



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

*Week of January 21st –
January 25th, 2019*

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Table of Contents

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD..... 2

TOP STORIES..... 3

HEADLINES 4

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 4

Impacts of Federal Shutdown 5

Climate Change/Energy..... 5

Toxics/Mobile Sources..... 5

Indoor Air Quality..... 6

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES 6

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 6

Climate Change / Energy..... 10

Toxics/Mobile Sources..... 10

Indoor Air Quality..... 10

RESOURCES 11

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 11

Climate Change/Energy..... 11

Toxics/Mobile Sources..... 11

Indoor Air Quality..... 11

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES..... 12

Now Hiring! 12

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes 12



Climate Change/Energy..... 13

Toxics/Mobile Sources..... 13

Indoor Air Quality..... 13

Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be found here..... 14

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

Save the Date!

20th Annual National Tribal Forum on Air Quality May 6-9, 2019

Hosted by: The Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians
Temecula, California

The NTF provides environmental professionals from tribes, EPA, and other organizations an opportunity to meet and discuss current policies, regulatory initiatives, technical and other relevant topics in air quality & climate change.

Important!

- ▶ Optional Training Sessions on Monday 5/6
- ▶ Reduced registration fee ~ online registration opens in February
- ▶ Scholarship support for tribal attendees
- ▶ Sponsorship opportunities available

Be sure to check www.nau.edu/ntfaq for updates.

The NTF is a cooperative endeavor co-sponsored by The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) with funding made available by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

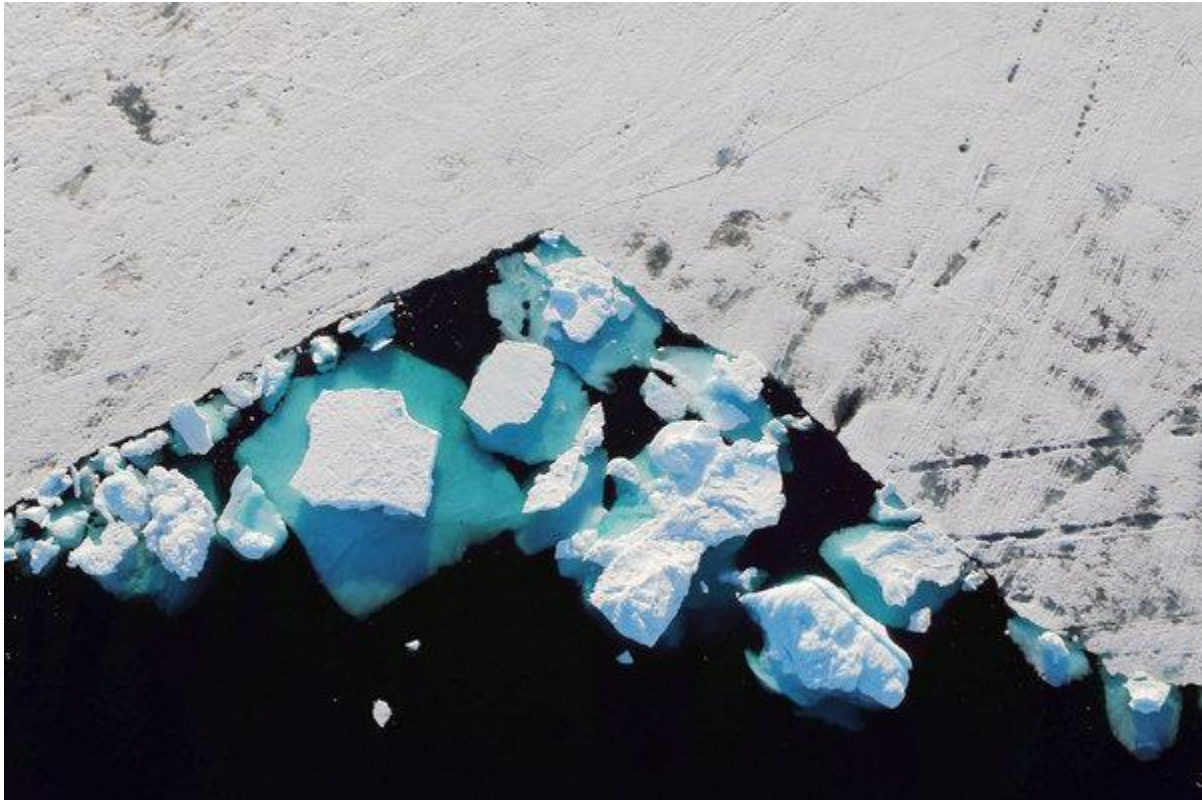
SAVE THE DATE! **2019 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality to Highlight 20 Years of Protecting Tribal Air Resources**

The 2019 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) will take place on May 6-9, 2019, at the Pechanga Resort Casino in Temecula, California. This year will be the 20th year of the NTFAQ and we invite you all to come help us celebrate!

This year's Forum co-hosts, the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, have long been considered a leader in protecting tribal sovereignty and regulatory authority through the actions of their air quality program and other environmental protection efforts. Members of the Band's environmental program have been recipients of the Virgil Masayesva Tribal Air Programs Excellence Award, bestowed annually on a deserving tribal program or staff leader.

If you have questions about the NTFAQ, please contact Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu or Andy.Bessler@nau.edu. A draft agenda, conference registration and scholarship requests will be available starting February 1 at www.nau.edu/ntfaq.

NY Times – [Greenland’s Melting Ice nears a ‘Tipping Point,’ Scientists Say](#)



Ice in a fjord in southeastern Greenland last June. Photo Credit: Lucas Jackson/Reuters

TOP STORIES

NPR – [Republicans Praise, Democrats Grill Andrew Wheeler in EPA Chief Confirmation Hearing](#)

Cronkite News – [Lawmakers, advocates say shutdown’s impact hits hardest in tribal areas](#)

Axios - [Record number of Americans see climate change as a current threat](#)

Do not miss today’s ITEP VW Settlement Technical Assistance Program’s Informational Webinar on the VW Settlement for Tribes, Jan. 23 at 3 pm ET.

You are invited to join the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) VW Settlement Technical Assistance Program’s informational webinar on the Volkswagen Diesel Emission Environmental Mitigation Trust for Indian Tribe

Beneficiaries. This webinar will provide overview of the “Trust Agreement” and the process and deadlines associated with the Second Round of funding for Tribes. Please join the webinar on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 3 pm ET. You can call into 1-805-309-2350 or toll free 1-800-309-2350 and use code 928-523#. To view documents discussed on the call, please [click here](#).

A copy of the final, filed version of the Modified Indian Tribe Trust Agreement was filed with the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (the “Court”) on November 30, 2018 (the “Trust Modification Effective Date”). A searchable copy of the executed, Modified Indian Tribe Trust Agreement is available for download on the Indian Tribe Trust’s public-facing [website here](#).

HEADLINES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Native News Online – [Nearly 3,000 Families Expected to Receive Free Navajo Mine Coal](#)

PBS News Hour - [Coal miners have been inhaling deadly silica dust for decades. Now they are dying](#)

AP News – [Michigan cancer study considers toxic air pollution](#)

Reno Gazette Journal - [Paiute tribe in Nevada wants state to reverse Sandoval-era decision on polluted mine site](#)

The Atlantic – [Pollution in India Could Reshape Monsoons](#)

Science Daily - [Air pollution increases ER visits for breathing problems](#)

AccuWeather - [Bad air pollution linked to increased psychological distress](#)

World Health Organization – [Ten Threats to Global Health in 2019 includes Air pollution and climate change](#)

E&E News – [Air Pollution: EPA keeps certain industry toxics standards unchanged](#)

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

Impacts of Federal Shutdown/Appropriations Progress

Indian Country Today – [Cole: leadership roles on Appropriations Committee; supports Trump's latest plan](#)

Indian Country Today – [Haaland: Trump should re-open the government, then we can talk border security](#)

Indian Country Today – [Navajo Nation President and Vice President call for government shutdown to end](#)

E&E News – [Appropriations: House Democrats release new Interior-EPA bill](#)

Climate Change/Energy

E&E News - [Carbon tax backers grapple with 'Green New Deal'](#)

NY Times – [Climate Change's Giant Impact on the Economy: 4 Key Issues](#)

E&E News – [Climate action relied on natural gas. Then CO2 spiked](#)

Ensisia – [Opinion: Energy Development Threatens Big Game Herds in Wyoming \(and Why It Matters Outside the State, Too\)](#)

E&E News – [Glaciers in the Americas are losing more ice than before](#)

The Guardian – [What can we do, right now, about climate change?](#)

Salt Lake Tribune – [Lake Powell could become a 'dead pool' as climate change, political wars and unabated growth drain its waters](#)

Al Jazeera – [Tackling the twin challenges of climate change and inequality](#)

Reuters – [To meet climate goals, world urged to reuse natural resources](#)

NY Times – [Global Warming Concerns Rise Among Americans in New Poll](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

CNN – [It's up to California to save us from this Trump rollback](#)

E&E News – [Court backs Calif.'s fuel standard, again](#)

NPR – [A New Tactic in the War against Plastic Waste](#)

IndyStar – [Utilities admit to leaking toxic chemicals into groundwater, must now clean it up](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Be sure to subscribe to [EPA's IAQ Bulletins](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Sigma Xi Annual Meeting and Student Research Conference Our Changing Global Environment [Call for Submissions](#) Deadline of January 28th, 2019
Scientists and Engineers Designing Solutions for the Future: November 14–17, 2019

Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

We are pleased to invite you to [submit proposals](#) or abstracts for symposia, panel discussions, oral and/or poster research presentations, and workshops for the Society's 2019 Conference on "*Our Changing Global Environment*." The event will bring together distinguished researchers, engineers, ethics, and communicators to discuss environmental changes and their societal, economical, and policy implications. Session proposals that address multidisciplinary solutions and strategies for environmental change mitigation and adaptation across life sciences, physical sciences, and engineering are also invited.

Submission Topics

Scientific and Engineering Content Tracks:

- Water Track, featuring sessions on emerging research and/or solutions in water science and technology, including global water resources, quality, management, and analysis

- Energy Track, featuring sessions that examine emerging energy research and innovations, including conservation, sustainability, renewable energy, alternative energy technologies and assessment
- Life and Health Track, including sessions that address how life will be affected by environmental changes and how we can respond

Sigma Xi Mission-related Tracks:

- Science Communication Track, including sessions on the science of science communication, engaging, and educating the public on environmental issues
- Research Ethics Track, featuring sessions on ethical challenges facing the research community and ethics of communicating about environmental changes
- Professional Development Track, including sessions on career advancement and general challenges facing the research community such as research funding, cultivating effective interdisciplinary collaborations, leadership training, publishing, and diversity.

Important Dates

- Monday, January 28th, 2019: Deadline to submit proposals
- Friday, February 15th, 2019: Decision notifications sent to organizers
- Friday, March 29th, 2019: Deadline to submit symposium revisions, final list of speakers, and abstracts

[More Information and Submission Guidelines](#)

EPA Publishes Proposal to Revise Greenhouse Gas New Sources Performance Standards for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants

The proposal is open for public comment through February 19, 2019. For further information, click [here](#). The NTAA has released a Fact Sheet, and is currently preparing a Tribal Template Comment Letter for this proposal that will be [posted here](#).

Editor's Note: This public hearing will most likely be postponed if the Government Shutdown continues, so check back on the website below for updates.

Public Hearing and Reopening of Comment Period for Proposed Determinations of Attainment by the Attainment Date, Extensions of the Attainment Date and Reclassification of Several Areas Classified as Moderate for the [2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards](#)

EPA will hold a public hearing on this proposed action. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (local time) or 2 hours after the end of testimony from the last registered speaker at EPA's Offices in

Washington, DC. EPA will begin pre-registering speakers for the hearing upon publication of the hearing notice in the Federal Register.

The **Tribal Exchange Network Conference** (originally planned for February 26-28, 2019) has been postponed until further notice. The event will be rescheduled as soon as possible and will ensure the new dates provide a more reasonable window for travel coordination and planning. In the meantime, the Exchange Network Tribal Governance Group (TGG) are continuing to work on planning and scoping for the Conference, including identifying potential topics of interest and speakers. If you have suggestions or comments for the agenda, please send a suggestion to: goo.gl/QmiUHg For additional updates via email and website announcements; visit www.tribalexchangenetwork.org for details.

20th Annual Ogden-Murphy-Wallace Tribal Environmental Seminar

Dates: Wednesday, March 27 – Thursday, March 28, 2019

Location: Seattle, WA

The theme for the 2019 Seminar is “Exercising Governmental Sovereignty: What have Tribal environmental programs accomplished in the last 20 years and what does the future hold?” For more information, call Jennifer Sanscrainte or Richard Du Bey at 206.447.7000.

Tribal Grants Education and Technical Assistance Webinar Series Second Wednesday of Every Month at 1pm ET

[For more information, click here!](#)

Save the date! 2019 Tribal Lands & Environment Forum

August 19-22, 2019

Palm Springs, California

[More information here!](#)

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!

Registration instructions When you register for the GoToWebinar, please remember to include your Tribe, Region, or Organization in parenthesis after your last name. This allows you to see everyone on the call and prevents us from conducting a roll-call, ultimately saving everyone’s time.

STAR Work Group: Help in the creation of the Status of Tribal Air Report	Wednesday, January 23, 2pm ET
Wood Smoke Work Group: Join this work group to help address air quality issues arising from wood smoke	Wednesday, February 6, 3pm ET
Volkswagen Settlement Work Group: Continue to track the ongoing developments and help guide the process	Thursday, February 7, 2pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Join these calls to help address the air most people breathe most of the time	Thursday, February 21, 2pm ET
NTAA/EPA Air Policy Update Call: Receive air quality policy updates from EPA and NTAA	Thursday, February 28, 2pm ET

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 [2018-2019 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
Air Quality Computations	January 29-February 1	Phoenix, AZ	1
IAQ Diagnostic Tools	<i>Postponed due to federal shutdown</i>	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Air Pollution Technology	March 12-15	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Quality in Alaska (<i>tentative</i>)	March 19-21	AK	1
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	April 2-3	Boise, ID	2
Air Quality Project Planning, QAPPs, and Grants for Alaska	April 9-12	AK	2

Fundamentals of Air Monitoring	April 16-18	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities (lower 48)	TBD	TBD	3
NTF	May		
Introduction to Tribal Air Quality	June 4-7	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Pollution and Ecosystems	Late July	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	January-March	Series of 6 Webinars	NA
Indoor Air Quality – Independent Study	Anytime	Independent Study	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Warm Climates	In development	Online	1
Residential Building Science Review	Open	Online	1
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Fundamentals (QA 101)	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (QA 201-209)	Open	Online	2
Emissions Inventory (self-paced, instructor assistance as needed)	Open	Online	3

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 a 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

ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!

[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

The NTAA IAQ work group will present an informational webinar on *Policy Tools to Improve Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Homes*

Save the Date: March 6, 2019, at 3:30pm ET (*Note that this is a change in date from previous Weekly Update announcements.*)

Information to follow.

Webinar: The Intersection between Energy and Health

The National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition is hosting a webinar on the intersection of energy efficiency and health outcomes on January 22, 2019, from 1-2 p.m. Eastern. The conversation will include both an introduction to the connection between energy and health and dispatches from ongoing projects and case studies, so we encourage anyone with interest or experience in this topic to attend! The webinar will include a time for questions after presentations by the following speakers:

- Eric Behna, Program Policy and Communications Manager, National Association for State Community Services Programs.
- Tim Bernthal, Weatherization Program and Communications Coordinator, Low-Income Weatherization Program, Washington State Department of Commerce.
- Jamal Lewis, Policy and Technical Assistance Specialist, Green and Healthy Homes Initiative.

[Register here!](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

RESOURCES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

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

January is National Radon Action Month

January is National Radon Action Month. Radon is an odorless and colorless gas that is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Testing and having a plan to mitigate high levels of radon in your home, schools, and other buildings can help

prevent unnecessary exposure. If a high radon level is suspected in your home, you can [take steps to fix the problem](#).

- Test your home. Winter is the best time to test for radon. Testing is easy and inexpensive. Learn about [testing your home](#), including how to obtain an easy-to-use test kit.
- Spread the word. Encourage others to learn about radon and test their homes. Tell your family and friends about the [health risks of radon](#).
- Plan an activity in your community to help raise awareness.

EPA Region 10 recently produced a video to raise awareness about radon hazards in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. The video is an effective tool to educate viewers and is available on EPA's [YouTube channel](#). To learn more about radon and National Radon Action Month, check out EPA's [National Radon Action Month Consumer Information](#) website.

Be sure to sign up for [EPA's Healthy Indoor Air newsletter](#).

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Now Hiring!

Navajo Nation is hiring a Senior Environmental Specialist

Closing date: 1/24/19

Department Name: NNEPA – Air & Toxics Department/Air Quality Control Program

For more information, visit the [DPM website where the job listing can be found](#), or view the [job description online](#).

Red Feather is hiring a Program Coordinator for the Four Corners Wood and Coal Burning Appliance Replacement and Home Weatherization Project

Learn more [about Red Feather here](#).

View the [job posting here](#).

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Opportunity is Now Open!

2019 Request for Proposals

Full Proposal Due Date: Friday, February 15, 2019 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

The Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) program awards grants that support community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand local environmental and public health issues and develop strategies for addressing those issues, building consensus in the community, and setting community priorities. The EJSG program will award approximately \$1.5 million nationwide for this competitive opportunity. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 50 grants (5 per EPA region) of up to \$30,000 each. These grants are for one-year projects. See additional details at: [FY2019 EJ Small Grants RFP webpage](#)

Informational Pre-Application Assistance Calls (Eastern Time)

- Wednesday, January 23, 2019 - 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday January 31, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Go directly to the EJSG program website to access the full RFP including instructions on applying through [Grants.gov](#): [FY2019 EJ Small Grants RFP webpage](#).

Climate Change/Energy

Toxics/Mobile Sources

EPA Tribal Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program FY18 – \$2 million

Applications Due: April 3, 2019

Eligible Entities: Tribal governments and Alaska Native Villages which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting proposals nationwide for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure, particularly from fleets located in areas designated as having poor air quality. Further, priority for funding will be given to projects which result in outcomes that benefit affected communities, those that engage affected communities with respect to the design and performance of the project, and those which can demonstrate the ability to promote and continue efforts to reduce emissions after the project has ended. For more information, visit the Clean Diesel Tribal Grants [web page](#).

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](#).

Back to Table of Contents

Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be [found here](#).

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Back to Table of Contents