



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

Week of May 15th – May 19th, 2017

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TOP STORIES

Thank you for attending the 2017 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality! If you were lucky enough to be there, NTAA hopes that you found helpful information, new contacts, and inspiration to motivate and assist you in your work, and we'd love to hear your feedback on the event so that we can improve and refine it in the future. We also look forward to any suggestions you have on additional topics, presenters, and possible host sites, so please take a moment to visit our online evaluation form. **Responses received by May 31 will be entered into a bonus raffle drawing!**

- [2017 NTFAQ Evaluation](#)

Presentations from the 2017 NTFAQ are now available on Dropbox! Visit the link below to access the presentations (if you have restrictions accessing Dropbox files and would like a copy of the presentations, please let us know).

- [2017 NTFAQ Presentations](#)
- [Photos from the 2017 NTFAQ can be viewed online here.](#)

And one last **BIG THANK YOU** to all the conference planners, presenters, moderators, sponsors, and others who helped make this event a success!

Washington Post - [EPA asked the public which regulations to gut — and got an earful about leaving them alone](#)

Native Sun News Today - [Ft. Berthold group protests rollback of Environmental Protection Agency protections](#)

Reuters - [U.S. judge approves Volkswagen 3.0 liter, Bosch diesel settlements](#)

HEADLINES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Public News Service - [ND Tribes Say Keeping Methane-Waste Rule a Win; ND Senators Split](#)

Places - [The Wisconsin Experiment](#)

Washington Post - [Two experts resign from EPA posts to protest the agency's science committee shake-up](#)

Washington Post - [As Zinke listens in on the monumental divide at Utah's Bears Ears, natives feel unheard](#)

Washington Post - [As Zinke listens in on the monumental divide at Utah's Bears Ears, natives feel unheard](#)

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

Climate Change/Energy

WBUR - [Earth, Coal and Water: Navajo Nation in Flux over Future of Natural Resources](#)

Grand Canyon News - [Navajo Nation, Salt River Project negotiate lease to keep NGS open](#)

The Hill - [EPA climate rule supporters want court to drop lawsuit](#)

The Hill - [Tillerson signs international declaration recognizing climate change](#)

Alaska Dispatch News - [Even a smaller Pebble mine, as developer now plans, could face high development hurdles](#)

Farmington Daily Times - [Public hearing generates fracking support, opposition](#)

CNN - [China's Xi positions himself as free trade and climate champion](#)

Washington Post - [McAuliffe proposes statewide carbon cap](#)

Washington Post - [Experts fear 'quiet springs' as songbirds can't keep up with climate change](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Yakima Herald - [Yakamas call for faster cleanup of Hanford tunnel](#)

Reuters - [Hanford nuclear site accident puts focus on aging U.S. facilities](#)

San Juan Record - [White Mesa Ute lead protest against uranium mill](#)

Greenwire - [Flawed diesel engine testing takes deadly toll — study](#)

Indian Country Today - [Beachfront Nuclear Wasteland in Southern California?](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Geek - [Researchers Generate Power from Polluted Air](#)

WLTX - [The Real Risks of Radon](#)

Photos from the field

Billings Gazette - [VP Mike Pence says 'war on coal' is over during visit to Crow coal mine](#)



Photo by Larry Mayer, Gazette Staff

Vice President Mike Pence tours the Absaloka Mine on the Crow Reservation with Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and Crow Vice Chairman Carlson “Duke” Goes Ahead on Friday, May 12, 2017.

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UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

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

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

Volkswagen Settlement Work Group: Join this call to stay informed on the VW Settlement	Thursday, May 18, 2pm ET
NTAA/EPA Policy call: Receive updates from EPA	Thursday, May 25, 2pm ET

EPA Office of Water announces participation opportunities and activities related to the Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act.

- **Tribal Consultation Opportunity: Forthcoming Proposal to Revise the Definition of “Waters of the United States”**

Tribes will have until June 20, 2017, to comment on the new definition. Two informational webinars are planned, as noted below, and additional meetings or webinars may be scheduled. To stay up to date on this effort, please visit EPA’s Tribal Consultation website: <https://tcots.epa.gov>. For more information, see the [EPA’s Clean Water Rule website](#).

Thursday, May 18, 2017 (1:30 – 3:30 PM ET). [Click here to register](#). Call-in 1-866-299-3188, code 202-566-0657

- **Registration Open for the 2017 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF).**

This year’s Tribal Lands and Environment forum will be held at the COX Business Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, August 14-17, 2017. The Forum will feature trainings, field trips, and breakout sessions focused on solid/hazardous waste management, brownfields, UST/LUSTs, Superfund

sites, and emergency response. Tribal water program topics will include breakout sessions, trainings, and field trips related to water quality, drinking water, and habitat restoration (including wetlands, streams, and fisheries). Registration for the event is now open. For those interested in presenting at the 2017 TLEF, either during a breakout session or training session, proposals are being accepted until May 12. For more information and to register: http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Conferences/confr_tlef.

The U.S. EPA 2017 International Emission Inventory Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore on the Inner Harbor Hotel in Baltimore, MD August 14-18, 2017. This conference will focus on how emission inventories meet the challenges posed by improving emissions inventory science and also streamline inventory creation processes to improve the resulting inventories. [Click here](#) to learn more about the conference and how to submit abstracts.

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

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional's (ITEP's) [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars and other events related to tribes and climate change. [Click here](#) for ITEP's other trainings and events. [Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. New courses have been added, so check it out!

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

ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program Course Calendar:

Course Title	Dates	Location
2017		
Introduction to Tribal Air Quality	June 6-9	Flagstaff, AZ
Quality Assurance (QA) Fundamentals	Open	Online
Building Performance: Improving Energy Efficiency & IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online
Emissions Inventory - Fundamentals	Closed	Online
Emissions Inventory - Advanced	Closed	Online

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

Climate Change / Energy **Southwestern Tribal Climate Change Summit**

The La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians, Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals and the University of San Diego are collaborating on the 2017 Southwestern Tribal Climate Change Summit.

Event: *2017 Southwestern Climate Change Summit*

Location: *University of San Diego*

When: *September 19-21, 2017*

More information including registration details will be provided in the near future. *If you have any questions, please direct them to:* Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu

HUD webinar: What Energy Project is Right for My Tribe?

Date: May 31

Attendees will learn how to identify the appropriate energy project, whether it's a small renewable energy project for a single tribal residence or building, a tribal community project, or a utility-scale project requiring transmission interconnection and off-take through a power purchase agreement. Speakers will explore the pros and cons of ownership and leasing, the differences among various renewable and conventional technologies, and potential project barriers. Speakers will also share information on tools and resources available to help tribes evaluate options and move forward. To register, [click here](#).

Toxic / Mobile Sources

The National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA) has established a [repository for state and local agency information and links](#) pertaining to the Volkswagen (VW) settlement and the Mitigation Trust Fund. The information accessible from the repository includes state and local agency webpages, public outreach materials, drafts of documents, etc.

Indoor Air Quality

The Region 9 Tribal Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) and Health Network brings you ***Using IPM to Control Bedbugs in Tribal Communities***, a webinar on Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM PDT.

Please use the following link to register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1865947481169314563>

The webinar is a collaboration between US EPA Region 9 and the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP). Experienced presenters will share their experiences about using Integrated Pest Management to Control Bedbugs in Tribal Communities. At the end of the webinar, participants will have an opportunity to ask presenters questions and to share approaches that have worked in their communities.

Questions about this webinar? Please contact Priyanka Pathak (pathak.priyanka@epa.gov) or Mansel Nelson (mansel.nelson@nau.edu).

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RESOURCES

Now Hiring!

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is hiring an Air Quality Compliance Specialist.

Closing Date

Position closes at 5:00 pm Mountain Standard Time on 5/23/2017.

Position Summary

Must have a BS in Environmental Science, Natural Resources, Physics, Math or related area OR 4 years of work experience in a science, technical, or engineering related occupation. Must have computer experience using software programs including Microsoft Word, Excel, and database applications. Must have general knowledge of Federal and Tribal air quality regulations. Must have a valid Driver's License for state of residency and be insurable under the Tribal Vehicle Insurance Policy. Must pass a thorough background check including, Criminal History, Colorado Central Registry, fingerprint check, and pre-employment drug test.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- One year of experience in air quality compliance.

- Knowledge of oil and gas industrial processes (e.g., general operation of a natural gas compressor facility), emission control technology, technical equipment and tools used in air quality monitoring, and of Clean Air Act.
- Computer experience with GRI GLYCalc 4.09D and TANKS 4.0.

Position Summary

Under general supervision of the Air Quality Program Manager, assists with coordinating and conducting technical and regulatory tasks within the Compliance and Enforcement Section of the Tribal Air Quality Program. This position is a grade 18 / \$18.96/hour.

Job Location

Ignacio, CO

How To Apply

Please apply online at: <https://careers.southernute.com/pfund>

The Ak-Chin Indian Community is hiring an Environmental Technician. The Environmental Technician performs a variety of skilled and semi-skilled work to maintain and protect the Ak-Chin Indian Community's (ACIC) reservation environment and natural resources. This position will also conduct complex technical research and analysis, environmental outreach and other environmental program work to assist the ACIC Environmental Protection Department in providing environmental protection. The position announcement and description can be found at www.ak-chin.nsn.us

Closed date: May 24, 2017

Collaborative Planning Program Position Announcement

Landscape Conservation Initiative, Northern Arizona University

The [Landscape Conservation Initiative](#), a partnership-based interdisciplinary research center at Northern Arizona University, seeks a part time temporary staff person to contribute to our [Collaborative Planning](#) program. Current projects are located on the Navajo Nation, and in the Grand Canyon region, northern New Mexico, Green River Basin, and Sonoran desert. Through this program, we assist multiple agencies and stakeholders collaborating on land management issues including fire, climate adaptation, co-management of lands, habitat protection, and watershed restoration, often using mapping and spatial modeling to help groups reach decisions. The Landscape Conservation Initiative is an inclusive organization

that uses rigorous science, innovation, and collaboration to safeguard biodiversity while promoting environmental justice and sustainability.

Compensation

Compensation will be \$20/hour, with additional consideration depending on experience. This is a part time, non-benefits eligible position, averaging less than 29 hours/week. It is currently available for the remainder of the 2017 calendar year, but may be extended contingent upon satisfactory performance and available funding.

How to Apply

Please send a cover letter and resume or CV to Sasha Stortz at sasha.stortz@nau.edu. Application review will begin on May 29th. Position will be open until filled.

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Environmental Law Institute Report: Regulatory Reform in the Trump Era

In response to the growing demand for unbiased answers and analysis on how deregulatory initiatives by the new Administration and Congress will impact environmental protection, governance, and the rule of law, ELI has released a special report, [Regulatory Reform in the Trump Era](#). The report explains the legal mechanisms and processes that may get deployed, how they work, and the effect on the current regulatory landscape. It responds to the questions that are increasingly being asked of ELI: What are the pathways and impacts of regulatory reform efforts likely to be undertaken? What are the opportunities for the public and other stakeholders to engage relative to reform initiatives?

Wildland Fire Sensors Challenge

Six federal agencies have announced a Wildland Fire Sensors Challenge seeking an accurate, lower-cost, and low-maintenance air quality monitoring system that can be used during a wildfire or controlled fire. The data provided by the sensor system will help federal, state, local and tribal agencies protect the health of first responders and communities affected by the smoke.

Developers are encouraged to submit a prototype sensor system that measures fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), carbon monoxide (CO), ozone (O₃) and carbon dioxide (CO₂). The system should be capable of rapid deployment and continuous real-time monitoring of highly dynamic air pollution levels during a fire event. Developers should also aim for designs that are easy to use and self-

powered; include location data; and wirelessly transmit data to a central data-receiving station.

Written submissions are due by **Nov. 22, 2017** and prototypes must be submitted by **Jan. 5, 2018**. The sensor systems will be evaluated in government specialty labs based on 1) accuracy over a wide range of pollutant levels, 2) system cost, and 3) operation requirements relevant for wildland fire deployment. All developers who submit prototypes will receive direct feedback on laboratory tests and end user review.

The Challenge total award pool is \$60,000, which may be awarded in total to one winner if all the requirements are met, or divided into several partial awards. Prize winner(s) will be selected following the conclusion of judging in summer 2018.

To learn more, visit: www.challenge.gov/challenge/wildland-fire-sensors-challenge

Climate Change/Energy

Toxics / Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

U.S. HUD's Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) Code Talk:
[Codetalk Homepage:](#)

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

EPA Issues Request for Proposals (RFP) for FY17 and FY18 Tribal Wetland Program Development Grants. Proposals are due June 5, 2017.

Wetland Program Development Grants (WPDGs) assist state, tribal, local government (S/T/LG) agencies and interstate/intertribal entities in developing or refining state/tribal/local programs which protect, manage, and restore wetlands. The primary focus of these grants is to develop/refine state/tribal wetland programs. EPA has issued a RFP soliciting proposals from eligible applicants to develop or refine tribal wetland programs. Tribes and intertribal consortia are eligible to apply under this announcement. Non-profit organizations are not

eligible to compete under this RFP. The total amount of federal funding available under this announcement is approximately \$2,644,800 (\$1,191,800 expected from FY17 and \$1,453,000 expected from FY18) depending on Agency funding levels, which may vary from year to year, and other applicable considerations. Awards will likely range from \$25,000 to \$300,000 in federal funds. It is anticipated that the assistance agreements awarded under this announcement will have one- to four-year project periods starting after October 1, 2017. The project period for assistance agreements under this announcement may be no more than four years. For more information and to view the RFP: <https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/tribal-wetland-program-development-grant-request-proposals>. For questions, please contact Myra Price at price.myra@epa.gov.

U.S. EPA Air Grants and Funding:

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

Climate Change/Energy

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Attention Region 9 Tribes:

**Free Technical Assistance to Communities for Brownfields Sites
EPA Region 9 Targeted Brownfields Assessment Program
Soft Deadline – June 9, 2017**

EPA provides contractor assistance to research historic property uses, conduct environmental sampling and identify cleanup options and cost estimates. By submitting a short, on-line application, public entities, nonprofits and tribes can access up to \$100,000 worth of technical assistance for eligible sites. At no cost to the applicant, EPA contractors evaluate whether a property is contaminated and provide follow-up recommendations.

EPA is currently accepting applications with a soft deadline of 9 June, 2017. This is an easy, online application. A new requirement is to submit a [site access consent](#) form with the application.

For more information, please click on the following hyperlinks for our [website](#), [brochure](#) and [application](#).

Federal Transit Administration Low or No Emission Bus Discretionary Grant Program

Funds will be awarded competitively for the purchase or lease of low or no emission vehicles that use advanced technologies for transit revenue operations, including related equipment or facilities. Projects may include costs incidental to the acquisition of buses or to the construction of facilities, such as the costs of related workforce development and training activities, and project administration expenses.

Application deadline is June 26, 2017. [More information can be found here.](#)

DERA Funding Available: 2017 Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program

Deadline for Proposals - June 20, 2017

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is excited to announce the availability of \$11 million in Diesel Emission Reduction Program (DERA) funds to support projects aimed at reducing emissions from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines. Under this competition, between 20 and 80 awards are anticipated to be made to eligible applicants.

Eligible applicants include regional, state, local or tribal agencies, or port authorities, with jurisdiction over transportation or air quality. Nonprofit organizations may apply if they provide pollution reduction or educational services to diesel fleet owners or have, as their principal purpose, the promotion of transportation or air quality.

Learn More at: www.epa.gov/cleandiesel/clean-diesel-national-grants.

If you have questions, please contact cleandiesel@epa.gov.

Indoor Air Quality

HUD's Indian Community Development Block Grant Program

Closing date for Applications: May 18, 2017

The purpose of the ICDBG program is the development of viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low and moderate incomes as defined in 24 CFR 1003.4.

More information can be found [here](#).

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Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register

There are no EPA Rules posted today from the Federal Register for Wednesday, May 17, 2017.

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

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