



**National Tribal Air Association**

**NTAA Weekly Update**

*Week of January 7<sup>th</sup> –  
January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

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**Table of Contents**

PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD..... 2

TOP STORIES..... 2

HEADLINES ..... 3

*Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes* ..... 3

*Climate Change/Energy*..... 3

*Toxics/Mobile Sources*..... 4

*Indoor Air Quality*..... 5

UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES ..... 5

*Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes* ..... 5

*Climate Change / Energy*..... 8

*Toxics/Mobile Sources*..... 9

*Indoor Air Quality*..... 9

RESOURCES ..... 9

*Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes* ..... 9

*Climate Change/Energy*..... 10

*Toxics/Mobile Sources*..... 11

*Indoor Air Quality*..... 12

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES..... 12

*Now Hiring!* ..... 13

*Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes* ..... 13

*Climate Change/Energy*..... 14

*Toxics/Mobile Sources*..... 14

*Indoor Air Quality*..... 14

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

## **PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD**

Fairbanks News-Miner - [Two senators propose federal aid to replace inefficient wood stoves](#)



*Photo credit: Associated Press*

## **TOP STORIES**

The Weather Channel - [U.S. Carbon Emissions Spiked in 2018, Even as Coal Plants Closed](#)

Arizona Republic - [Government shutdown hits tribes: Job losses, bad roads, no health-care access](#)

Indian Country Today - [National Congress of American Indians government shutdown update](#)

NPR - [The Effects of the Government Shutdown on Native American Tribes](#)

Fast Company - [This old coal plant is now a solar farm, thanks to pressure from local activists](#)

## **HEADLINES**

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

NPR – [One Town’s Decades Long Struggle for Cleaner Air](#)

E&E News – [Can tribes hunt in Wyo. National forest?](#)

Arizona Daily Sun - [Navajo company looks into buying northern Arizona coal mine](#)

Greenwire - [Proposal for MATS review creates 'big puzzle'](#)

E&E News – [EPA’s dig at mercury regs carries Kavanaugh’s fingerprints](#)

E&E News - [Confusion derailed approval of EPA pick — Carper](#)

*Editor’s Note: This article mentions the confirmation of Chat McIntosh as EPA’s new Assistant Administrator of the Office of International and Tribal Affairs. Among steps to bolster EPA’s work with American Indian tribes, McIntosh had previously **pledged** to hire a member of a federally recognized tribe to head the American Indian Environmental Office if confirmed to lead the agency’s Office of International and Tribal Affairs.*

Greenwire - [D.C. Circuit declares litigation over EPA ozone standard moot](#)

Washington Post - [Court ruling may give environmental activists more fodder against EPA](#)

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

### ***Climate Change/Energy***

Ensaia – [Health Departments Are On Climate Change’s Front Lines](#)

AP - [Governor sets goals for Pennsylvania to cut greenhouse gases](#)

NPR – [Devastating Wildfires Force California’s Largest Utility to Plan Sale of Gas Assets](#)

NY Times – [Warming Planet, Vanishing Heritage](#)

AP – [Appeals filed in lawsuits targeting Alaska oil lease sales](#)

USA Today - [Without Trump, local governments spend millions to protect against climate change](#)

Washington Examiner – [Pelosi plans to resurrect failed cap-and-trade bill from a decade ago](#)

Bloomberg – [Ocasio-Cortez Suggests 70% Ultra-Rich Tax Could Pay for Climate Plan](#)

Axios – [A rare political moment for climate](#)

E&E News – [New Year, new hurdles for Alaska LNG megaproject](#)

Yes Magazine – [The Second Best Time to Plant a Tree Is Now](#)

Yes Magazine – [Why the Climate Change Message Isn’t Working](#)

NY Times – [Climate FWD: An Easy New Year’s Resolution: Help the Earth by Consuming Less](#)

### ***Toxics/Mobile Sources***

NY Times – [A Trump County Confronts the Administration amid a Rash of Child Cancers](#)

Bloomberg – [Before the Electric Car Takes Over, Someone Needs to Reinvent the Battery](#)

US News – [South Dakota County Preps for Keystone XL Pipeline Protests](#)

E&E News – [How Volkswagen turned from diesel pariah into electric gorilla](#)

## **Indoor Air Quality**

Tom Carper Press Release – [Carper, Murkowski Introduce Bill to Help Americans Transition to More Efficient Wood Heaters, Reduce Air Pollution](#)

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

*[Back to Table of Contents](#)*

## **UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES**

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

**Moms' Clean Air Force hosted a press call yesterday featuring Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE) and leading health, faith, and environmental justice experts for a discussion on the EPA's recent attack on mercury pollution standards. [Audio available here.](#)**

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

EPA's proposal to revise the Clean Air Act Section 111(b) New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for greenhouse gas emissions from new, modified and reconstructed electric utility generating units was published December 20 in the Federal Register (83 Fed. Reg. 65,454). EPA released a prepublication version of the rule signed by Acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler on December 6. The proposal would replace the existing NSPS, which relies on the partial application of carbon capture and storage technology, with a "best system of emission reduction" (BSER) based on the most efficient 4 demonstrated steam cycle technology in combination with the best operating practices.

*The proposal also solicits comment on a number of issues related to the application of Section 111(b)'s "endangerment" requirement as well as EPA's rationale for regulating CO2 emissions from the power sector. Issues flagged for stakeholder input include whether EPA can only make an endangerment finding once for each source category at the time of listing, or whether a new endangerment finding is required if a new pollutant from a listed category becomes subject to regulation; whether greenhouse gases differ sufficiently from other types of air pollution to require an individual endangerment finding; and whether EPA has a rational basis for regulating CO2 emissions from new coal-*

*fired power plants given EPA's assessment that coal-fired generation is decreasing alongside overall power sector CO2 emissions.*

The proposal is open for public comment through February 19, 2019. For further information, click [here](#). The NTAA is currently preparing a Policy Response Kit for this proposal.

**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. We will begin pre-registering speakers for the hearing upon publication of the hearing notice in the Federal Register.

**Tribal Exchange Network Conference 2019**

Planning for the Tribal Exchange Network Conference 2019 is underway! The Conference is set to take place February 26-28, 2019 in Pala, California. The Tribal Exchange Network Conference provides tribal professionals, and those working with tribes, an opportunity to meet and learn about current initiatives, funding, and technical topics related to the Exchange Network. Come and share your experiences or to learn from and network with other tribal professionals!

Stay tuned! Registration, scholarship/presenter/poster/sponsorship requests, and an agenda will be shared when available at [www.tribalexchangenetwork.org](http://www.tribalexchangenetwork.org).

*Tell us what topics you are interested in by completing this short poll:*  
[goo.gl/QmiUHg](http://goo.gl/QmiUHg).

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

[For more information, click 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](mailto: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.

<b>STAR Work Group:</b> Help in the creation of the Status of Tribal Air Report	Wednesday, January 9, 2pm ET
<b>Wood Smoke Work Group:</b> Join this work group to help address air quality issues arising from wood smoke	Wednesday, January 9, 3pm ET
<b>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join these calls to help address the air most people breathe most of the time	Thursday, January 10, 2pm ET
<b>NTAA/EPA Air Policy Update Call:</b> Receive air quality policy updates from EPA and NTAA	Thursday, January 17, 2pm ET <i>Please note that the December and January calls are combined due to the holiday season.</i>
<b>Volkswagen Settlement Work Group:</b> Continue to track the ongoing developments and help guide the process	Thursday, February 7, 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](#)**

<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Course Level</b>
Air Quality Computations	January 29-February 1	Phoenix, AZ	1
IAQ Diagnostic Tools	February 12-15	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)	April 30-May 2	TBD	3
NTF	May		
Air Pollution and Ecosystems	June 4-7	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](mailto:Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu) or phone 928-523-6721. For more information, please visit [ITEP's website](#).

## ***Climate Change / Energy***

### **Webinar: Fourth National Climate Assessment – Tribes and Indigenous Peoples**

***This event scheduled for Thursday has been postponed due to the government shutdown.*** To receive updates about rescheduling, contact Leanna Begay, Climate Change Program Coordinator [Leanna.Begay@nau.edu](mailto:Leanna.Begay@nau.edu)

**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: February 6, 2019, at 2pm ET

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***

#### **Transmittal Memo and Regional Haze Technical Guidance**

The Transmittal Memorandum and referenced technical guidance on tracking visibility progress for the second implementation period of the regional haze program has been published. This guidance document includes EPA's final recommendations on 1) methods for selecting the 20 percent most impaired days to track visibility and determining natural visibility conditions; and 2) methods for accounting for total international impacts to adjust the uniform rate of progress

(i.e., the URP glidepath) for the second implementation period. EPA committed to releasing this guidance document in the September 11, 2018, Regional Haze Reform Roadmap. [Here is a link to the document on the EPA website.](#)

### **HOST SITES NEEDED FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals – Environmental Education Outreach Program at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona is seeking air quality focused offices and programs to host a college student for an 8-week summer internship. Tribal environmental offices, EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations are encouraged to apply. The interns will be highly motivated undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental or related careers from different colleges and universities nationwide. ITEP provides each student intern with a \$4,000 stipend, and limited housing and travel allowances. The host site provides a work place and supervision for the intern. The projects **MUST** focus on addressing air quality issues in tribal communities.

[Submit an application online](#)

Deadline: Apply by January 18, 2019.

If you know of a college student that might be interested in being an intern, [encourage them to apply.](#)

For detailed information on the internship and requirements, [visit our internship web-site.](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

ITEP Intern Coordinator Mansel A. Nelson, EEOP Program Coordinator  
EEOP-INTERN@nau.edu 928-523-1275 (Please leave a message)  
mansel.nelson@nau.edu.

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

### ***Climate Change/Energy***

#### **New Tribal Climate Adaptation Guidebook**

Oregon Climate Change Research Institute and Adaptation International have released a new [Tribal Climate Adaptation Guidebook](#). It provides a framework for climate change adaptation planning in the context of existing tribal priorities. It builds on the on-going climate-related work in tribal communities, directly considers the unique issues facing Indigenous communities, and identifies opportunities and guidance for incorporating Traditional Knowledges based on the Climate and Traditional Knowledges Workgroups’ *Guidelines for Considering Traditional Knowledges (TKs) in Climate Change Initiatives*.

The *Tribal Climate Adaptation Guidebook* is designed to be useful for tribes at any stage of adaptation planning, from initiation to implementation, and with varying degrees of funding and staff capacity. The *Guidebook* is designed so that tribes can work through any applicable section and skip sections that are not applicable.

### **New report on Health and Climate Change in the United States**

The Lancet Countdown and APHA recently released the “[2018 Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change Brief for the United States of America](#).” The report is a detailed look at the public health effects of climate change happening right now in the United States and discusses opportunities for the public health workforce to address these issues.

**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***

#### **Opportunity for U.S. EPA Technical Assistance: Travel Efficiency Emissions Assessment and Planning**

The U.S. EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) is seeking to partner with state, tribal, regional or local transportation and air quality agencies interested in assessing transportation sector emissions and exploring how they could be reduced through travel efficiency strategies. This opportunity continues the EPA's program of Travel Efficiency Assessment Method (TEAM) [technical assistance and case studies](#) provided from 2011-2018. The TEAM approach uses travel activity data for the analysis area, transportation sketch modeling techniques, and [EPA's MOVES emission model](#) to estimate emissions with and without travel efficiency strategies chosen by the partner agency, so that their benefits can be estimated. Agencies selected to participate in this project will have the technical support of EPA's team of experts to help the participating agency identify and define strategies of interest, gather information, and conduct the analyses. EPA will create baseline and future year on-road emissions inventories to compare the potential effects of the travel efficiency strategies to a business-as-usual scenario. For more information, contact Mark Simons ([simons.mark@epa.gov](mailto:simons.mark@epa.gov)). Letters of interest are due by January 11, 2019.

**TWAR SC seeks your input!**

The members of the Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee has created a special feedback tool for you, called the [TWAR SC Priorities Document Survey](#). As you may know, the TWAR SC creates an annual priority document for senior staff at the US EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management. This document lays out various Tribal priorities for solid waste, USTs, emergency response, Superfund, and brownfields programs. The TWAR SC members spend a great deal of time talking with their colleagues at various Tribes, as well as RTOCs, other Tribal Partnership Groups, and the National Tribal Caucus when they work on this document. But this year they want to hear directly from you.

You only have to fill out this document for the parts that resonate to you specifically. And if you fill this out before the deadline of January 18, 2019, you will be entered into a random drawing for a free registration to the 2019 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum.

## ***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!****National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) is seeking *Temporary Field Technicians***

Temporary Field Technicians will perform sampling of physical, chemical, and biological data at field sites south of Tucson, Arizona, beginning January-March 2019 and ending September-December 2019. More information can be found by searching on <https://www.battelle.org/careers>.

**29 Palms Tribal EPA is hiring an Air Technician**

More information [can be found here](#), or by contacting Shawn Muir, Environmental Coordinator, at [smuir@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov](mailto:smuir@29palmsbomi-nsn.gov).

***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)**

- Thursday, December 13, 2018 (EJSCREEN Tutorial for applicants) - 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 16, 2019 (en Espanol) - 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- 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](#).

**Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG)**

Please note this NOFA is ONLY for *FY18 funds* with an application deadline date of January 7, 2019. Apply at: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view->

[opportunity.html?oppId=309778](#) Please send any ICDBG NOFA related questions to: [ONAP-ICDBG@hud.gov](mailto:ONAP-ICDBG@hud.gov)

## ***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](#)*