



SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL TRIBAL AIR ASSOCIATION'S DRAFT BYLAWS AND DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

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This document presents a summary of the key elements of the National Tribal Air Association's draft Bylaws and draft operational Strategic Plan. This summary is provided to Tribal Leaders and their air staff to facilitate their review and understanding of the vision shared by the National Tribal Air Committee Working Group in forming the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA).

We look forward to hearing from you and in receiving your comments regarding the Bylaws and Strategic Plan.

NTAA MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mission of the National Tribal Air Association is to collectively advance air quality management policies and programs, consistent with the needs, interest, and unique legal status of American Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.

POLICY STATEMENTS:

1. The NTAA will collaborate with work groups on air related policies and issues.
2. The NTAA will work cooperatively with other tribal organizations.
3. The NTAA recognizes tribal sovereignty and each tribe's inherent right to form their own relationship with EPA and other agencies.

FOUR MAJOR GOALS:

1. Advocate and advance tribal ecological, cultural, and economic interests in the development of air policy at all levels of government (tribal, federal, state, local and international.)
2. Promote the development, funding, and capacity building of tribal air quality management programs.
3. Promote and/or provide for the availability of air-related technical information, research, and scientific and medical studies.
4. Advance the recognition and acceptance of tribal sovereign authority by conducting effective communication and outreach to state, local, federal and international agencies and the general public. Promote appropriate consultation with all Tribal governments.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE BYLAWS:

The following outlines the major structure of the National Tribal Air Association. The full draft Bylaws document can be found at www.ntec.org.

- ◆Executive Committee: 12 members, one Tribal representative from each Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region, plus Alaska and Hawaii; Officers are the Chairperson, Vice Chair and Sec/Treasurer
- ◆The first Executive Committee can be selected from the membership of the National Tribal Air Committee Working Group (the organizing group of the NTAA) and serve as representatives from their regions for a period of one year
- ◆NTAA's Officers will be chosen from and by the Executive Committee
- ◆The Executive committee and Officers serve staggered terms of two-years
- ◆Voting on Officers, and organizational documents by Principle Members only: Tribal Leaders or their tribal alternates
- ◆Associate Members: Tribal Organizations, Federal Representatives and Others
- ◆Consensus Decision Making on key issues
- ◆Much of NTAA's work will be done via Standing Committees, to include:
 1. Communications Committee & Tribal Government Subcommittee: Develop communications strategy; Subcommittee to enlist Tribal Leaders support and participation.
 2. Resource and Governmental Relations Committee: Work closely with Tribal Governments & staff to develop a strategy for funding and other needs.
 3. Policy Committee: Track national air policy trends and analyze proposed legislation, policies and regulations; report analysis back to Tribal leaders and staff, other Tribal air organizations and Federal representatives.

KEY OBJECTIVES:

Each of the four goals, listed above, contains objectives and each objective is met through performing one or more tasks, as shown in the entire draft Strategic Plan document available at



www.ntec.org. To assist you in your review of the draft Strategic Plan we have taken the liberty of listing only the objectives that support the four major goals, omitting the tasks necessary to accomplish each objective.

For example, an Objective may have several tasks to be performed to achieve that goal, such as the following:

Objective 1: Track national air issue trends in regulations.
Task 3: Ensure that tribes aren't duplicating policy analysis.

Objectives Include:

1. Coordinate outreach to tribes on new legislation, policies and rules etc.
2. Provide policy analysis and advocacy on tribal air issues.
3. Develop an effective communication, consultation, outreach and public relations program.
4. Develop a five-year strategic plan for air quality management in Indian Country.
5. Track international policy.
6. Provide guidance on legislative and technical issues to assist tribal decision-making.
7. Promote, at a national level tribal government ideas that would lead to federal or state legislative changes.
8. Conduct an annual meeting with Tribal Leaders, their air staff and other air partners.
9. Coordinate efforts of various air related groups.
10. Develop a mechanism to hold EPA and other federal/state agencies accountable to the tribes regarding all aspects of their tribal air programs, activities, budget process and tribally driven action items and requests.

11. Ensure that all tribal air quality rules and regulations are consistent with the intent of the Tribal Authority Rule.
12. Work with EPA to revise its model for allocating resources among the regions.
13. Work with EPA to develop a holistic approach to management of air pollution in Indian Country.
14. Promote sustainable development for Indian Country.
15. Create a more equitable method for distribution of funds among the tribes.
16. Ensure that EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) completes guidance on the Clean Air Acts (CAA) 105 grant match funds.
17. Identify, compile, assimilate and disseminate technical information, and provide technical assistance as identified.
18. Build tribal capacity in dealing with air related health issues.
19. Identify tribes, tribal organizations and tribal related entities participating in and or conducting research and studies.
20. Identify and collect tribal air related health issues and needs and make recommendations to appropriate institutions and organizations.
21. Disseminate information through a multi-media approach.
22. Provide general outreach and education to tribal leaders and their air staff and communities.
23. Communicate, inform and educate a diverse mix of air related organizations & agencies.
24. Improve the government-to-government working relationship between the tribes and the EPA and other federal agencies.