radon efforts and radon needs for Region 10 tribes and Alaska Native Villages. Results from the survey will be used to identify tribal radon strengths, barriers to radon work, and opportunities for solutions.

The survey should take between five and fifteen minutes to complete. We recommend discussing the questions with your tribal housing or environmental office and submitting one survey. Survey link will remain live for one week from when you start the survey. All responses will remain anonymous.

Link to the Survey: [R10 Tribal Radon Survey](#)

Thank you and if you have any questions, please contact:

Carolyn Kelly, Quinault Nation Air Quality, ckelly@quinault.org or 360.276.8215 ext. 7310

Johna Boulafentis, Nez Perce Tribe Air Quality, johnab@nezperce.org or 208.621.3821

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

ANTHC opens RFPs for Air Quality Sub-Awards

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) recently released their FY18 Request for Proposals for Air Quality Sub-Awards. These sub-awards provide funding for federally recognized tribes in Alaska to address air quality concerns in their communities. Proposals should describe a project that will address an air quality concern in a tribal community such as road dust, indoor air quality, solid waste burning, ambient air pollution, and wood smoke. Awards can be funded up

to \$20,000 and are limited to one sub-award per tribe. If an air quality project includes any type of monitoring, assessment/surveys, or data collection, ANTHC will assist in the development of the required Quality Assurance Project Plan. This opportunity is competitive and is funded by a Clean Air Act grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency – Region 10 that is administered by ANTHC.

DEADLINE: August 31, 2017

Please note: These Sub-awards are competitive and limited to only one Sub-award per Tribe. Please see the eligibility requirements below as they have changed from FY'17.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Federally recognized Tribes within the State of Alaska
- Federal Tax ID Number & DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) included with application
- Completed Phase I Air Quality Assessment submitted before or with application

Application Point Breakdown: (Please see application for full breakdown)

- Community Information (5 points)
- Description of the current air quality situation and problems posed by the situation (40 points)
- Project Capacity (10 points)
- Grant Timeline (15 points)
- Itemized Budget (10 points)
- Narrative Budget (10 points)
- Documented Support (10 points)
- Attachments: Pictures, Letters of Support, Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (*if applicable*)

Total maximum points = 100

Please use the below contacts to request detailed instructions on the grant application, a sample cooperative agreement, as well as an ANTHC Phase I Air Quality Assessment tool that **MUST** be completed and submitted along with the grant proposal.

Please submit your completed Sub-Award application to:

Fax: 1-888-500-1205

Email: air@anthc.org

If you have any questions about grant ideas, eligibility, or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact any of us directly.

AJ Salkoski • 907-729-4518 • air@anthc.org

Mary Schneider • 907-729-4006 • air@anthc.org

Mary Mullan • 907-729-3430 • air@anthc.org

FY 2017 Economic Development Assistance Programs, Department of Commerce

Full details [here](#)

There are no submission deadlines under this opportunity.

Funding range: \$100,000 to \$3,000,000

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) solicits applications from applicants in rural and urban areas to provide investments that support construction, non-construction, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund projects under EDA's Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs. Grants and cooperative agreements made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities. EDA provides strategic investments on a competitive- merit-basis to support economic development, foster job creation, and attract private investment in economically distressed areas of the United States. There are no submission deadlines under this opportunity. Proposals and applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the publication of a new Economic Development Assistance Program Federal Funding Opportunity announcement.

U.S. EPA Air Grants and Funding:

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) announces competitive funding announcements for projects and programs relating to [air quality](#), [transportation](#), [climate change](#), [indoor air](#) and other related topics. [This page](#) provides access to information about current funding opportunities under 'Open Announcements' and also provides as a reference tool, all previously announced funding announcements listed below and in archives under 'Closed Announcements.'

Climate Change/Energy

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

Attention Tribes in Region 10:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 10 STATE INDOOR RADON GRANT (SIRG)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10, is announcing the availability of indoor radon grants for Tribes. This State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG) is critical to the Agency's national goal of minimizing and preventing radon-related lung cancer. Tribes may receive grant funds from EPA that help finance their radon risk reduction projects. To be eligible, tribal grant recipients are required to provide a minimum of 25% non-federal match for the first year of SIRG project; and 40% match in subsequent years of the project. Multiyear project proposals are not required. Total EPA Region 10 grant funding available for Tribes is \$24,000.

Please contact the RSO as soon as possible so the **work plan can be submitted by 07/21/2017 and the application is completed by the deadline 08/18/2017**. For more information about the SRIG can be [found here](#).

The Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to [Funding Opportunities!](#) Additionally, THHN has developed a [Funding Guide for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities](#).

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Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register

EPA Rules posted today from the Federal Register for Wednesday, August 2, 2017.

(Past copies can be accessed [here](#)).

Rule

Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Approvals and Promulgations: Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming; Negative Declarations; Correction

FR Document: [2017-16278](#) Citation: 82 FR 35906 [PDF](#) Page 35906 (*1 page*)
[Permalink](#)

Proposed Rule

**Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Approvals and Promulgations:
California; Enhanced Monitoring**

FR Document: [2017-16276](#) Citation: 82 FR 35922 [PDF](#) Pages 35922-35924 (3 pages) [Permalink](#)

**Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium
Mill Tailings**

FR Document: [2017-16170](#) Citation: 82 FR 35924 [PDF](#) Pages 35924-35925 (2 pages) [Permalink](#)

Notice

**Certain New Chemicals or Significant New Uses:
Statements of Findings for April 2017**

FR Document: [2017-16275](#) Citation: 82 FR 35944 [PDF](#) Pages 35944-35945 (2 pages) [Permalink](#)

Clean Air Act Operating Permit Program:

Petitions for Objection to State Operating Permits for Duke Energy, LLC

FR Document: [2017-16277](#) Citation: 82 FR 35945 [PDF](#) Pages 35945-35946 (2 pages) [Permalink](#)

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