



NTAA Weekly Update

Week of April 17 – April 21, 2023

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[If you have difficulty reading this, click here to view it online.](#)

NTFAQ 2023 NATIONAL TRIBAL FORUM ON AIR QUALITY

May 1, 2023 - May 4, 2023

Gila River Resorts & Casinos Wild Horse Pass



SCAN HERE



Registration Now **OPEN!**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Daniel R. Wildcat (Muscogee Nation)

*Indigenous & American Indian Studies faculty member at Haskell
Indian Nations University*

In 1994 he helped form a partnership with the Hazardous Substance Research Center at Kansas State University to create the Haskell Environmental Research Studies (HERS) Center as a non-profit Native American research center to facilitate:

- Technology transfer to tribal governments and Native communities
- Transfer of accurate environmental information to tribes
- Research opportunities to tribal college faculty and students throughout the United States.

**Support and become a SPONSOR for NTFAQ.
Opportunities are available at various levels.**



nau.edu/NTFAQ2023 #NTFAQ2023



[Registration](#) is now open for the 2023 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum! Visit the 2023 TLEF website to register. From there, you can also make your [hotel reservation](#) at our host hotel at a special rate. Have a presentation idea? We are still [accepting session proposals](#) through **May 19**.

We are using a new registration system this year, hosted by Northern Arizona University Ticketing Office, that is different from past TLEFs. So please read the instructions carefully. We will also be opening up submissions soon for those interested in sponsoring this year's TLEF or being an exhibitor. If you know any groups or companies that might like to either help sponsor this event, or be an exhibitor, please steer them toward the website and let them know we'll have that information soon.

As a reminder, this TLEF will be hybrid – you can attend either virtually or in person. However, you decide to join us, we look forward to seeing you this August!



The **United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** is partnering with the **American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)** to host a webinar for Tribal College and University students on **April 25 from 2:00-3:30 pm (ET)**

Come learn about EPA's role in protecting human health and the environment and **exciting and rewarding career opportunities in/near Indian Country and throughout the U.S.**

Click here! To register for the webinar

For more information or if you require ASL and language interpretation services contact:
JoAnn Brant at: brant.joann@epa.gov or Angela Hackel at: hackel.angela@epa.gov

[Register here](#) to learn more about EPA's webinar for Tribal College and University students!

Top Stories

EPA - [Funding for Tribes in the Inflation Reduction Act](#)

EPA - [Biden-Harris Administration Announces \\$177 Million for 17 New Technical Assistance Centers Across the Nation to Help Communities Access Historic Investments to Advance Environmental Justice](#)

NACAA Washington Update - [This Week in Review](#)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/Tribes News

CNN - [The oil and gas industry is emitting way more of this potent, planet-warming gas than the EPA has estimated, study shows](#)

NBC News - [Indiana plastics fire spewed toxic chemicals, EPA tests find, including benzene and hydrogen cyanide](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

The Hill - [The EPA wants to majorly boost electric car sales. It would require a big effort](#)

NPR - [The EPA Wants Millions More EVs On The Road. Should You Buy One?](#)

ProPublica - [EPA Proposes Major Air Pollution Reforms to Lower Residents' Cancer Risk Near Industrial Facilities](#)

Indoor Air Quality/Environmental Justice

The Journalist's Resource - [How indoor air quality in schools affects student learning and health](#)

The Washington Informer - [Climate Change Gets Its Own Section in 2023 State of Black America Report](#)

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES/NOTICES!

NTAA Upcoming Calls

Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call. A Zoom link will be sent with calendar invites for future NTAA work group calls.

Woodsmoke Work Group: This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in woodsmoke issues in Tribal communities. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, May 11, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Mobile Sources Work Group: This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in mobile source issues in Tribal communities. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, June 1, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Alaska Air Work Group: Join this work group to hear updates from EPA and Alaskans working on air quality. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	TBD, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
NTAA / EPA Air Policy Update Call: Join this monthly meeting to hear updates from EPA on important air quality and climate policy updates as well as updates around the country related to Tribal Air Programs. Calls are held on the last Thursday of every month unless it falls on a holiday. Contact Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, April 27, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Work Group: This work group meets Bi-Monthly and includes Tribal and EPA professionals with an interest in indoor air quality in Tribal homes and other buildings. Carolyn.Kelly@nau.edu to join the call!	Thursday, June 8, 10 am AK or 2 pm ET

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP)

[Click Here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. Sign up for a self-paced course hosted by ITEP's Waste and Response and Tribal Air Quality programs.

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP) hosts the Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates, Residential Building Science Review, Radon Fundamentals, Quality Assurance Fundamental, Writing a Quality Assurance Project Plan, Emissions Inventory Fundamentals, and Emissions Inventory Advanced.

[AIAQTP Schedule and Registration](#)

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

NEW! Methane Emissions Reduction Program Listening Sessions

EPA is hosting upcoming virtual listening sessions on the financial and technical assistance provisions of the Methane Emissions Reduction Program, a new \$1.55 billion program authorized by the Inflation Reduction Act, which aims to accelerate the reduction of methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from oil and gas systems.

The Methane Emissions Reduction Program will reduce methane emissions by offering financial assistance, which may include grants, rebates, contracts, and loans, and technical assistance to a broad range of eligible recipients, with at least \$700 million used for activities at marginal conventional wells. During these listening sessions, EPA will provide interested parties an opportunity to offer feedback on program design and best use of funds with a focus on near-term, high-priority activities.

Listening Session Details

The Methane Emissions Reduction Program virtual listening sessions will be held via Zoom on May 2, 3, and 9. All are welcome to attend. Specific session times and topics are as follows:

- Tuesday, May 2, 4:00 - 6:00 PM ET: Listening Session for General Audiences
- Wednesday, May 3, 1:00 - 3:00 PM ET: Listening Session for State and Local Governments
- Wednesday, May 3, 4:00 - 6:00 PM ET: Listening Session for Non-Governmental Organizations, Community and Environmental Justice Groups
- Tuesday, May 9, 1:00 - 3:00 PM ET: Listening Session for Tribal Governments
- Tuesday, May 9, 4:00 - 6:00 PM ET: Listening Session for Industry, Small Businesses, and Labor Groups

The virtual listening sessions will provide the public an opportunity to share comments on the design and implementation of the financial and technical assistance. Those interested in making oral comments must register in advance for a 3-minute speaking slot. Interpretation and disability access support will be provided if requested in advance. Registration for the listening sessions can be found on EPA's website at:

<https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/forms/methane-emissions-reduction-program-listening-sessions>

NEW! April 12, 2023, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Michael Regan announced new, more ambitious proposed standards to further reduce harmful air pollutant emissions from light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty vehicles starting with model year 2027 in two separate regulatory actions:

- [Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles](#)
- [Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standards for Heavy-Duty Vehicles – Phase 3](#)

Given the potential interest by Tribal governments, the Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) we will be offering virtual information sessions on the proposed rule through upcoming regularly scheduled calls hosted by the National Tribal Air Association. If your Tribe has questions about the proposed rule or would like to engage in individualized government-to-government consultation with EPA, **please contact Jessie Mroz at (202)-564-1094 or email at Mroz.Jessica@epa.gov.**

More information on today's proposals can be found on EPA's website:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-proposes-strongest-ever-pollution-standards-cars-and>

REMINDER! EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program (CPRG) will be hosting a final (of 4) public listening session on April 20.

At each listening session, EPA will pose questions for feedback. These sessions follow on from the 2022 listening sessions and Request For Information (RFI) and are meant to provide an additional opportunity for input on the CPRG implementation phase after stakeholders have had time to review the CPRG planning grant guidance that was released in March. Note, no new information will be presented by EPA during these sessions. Rather than discussed during these sessions, questions for EPA about the planning phase of the program should be directed to CPRG@epa.gov.

Registration is required and we will post the slides and a recording on this website after the listening sessions are complete. Spanish translation services will be offered.

Please see the website for more details and register at the links below:

- **Maximizing Opportunities for GHG Reductions Through CPRG**

(Identical sessions offered at 2 different times)

o **Thursday, April 20, 6:00-7:30 PM ET**

NEW! 2023 Tribal Environmental Health Forum

Elevating Traditional Knowledge to Achieve Environmental Health Justice in Indigenous Communities

Announcing the Southwest Environmental Health Science Center's 4th Tribal Environmental Health Forum! This forum is a chance for Tribal Environmental Health Professionals and University faculty and staff to come together to address the current and future environmental health needs of our tribal communities. This forum will offer the chance for participants to hear from guest speakers, participate in workshops and network with other environmental health professionals.

When: Tuesday, May 16th - Wednesday, May 17th, 2023

Where: Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Events Center

15406 N Maricopa Rd, Maricopa, AZ 85139

Who Should Attend: Tribal Leadership and Community Members, University faculty and staff, Tribal Environmental and Health Care Professionals, and Students Interested in Environmental Health

Sponsored by: The Indigenous Resilience (IRes) Center

Collaborative Partners: The Ak-Chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, the Tohono O'odham Nation, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, and the Southwest Environmental Health Sciences Center at the R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy, University of Arizona

Cost: Attendance is free, but attendees are responsible for travel and hotel costs if needed. Information about hotel accommodation can be found in the hotel tab.

Please complete the registration to mark your intentions for attending on one or both days.

Link for registration: <https://events.trellis.arizona.edu/en/f441Nu67/2023-tribal-environmental-health-forum-5a3U3n98JK5/overview>

Room blocks have been reserved and information for hotel reservations will be provided upon completion of the registration.

Link to make hotel reservation:

<https://www.caesars.com/book/?propCode=AKC&action=FindRooms&groupcode=S05TEH3>

REMINDER! On March 17, 2023, EPA issued draft guidance to address the Clean Air Act's contingency measure (CM) requirement for nonattainment areas for the ozone and particulate matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

This draft guidance clarifies and explains approaches available to air agencies to meet the CM requirement, while still complying with the Clean Air Act as interpreted by the courts.

Under the draft guidance, EPA would allow more measures to be considered as possible CMs and would also change the way the recommended amount of CM reductions is calculated to account for the nonattainment area's projected decline in emissions needed to attain the NAAQS. EPA is also clarifying that it could accept less than the recommended amount of CM reductions if an air agency sufficiently demonstrates that its nonattainment plan includes all feasible measures and there are not additional feasible measures in the area that could be held in reserve as CMs.

Once the notice is published in the *Federal Register*, there will be an opportunity for public comment for 30 days. Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2023- 0063, at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Learn more: <https://www.epa.gov/air-quality-implementation-plans/draft-contingency-measures-guidance>

REMINDER! Nominations for candidates to participate on the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee are open!

Currently there are 2 Tribal Representatives on the Committee, Jeremy Fincher – Sac and Fox Nation, and Elizabeth Jacobs – Akwesasne Housing Authority. Natalene Cummings – Forest County Potawatomi Community, will complete the 3rd, 2-year term that is permitted at the Spring meeting of this year.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites nominations from a diverse range of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to its Clean Air Act Advisory Committee (CAAAC). Vacancies are anticipated to be filled by August 2023. Sources in addition to this Federal Register Notice may also be utilized in the solicitation of nominees.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations in writing to: Lorraine Reddick, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Air and Radiation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460. **The nomination period has been extended through April 30th. Electronic and mailed applications must be received by that date.**

For further information or to email nominations, include in the subject line CAAAC Membership 2023 and send to caaac@epa.gov.

To talk with Natalene more about what being a member of CAAAC involves, you can reach her at 715-478-7211.

REMINDER! Tribal Nominations for the Good Neighbor Environmental Board (GNEB)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency invites tribal nominations from a diverse range of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to its Good Neighbor Environmental Board (GNEB). Approximately ten vacancies are expected to be filled by Dec 2023.

GNEB is a federal advisory committee chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), Public Law 92-463. GNEB was created in 1992 by the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative Act, Public Law 102-532, 7 USC Section 5404. Implementing authority was delegated to the Administrator of EPA under Executive Order 12916. The GNEB is charged by statute with submitting an annual report to the President on the need for implementation of environmental and infrastructure projects within states of the US contiguous to Mexico.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate nominees:

- Representative of a sector or group that helps to shape border-region environmental policy or represents a group that is affected by border region environmental policy
- Has extensive professional knowledge and experience with the issues that the GNEB examines (i.e., environmental and infrastructure issues), including the bi-national dimension of these issues
- Demonstrates senior level experience that will bring a new and relevant approach to the board's deliberations
- Ability to work in a consensus building process with a wide range of representatives from diverse constituencies
- Ability to contribute approximately 10 to 15 hours per month to the GNEB's activities, including the attendance at meetings and participating in the development of advice letters/reports
- Demonstrate the potential for active and constructive involvement in the GNEB's work

For more information and instructions on how to apply, please visit:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/03/20/2023-05596/request-for-nominations-to-the-good-neighbor-environmental-board>

REMINDER! The White House: FACT SHEET: How the Inflation Reduction Act Helps Tribal Communities

By signing the Inflation Reduction Act, President Biden is delivering on his promise to meet the climate crisis and build an economy that works for working families, including Tribal nations and American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian families. The Inflation Reduction Act lowers prescription drug costs, health care costs, and energy costs. It's the most aggressive action we have taken to confront the climate crisis. It'll lower the deficit and ask the super wealthy and corporations to pay their fair share. And no one making under \$400,000 per year will pay a penny more in taxes. [Click Here for FACT SHEET.](#)

Climate Change / Energy

NEW! Tribal Climate Planning & Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: Resources for Tribes

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

10:00-11:30 pm (Alaska)

11:00-12:30 pm (Pacific/MST/AZ)

12:00-1:30 pm (MDT/NN)

1:00-2:30 pm (Central)

2:00-3:30 pm (Eastern)

Join us for this webinar which will emphasize how Tribes, specifically, can utilize Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) funds to create plans that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions including applying for future implementation grants. During the webinar, we will hear from Tribal guest speakers about projects they are considering applying the funds towards, as well as other resources and opportunities available to assist Tribes as they consider applying for funds. For this webinar, ITEP has partnered with NDN Collective to get the word out about these important resources.

Confirmed Guest Speakers:

- Robert Knapp, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe
- Jade Begay, NDN Collective
- Pat Childers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

[Register Here](#)

EPA’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: noncompetitive planning grants webinar for Tribes, Tribal consortia, and U.S. Territories webinar:

https://mediaspace.nau.edu/media/EPA%E2%80%99s+Climate+Pollution+Reduction+GrantsA+noncompetitive+planning+grants+webinar+for+tribes%2C+tribal+consortia%2C+and+U.S.+Territories/1_iumhr8to

The U.S. EPA Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) has published an enhanced National Map of Landfill Gas (LFG) Energy Projects and Municipal Solid Waste Landfills. The newly published version incorporates layers for Tribal lands and environmental justice demographic data so that users can identify areas where LFG energy projects may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach to surrounding communities.

Link: <https://www.epa.gov/lmop/lmop-national-map>

Toxics/Mobile Sources

NEW! Opportunity to share your thoughts and experiences about school bus purchasing and electrification with the Electric School Bus Initiative.

<https://www.bobitresearchservices.com/c/r/wri23bus>

In appreciation for your time, they will send a \$25 electronic Amazon gift card to the first 250 respondents who qualify and complete this survey.*

Start your brief survey now and be entered to win!

<https://www.bobitresearchservices.com/c/r/wri23bus>

*[Contest rules](#)

REMINDER! The Green Transportation & Summit Expo (GTSE)

Tacoma, WA (Aug 22-24). For a three-day pass for tribes to attend GTSE (travel and lodging costs not included), use conference code: **DERA-TRIBES** For more information, go to: <https://www.gtsummitexpo.com/>. To be added to the Mobile Source Workgroup, send an email to Carolyn.kelly@nau.edu

REMINDER! The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference (NTICC) will be held in Anchorage, Alaska, Sept. 24-28, 2023

The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference is the one-stop-shop transportation conference FOR TRIBES, BY TRIBES. NTICC offers access to relevant training and an opportunity for Tribal transportation professionals to engage with federal officials and their Tribal transportation peers regarding Tribal transportation issues and challenges.

NTICC provides information and resources for all who are committed to improving the transportation infrastructure of Indian Country and the safety of those who live, work, and travel the roadways of Alaska Native and Native American lands. For more information and to register, visit: <https://www.nticc.org/>

REMINDER! EPA’s Office of Emergency Management is offering training that would be of interest to people working on air quality issues related to emergency situations.

Overview of Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure and Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) Software Suite Webinar for Tribal Partners Participants should only register for one of the five offerings below, as all sessions will cover the same material. Please note whether times are listed in Eastern Standard Time (EST) or Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Date	Time	Registration
August 24, 2023	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EDT	Register here
September 7, 2023	3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. EDT	Register here
September 22, 2023	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. EDT	Register here

This hour and a half, EPA-hosted session will provide a basic overview of the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure oil spill prevention program and how the Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO) software suite can be used to help communities prepare for and respond to chemical and oil spills. The session will also include a question-and-answer segment where participants can interact with the Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure national program manager and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act program coordinator that oversees the CAMEO software suite.

Opportunity to provide input: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is developing a proposed rulemaking to review the Clean Air Act (CAA) New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) and Emission Guidelines (EG) for the Large Municipal Waste Combustors (LMWCs) source category (40 CFR part 60 subpart Eb, and 40 CFR part 60, subpart Cb, respectively). Pursuant to the [EPA’s Policy on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribes](#), the Agency is initiating pre-proposal consultation with federally recognized Indian tribes to obtain input on the upcoming action to update regulatory requirements for the Large Municipal Waste Combustors (LMWCs). Tribes may submit **OFFICE OF AIR QUALITY PLANNING AND STANDARDS written comments at**

<https://www.regulations.gov/> Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0920, any time during the pre-proposal tribal consultation process and until **June 6, 2023**. If there are any questions, please

email Charlene Spells at Spells.Charlene@epa.gov Additional background information about the air regulations for LMWCs can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/stationary-sources-air-pollution/large-municipal-waste-combustors-lmwc-new-source-performance>

Indoor Air Quality

REMINDER! Listening Sessions for the Inflation Reduction Act's Funding to Address Air Pollution at Schools

EPA is holding two listening sessions in April to get input on the design of a new grant and technical assistance program funded by the Inflation Reduction Act to address air pollution at schools. **Register for the webinars below** to hear a high-level overview of the Funding to Address Air Pollution at Schools and to offer feedback on how EPA can best address school air quality issues in low-income and disadvantaged communities with this funding. EPA will give the same presentation in both webinars, so please only register for the one that best suits your schedule.

[Register Now for Option 1](#): Wednesday, **April 19, 2023** | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM ET

[Register Now for Option 2](#): Wednesday, **April 26, 2023** | 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM ET

[Learn more about other children's health grants and funding opportunities.](#)

Notice of Intent - DOE Grants for Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities - \$80 million

Deadline: Available until expended. Eligible Entities: Consortium of One Local Education Agency and one or more Schools, Non-Profits, For-Profits, and Community Partners

This funding is the first tranche of funding in a \$500 million investment, to make clean energy improvements in K-12 public schools. Funds will empower school districts to make upgrades that will lower facilities' energy costs and improve student learning environments. Visit [HERE](#) for more information.

Available Now: An Introduction to Radon Gas in Homes Webinar Recording

EPA's Indoor Environments Division recently hosted a webinar to provide an overview of the key basic facts of radon - what it is, what it does to us, how we measure it, how we reduce our exposure, and where to find resources and additional information. A recording of [An Introduction to Radon Gas in Homes](#) is now available online. The recorded webinar features a presentation by Bruce Snead, Director of Engineering Extension at Kansas State University, and director of the National Radon Program Services effort for EPA since 2009.

EPA: A Fact Sheet for Tribes on State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants

EPA's Indoor Environments Division is pleased to announce the [State and Tribal Indoor Radon Grants \(SIRG\) Program Fact Sheet](#). This fact sheet has information on SIRG eligibility, matching requirements, allowable activities, EPA contacts, and more. EPA works collaboratively and values our Tribal partnership to support healthy indoor air quality (IAQ) in Tribal communities. We work together to develop tools and resources that address the health and the safety of Tribal members when it comes to indoor air quality.

Please visit the [Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities](#) or [State Indoor Radon Grants \(SIRG\) Program and Resources](#) pages to learn more and download the fact sheet.

Be sure to subscribe to [CodeTalk](#), HUD's Office of Native American Programs newsletter, for webinars and opportunities!

Environmental Justice

REMINDER! Deadlines Extended: Request for Applications and Request for Information
EPA has extended the deadline for one Request for Applications (RFA). Deadline has been extended on the RFA to encourage additional applications from eligible entities.

The new [Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking \(EJ TCGM\) Program's](#) RFA is open until **May 31, 2023**.

To learn more about Environmental Justice grants and technical assistance, visit:
<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-grants-funding-and-technical-assistance>.

For up-to-date information about Environmental Justice funding opportunities, events, and webinars, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov. Follow us on Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](https://twitter.com/EPAEnvJustice)

Para recibir información actualizada sobre oportunidades de financiamiento de Justicia Ambiental, eventos y seminarios web, suscribase al listserve de Justicia Ambiental de la EPA enviando un mensaje en blanco de correo electrónico a: join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov. Síguenos en Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](https://twitter.com/EPAEnvJustice).

NOW HIRING!

NEW! The Southern Ute Indian Tribe has a dynamic Environmental Programs and currently has job vacancies. The Tribe is seeking environmental professionals in Air Quality and Water Quality. The Tribe offers exciting pay and benefits packages and currently has full-time positions available in:

Water Quality Specialist – Animas River Coordinator
Air Quality Planner
Senior Air Quality Compliance Specialist
Assistant Environmental Programs Manager

To learn more about these positions including job duties and requirements and salary opportunities, go to <https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/careers/> and search for these position postings under Careers Portal – Southern Ute Tribal Government.

REMINDER! The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is hiring a Graduate (Year-Round) Intern - Clean Cities Energy and Environmental Justice.

The current job posting (provided [here](#)) describes a specific project (Clean Cities Energy and Environmental Justice Initiative). The sample activities listed in the job description are also applicable for another project, our JUST Lab Consortium work (<https://driveelectric.gov/just-lab-consortium/>). The same link can be used to apply for the JUST work, which is focused on electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure.

General background about student internships at NREL can be found here:

<https://www.nrel.gov/careers/nrel-internships.html>

The NREL team is reviewing applications as they are submitted. For the work with the group, the number of hours per week is flexible. Graduate interns can work at NREL up to 30 hours a week during the school year and up to 40 hours a week in the summer. Positions are paid and

include benefits if working 20+ hours per week. While NREL has offices in Golden, CO, Washington, DC, and Fairbanks, AK, this internship can be done remotely.

REMINDER! Your Opportunity to Restore Ecosystems and Connect Cultures!

Anticipated term June 2023-May 2025

Request for Proposals - Seeking one individual or firm to assume responsibilities of the MCDA Executive Director, subcontracting with additional capacity as needed to fulfill administrative, funding, and programmatic needs of the organization for the next two years.

An exciting opportunity to enhance the development of the Maliseet Community Development Authority as a leader in regional ecosystem management, while spearheading its signature Wolastoq-St. John Watershed Restoration Program. [MCDA RFP-3-27-23.pdf \(maliseets.net\)](#)

REMINDER! Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Mobility Program Opportunity The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Partnership and Engagement (OPE) seeks up to five (5) Advisors on American Indian and Alaska Native Cultures via the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Mobility Program.

The IPA allows for the temporary assignment of skilled personnel between the Federal Government and state and local governments, colleges and universities, Indian tribal governments, federally funded research and development centers, and other eligible organizations.

IPA assignments are for purposes of mutual concern and benefit to the Federal agency and the non-Federal organization. Assignments are for sound public purposes and in furtherance of the goals and objectives of both the Federal and non-Federal organization.

Regulations require that an assignment must be implemented by written agreement. The agreement will specify that the employee can return to the non-Federal position occupied prior to the assignment or to one of comparable pay, duties, and seniority and that the employee's rights and benefits will be fully protected. The non-Federal organization will continue to pay the employee's salary during the temporary assignment. DHS will not reimburse the organization for the employee's salary and does not offer any additional benefits beyond that which the employee is already receiving. In addition, IPA assignments are voluntary and must be agreed to by the employee.

The IPA is authorized by Title 5 U.S. Code Sections 3371 through 3375 and 5 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 334.

REMINDER! The following positions are open for the Prairie Island Indian Community

Applications can be found on their website under Employment & Opportunities

<http://www.prairieisland.org>

Food Systems Specialist

Water Resources Specialist

REMINDER! The Department of Religious Studies is hiring an 1855 professorship in the position of Great Lakes Anishinaabe Knowledge, Spiritualities, and Cultural Practices.

Applications closes: July 8, 2024, / [Click Here](#) for Full Job Description

The Department of Religious Studies is hiring an 1855 professorship in the position of Great Lakes Anishinaabe Knowledge, Spiritualities, and Cultural Practices. We seek a scholar with a focus on Anishinaabe communities, and more broadly, Great Lakes Native American cultures. The scholar's areas of interest should include Anishinaabe worldviews, ceremony, knowledge systems, and communal cultural practices in the context of colonialisms, resistance, resiliency, and sovereignty. The specific area of focus is open with preference to knowledge of traditions of Anishinaabe communities, and more broadly, Native American communities. We are particularly interested in scholars whose work and teaching complement cross-university

strengths in environmental practices, North American Indigenous Law, communal health and wellness, and social justice. In keeping with our land-grant mission, we seek a scholar engaged in public-facing conversations about how contemporary Native American knowledge, language, spiritualities, and culture can inform larger discussions around law, public policy, land stewardship, resource management, community health and wellbeing, Tribal governance, museum collections and archives, and environmental justice movements.

RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES!

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

REMINDER! Selections for the ARP Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring Competitive Grant

EPA selected 132 projects, in 37 states, to receive a total of \$53.4 million to conduct ambient air monitoring of pollutants in communities across the country with environmental and health outcome disparities stemming from pollution and the COVID-19 pandemic. EPA will start the process to award the funding by the end of 2022, once the grant applicants have met all legal and administrative requirements. This table can be sorted by clicking on each column header. A downloadable version is available [HERE](#).

EPA Resource: EPA is pleased to announce that we have updated our [Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool](#) and our [Tribal Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool](#).

Updates include:

- Revised Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID) factors from through 2020, as available.
- Updated default stationary energy emission factors and heat contents from the latest Climate Registry, EPA GHG Emissions Factor Hub, and US Inventory publications.
- Global Warming Potential (GWP) values are now editable on the Factors tab. The bottom of the Control Sheet tab also contains new guidance on updating the GWP values and a navigation button to the GWP Entry section on the Factors tab.

Download the updated [local community and government operations tool and users' guides](#).

Download the updated [tribal community and government operations tool and users' guides](#).

Find our State Inventory and Projection Tool and additional State and Tribal greenhouse gas data and resources [here](#).

EPA Resource: EPA's Home Heating Fuel Use Web App

Are you curious about how people heat their homes? EPA has developed a [Home Heating Fuel Use Web App](#) that lets you visualize American Community Survey 5-year average home heating fuel data across the U.S. by census tract. Use this data to inform outreach or implementation planning related to energy efficiency, residential electrification, wood stove change-outs, and more.

EPA Resource: EPA's Tracking Matrix

Does your community have climate goals to meet or brownfields that might be suitable for solar? Check out [EPA's Tracking Matrix](#) to learn more about geothermal, biomass, solar and wind installations being built on contaminated lands across the country. EPA's RE-Powering America's Land Initiative 2022 [Tracking Matrix](#) shows current trends in the development of renewable energy on contaminated lands. Project examples include successful community solar

projects in Nashville, Tennessee; Schenectady County, New York; Morrisville, Vermont; and Spanish Fork, Utah.

Tribal Air Quality Flag Program Packet

Customize this flyer/poster template to share information with your community about air quality, how it can affect health, and actions to take on a bad air quality day. You may need a PDF reader to view files on this page. See EPA's [About PDF page](#) to learn more. [Tribal Air Quality Flag Program Packet](#)

Department of Energy (DOE) Announces \$32 Million to Reduce Methane Emissions from Oil and Gas Sector

All interested applicants must register and submit application materials through [Fed Connect](#); [register here](#) for an account. All questions must be submitted through FedConnect.

Air Monitoring Equipment Available for Loan to State, Local, and Tribal Agencies

In 2021, EPA's Office of Research and Development initiated the Wildfire Smoke Air Monitoring Response Technology (WSMART) Pilot, loaning air monitoring technologies to state, local, and Tribal air organizations to support supplemental air monitoring in areas affected by wildfire smoke and with observational data coverage gaps. During 2022, this pilot technology loan program will continue to provide several technology types – including stationary air sensor systems and a compact mobile monitoring system – to state and local air agency monitoring staff and professional Tribal air quality staff members upon request. The equipment is not available for public use. For more information and access to the loan request webform, please visit the WSMART website: <https://www.epa.gov/air-sensor-toolbox/wildfire-smoke-air-monitoring-response-technology-wsmart-pilot>

For technical questions, please contact smoketech@epa.gov.

Climate Change/Energy

NEW! FREE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCE FOR TRIBES! The Environmental Protection Network (EPN), comprised of over 550 EPA alumni staff and volunteers, provides free consulting services, organizational support, and help accessing foundation and government funding.

AIEO and EPN have an MOU that is focused on helping tribes to address their climate adaptation priorities. Tribes have told us that technical assistance to address their climate priorities is much needed, and ranges from interpreting scientific data or requests for proposals to developing vulnerability assessments and integrating climate resiliency into an infrastructure project. EPN can help, at no cost to the tribe!

And while climate is a much needed and welcomed focus area, the great news is that the technical assistance available from EPN isn't limited to climate adaptation and this MOU!

For more information, please reach out to Davina Resto, EPN Community Outreach Associate, at Davina.Resto@environmentalprotectionnetwork.org

EPA's State and Local Climate and Energy Program will use this newsletter to share updates and opportunities as they become available and to let you know how the EPA's IRA programs can help your jurisdiction.

Our [monthly funding newsletter](#) will also continue to provide information on climate and clean energy grant and technical assistance opportunities and deadlines for state, local, and

Tribal governments. You can also visit the [White House's website about clean energy and climate action in the IRA](#). Use it to learn how you can save on utility bills, get support to purchase electric vehicles, energy-efficient appliances, and more. Share the news: Tax Credits for Energy-Efficient Home Upgrades have been Extended!

Under the IRA, federal tax credits for energy-efficient home upgrades have been extended. This means that if you made any qualifying home improvements to your primary residence after **December 31, 2021**, you may be eligible to claim credit on your federal taxes when you file for 2022. Qualifying upgrades include ENERGY STAR-certified products, as well as improvements to your home's envelope or exterior – such as windows, doors, and insulation. To learn more, read through ENERGY STAR's [property tax credit guidance](#).

[Renewable Energy tax credits](#) have also been extended and will be available through the end of 2023. These include incentives for Geothermal Heat Pumps, Residential Wind Turbines, Solar Energy Systems, and Fuel Cells.

What's New for Federal Tax Credits in 2023? There will be new efficiency tax credits in place starting January 1, 2023, lasting 10 years - through 2032. The tax credit amount is generally limited to 30% of the project cost. The previous lifetime cap of \$500 has been changed to an annual cap of \$1,200 to \$2,000 depending on the efficiency improvements you make. This means you will be able to claim credit for more projects, especially if they are spread out over multiple years.

For more information and to stay up to date on available tax credits, make sure to bookmark ENERGY STAR's page on [Federal Tax Credits](#) so you can maximize savings on your home energy efficiency projects.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

U.S. Department of Energy: Electric Vehicles with Final Assembly in North America

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 ([Public Law 117-169](#)) amended the Qualified Plug-in Electric Drive Motor Vehicle Credit ([IRC 30D](#)), now known as the Clean Vehicle Credit, and added a new requirement for final assembly in North America that took effect on August 17, 2022. For more details on the credit, see [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) and Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle \(FCEV\) Tax Credit](#). Also see the full list of [alternative fuel vehicle incentives](#) amended or created by the Inflation Reduction Act. [Click Here](#) for more information.

Indoor Air Quality

Resource for Healthy Indoor Air Quality:

Check out the website <https://forhealth.org/> for many resources related to healthy homes and indoor air quality!

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](#).

Environmental Justice

REMINDER! Calling Children's Health Organizations! New Environmental Justice and Climate Grants at EPA!

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced the availability of multiple funding opportunities totaling \$650 million for projects that advance environmental justice in underserved and overburdened communities across the country. Additionally, **EPA is seeking public input on the new Environmental and Climate Justice program that will distribute \$3 billion in the Inflation Reduction Act funding.**

This unprecedented opportunity will advance the protection of our children, especially in vulnerable communities, with support and participation from applicable children's health organizations.

Learn more about these opportunities and how your children's health organization could apply: [**Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving \(EJCPS\)**](#)

The EJCPS Program will provide an estimated \$30 million in funding directly to community-based nonprofit organizations (and partnerships of these organizations), with \$5 million reserved for small community-based nonprofit organizations with five or fewer full-time employees. In total, the Agency anticipates funding approximately 50 awards of \$500,000 and 30 awards of \$150,000.

EPA's EJCPS Cooperative Agreement Program provides financial assistance to eligible organizations working on or planning to work on projects to address local environmental and/or public health issues in their communities. The program assists recipients in building collaborative partnerships with other stakeholders (e.g., local businesses and industry, local government, medical service providers, academia) to develop solutions that will significantly address environmental and/or public health issues at the local level.

Interested applicants must **submit proposal packages on or before April 14, 2023**, to be considered for the available funding. Applicants should plan for projects to begin on October 1, 2023.

[The Environmental Justice Government-to-Government \(EJG2G\) Program](#)

The EJG2G Program (formerly known as the State Environmental Justice Cooperative Agreement program) will provide an estimated \$70 million in funding. Of this, \$20 million will be for State governments to use in conjunction with Community-Based Organization (CBO) partners, \$20 million will be for local government with CBO partners, \$20 million will be for Federally Recognized Tribal Nations with CBO partners, and \$10 million will be for U.S. territories and remote tribes with limited access to CBO partners. In total the Agency anticipates funding approximately 70 projects of up to \$1 million each for a 3-year project.

The EJG2G Program works to support and/or create model state activities that lead to measurable environmental or public health results in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms and risks. These models should leverage or utilize existing resources or assets of state agencies to develop key tools and processes that integrate environmental justice considerations into state governments and government programs.

CBOs must partner with an [eligible entity](#) to apply. Interested applicants must **submit proposal packages on or before April 14, 2023**, to be considered for the available funding. Applicants should plan for projects to begin on October 1, 2023.

Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking (EJ TCGM)

The EJ TCGM program will fund up to 11 entities to serve as Grantmakers to community-based projects that reduce pollution. Selected Grantmakers will design competitive application and submission processes, award environmental justice subgrants, implement a tracking and reporting system, provide resources and support to communities.

The entities eligible to apply under this Request for Applications (RFA) and serve as an Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaker fall into four categories. They include:

- A community-based nonprofit organization.
- A partnership of community-based nonprofit organizations.
- A partnership between a Tribal Nation and a community-based nonprofit organization; or,
- A partnership between an institution of higher education and a community-based nonprofit organization.

Application packages must be submitted on or before May 31, 2023.

[More information on the Inflation Reduction Act.](#)

[More information about the EPA's Children's Environmental Health Grants.](#)

Newsletters, Calendars, and Recorded Webinars

Reducing Embodied Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Carbon Labeling

April 19, 2023, 2–3:30 p.m. EST

This webinar will ask for feedback on how the EPA should develop a new carbon labeling program for construction materials and products with substantially lower embodied greenhouse gas emissions.

[Register here!](#)

Join NCAI's [Climate Action email](#) listserv here!

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

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

ITEP's [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

ITEP's [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars, and other events related to Tribes and climate change.

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program newsletter, [Native Voices](#)

EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series

Click [here](#) to see all past and upcoming webinars hosted by the EPA.

Information for IRA and other competitive grants

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DsRrod7XKk>

EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be found here:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/environmental-protection-agency>

EPA's Community and Tribal Programs Group - [Tribal Actions and Events calendar](#)

This calendar is also linked under the “Tribal Air and Climate Resources” webpage under the “Policy and Planning” heading available at <https://www.epa.gov/tribal-air>. The purpose of the calendar is to ensure that our Tribal partners are kept apprised of EPA activities that are relevant to them. If you have any questions about the calendars or any recommendations on how EPA can improve upon the calendars, please do not hesitate to reach out to Amanda Kaufman (Kaufman.Amanda@epa.gov) with any feedback.

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

Recorded Webinars

Looking for more information check out the [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

OLDER UPDATES!

Updated Version of EPA's Air Sensor Guidebook Released!

Recognizing the ever-increasing availability of air sensors, expanding user base, and growing scientific knowledge, the U.S. EPA updated the popular Air Sensor Guidebook, originally published in 2014. The refreshed version, called “*The Enhanced Air Sensor Guidebook*”, includes updated content and new topics that incorporate best practices, current knowledge, and recommendations to guide the use of air sensors.

The Enhanced Guidebook supports users in planning and collecting air quality measurements using air sensors. The Guidebook can help sensor users:

- Learn the basics of air quality, air pollution monitoring, and air sensors
- Plan and conduct an air quality monitoring study
- Select, setup, and use air sensors
- Analyze, interpret, communicate, and act on results
- Understand the basics of air sensor performance

[Find out more and access the Enhanced Air Sensor Guidebook.](#)

[Visit EPA's Air Sensor Toolbox.](#)

[Find out more about EPA's Air Research.](#)

Air Knowledge E-Learning Content

The Air Knowledge training team is pleased to announce the availability of new air quality training materials!

These e-learning courses and modules are at the foundational learning level and are available to Tribal, state, and local air agencies through our learning management system (LMS) and to the public [here](#). The website was recently enhanced to provide additional self-instructional and instructor-led training materials.

The new materials include:

- A course that explains key historic events that led to air pollution control legislation and describes progress made with air pollution control since the passage of the Clean Air Act,
- A course that explains the basic components of state and Tribal implementation plans,
- A module that generally defines the transport and fate of air pollutants and how transport and fate are influenced by meteorology and topography,
- A module that explains the basic aspects of an air emissions inventory, and
- A module that explains the purposes and types of air emissions inventories, including the inventories that the EPA develops.

To access the courses and modules on the LMS (<https://epaapti.csod.com>), Tribal air agencies and organizations can register, log in, and refer to the “What’s New” section on the home page. All other users (the public, international community, academia, industry, EPA staff, etc.) can access the courses and modules on the Air Knowledge interim [website](#).

Follow up on the second session of the Million Hearts Climate Change and Cardiovascular Disease Collaborative, Interventions to Address Particle Pollution and Heart Disease. You can access a recording of the session [here](#) (passcode: W\$Bb8t*!)

Helpful links/resources from the chat

- Look at differences in air quality across cities using AirCompare - <https://www3.epa.gov/aircompare/#home>
- Learn more about air quality trends at <https://www.epa.gov/air-trends>
- Learn more about indoor air quality and steps that can be taken in home, schools, and other buildings at: <https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq>
- More information on using air cleaners in homes is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/air-cleaners-and-air-filters-home>

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