



AIR TOXICS MONITORING DATA AVAILABLE FOR FIRST TRIBAL SCHOOLS

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Since an article in USA Today addressed air toxics around schools, EPA has been conducting air monitoring at selected schools around the country (see the article in the July 2009 issue of the Tribal Air News). The Tribal School Air Monitoring Project, the Tribal arm of the School Air Toxic Monitoring project, now has data for the first two locations.

Two Tribes, the Nez Perce Tribe and the Southern Ute, completed the initial round of monitoring at their reservations' Tribal schools. EPA has posted data for Sunnyside Elementary School located on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation near Durango, Colorado and the Nez Perce Reservation located in North Central Idaho. This initial data is available at <http://www.epa.gov/schoolair>.

The monitoring program is slated to continue at other Tribal school locations throughout the nation. The initial EPA/tribal planning team for the project and the Tribal Air Monitor Systems (TAMS) Center Steering Committee are working together on a process to transition the project and the monitoring over to the TAMS Center. Selection of future monitoring locations and logistical coordination

will be routed through the TAMS Center and steering committee.

As the transition to the TAMS Center happens in January, collaborative outreach efforts for the monitoring project will also be rolled out. Meetings with Tribes, informational materials and other efforts will inform Tribes throughout the country about their opportunities for school air monitoring. Any Tribe will be welcome to apply or inquire about monitoring at their Tribal school, even those which do not have their own monitoring program.

For more information please contact Angel McCormack at mccormack.angel@epa.gov, the TAMS center at rose.lee@nau.edu, or visit the website (shown below).



Results for the School Air Toxic Monitoring project will be available at: <http://www.epa.gov/schoolair>

NATIONAL EMISSIONS INVENTORY SUBMISSIONS: CASE STUDIES OF TWO METHODS



RED LAKE BAND OF CHIPPEWA AND ITEP

by Sarah Kelly, Institute for Tribal
Environmental Professionals

Cody Charwood was new to the tribal air arena when she started taking courses from the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals' (ITEP) American Indian Air Quality Training Program in January 2008. By the fall of 2009, she had completed an emissions inventory (EI) for the Red Lake Band of Chippewa and successfully submitted that data to the U.S. EPA's National Emissions Inventory (NEI).

"Starting with an ITEP training was immensely helpful in learning of the services and support that ITEP and the TAMS Center provide to tribes," said Cody. She started working through the online training for the TEISS software (see sidebar), which is designed to help tribes complete EIs for their reservations. While taking the online course, she contacted ITEP's Angelique Luedeker with questions about how to use TEISS.

"I assisted Cody at several points as she completed the EI. She wanted to be sure she was on the right track," said Angelique. "When she got it done, she sent me the completed TEISS project."

The current version of TEISS does

not prepare files in the new data format required by the NEI's Emission Inventory System (EIS), so Angelique took the steps required to reformat the data. After Red Lake contacted EPA to give ITEP their permission to submit on their behalf, Angelique submitted their EI data through the EIS gateway in October 2009.

"TEISS allowed for an easy exchange between Red Lake and ITEP for review, formatting, coding and submittal," said Cody.

When asked why Red Lake decided to submit their data to the NEI, Cody answered, "Besides fulfilling our grant obligations, our program realizes the value of sharing knowledge and information, and, furthermore, the importance of cooperation between agencies. Red Lake hoped to provide useful data that would address a data gap, as well as to use in air dispersion modeling, risk assessment screening, and tracking emission trends on regional and national levels. Shortly after Red Lake had submitted data, a positive relationship has been cultivated with the State agency in collaborating and sharing of information. It was also important that Red Lake would be represented in regional decision-making processes."

ITEP is currently working with the TEISS developer to update the program so it will prepare data in the format needed to submit to the NEI through the EIS. The updated TEISS version will be available in early 2010.

ITEP provides assistance to tribal staff in all aspects of EI development. TEISS is available to all federally recognized tribes at no cost. Contact Angelique Luedeker at Angelique.Luedeker@nau.edu or Sarah Kelly at Sarah.Kelly@nau.edu for assistance or to get a copy of TEISS.

TEISS : Tribal Emission Inventory Software Solution

Tribal environmental professionals have long needed an easy-to-use computer software application to calculate, organize, store, and report on air pollution emissions occurring within Indian Country. To this end, the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP), in partnership with the Tribal Data Development Working Group (TDDWG) of the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP), contracted Lakes Environmental to create the Tribal Emissions Inventory Software Solution (TEISS). The TEISS provides guidance on what type of data to enter, conducts calculations and unit conversions, and creates clear reports and maps that support the needs of tribal air quality programs, the USEPA, and regional planning organizations (RPOs) addressing air quality issues. By developing their own air emission inventory data, tribes may play an active and constructive role in the regional and national planning processes.

SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTS DATA FLOWS THROUGH THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE NETWORK

By Christopher Horan, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community

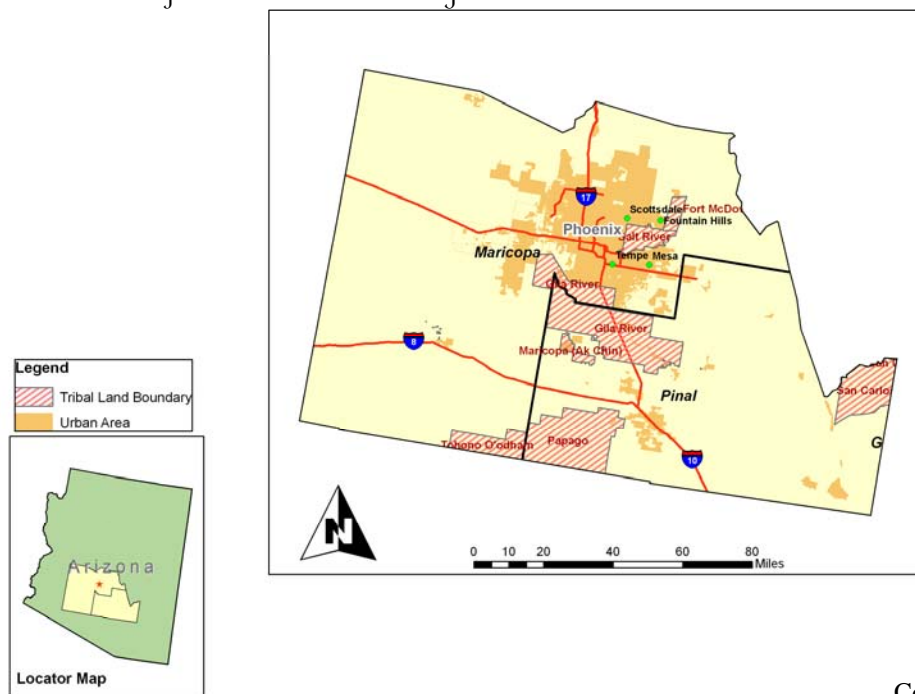
The Exchange Network is a partnership among states, tribes, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) that is revolutionizing the exchange of environmental information internally and externally. Partners on the Exchange Network share data efficiently and securely over the Internet. This new approach is providing real-time access to higher quality data -- saving time, resources, and money for partner states, tribes, and territories.

Partners on the Exchange Network establish and maintain servers called Network Nodes that are securely connected on the Internet. A Node is a partner's single point of presence on the Exchange Network and serves as the exchange point for all data requests and submissions. Network Nodes have the ability to automatically listen for and submit requests and submissions. Nodes are secure and authenticate all requests for data.

The Exchange Network works because partners agree to use a common vocabulary to define data exchanges. Incorporating data standards developed by the Environmental Data Standards Council, trading partners develop XML schemas and Data Exchange Templates (DETs) that standardize and identify the way environmental information is shared, so internal and external partners can obtain and understand the data they need when they need it. The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC or Community) received grant funding through the Exchange Network to implement air quality related data flows.

SRPMIC is a federally-recognized Indian tribe, located in Maricopa County, AZ. The Community is situated within a large metropolitan region with a population of over 2 million people that includes the cities of Mesa and Tempe to the south, the cities of Phoenix and Scottsdale to the west and the cities of Fountain Hills and Scottsdale to the

Figure 1: Location of the Tribal Community



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reservation’s northern boundary. The SRPMIC, established by Executive Order in 1879, is home to over 10,000 O’Odham (Pima) and Piipaash (Maricopa) members residing within a 54,000 acre reservation. The SRPMIC’s location within a dense urban region results in a broad range of economic development and land uses which, in turn, lead to a variety of pollution sources. The SRPMIC includes 12,000 acres of agricultural cultivation, large-scale aggregate mining operation and municipal solid waste landfill operations. The continued urbanization of this region has encroached on the Community boundaries, with major highways such as the Pima Loop 101 (HWY 101-Pima Freeway), Loop 202 (Red Mountain Freeway) and Beeline Highway (AZHWY 87) coursing through the Community. This growth continues to significantly increase the number of mobile sources and resultant air pollution.

The two data flows that have been implemented are the Emission Inventory System (EIS) and Air Quality System (AQS). AQS contains ambient air pollution data collected by EPA, state, local, and tribal air pollution control agencies from thousands of monitoring stations. AQS also contains meteorological data, descriptive information about each monitoring station (including its geographic location and its operator), and data quality assurance/quality control information. The Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) and other AQS users rely upon the system data to assess air quality, assist in Attainment/

Non-Attainment designations, evaluate State Implementation Plans for Non-Attainment Areas, perform modeling for permit review analysis, and perform other air quality management functions. AQS information is also used to prepare reports for Congress as mandated by the Clean Air Act.

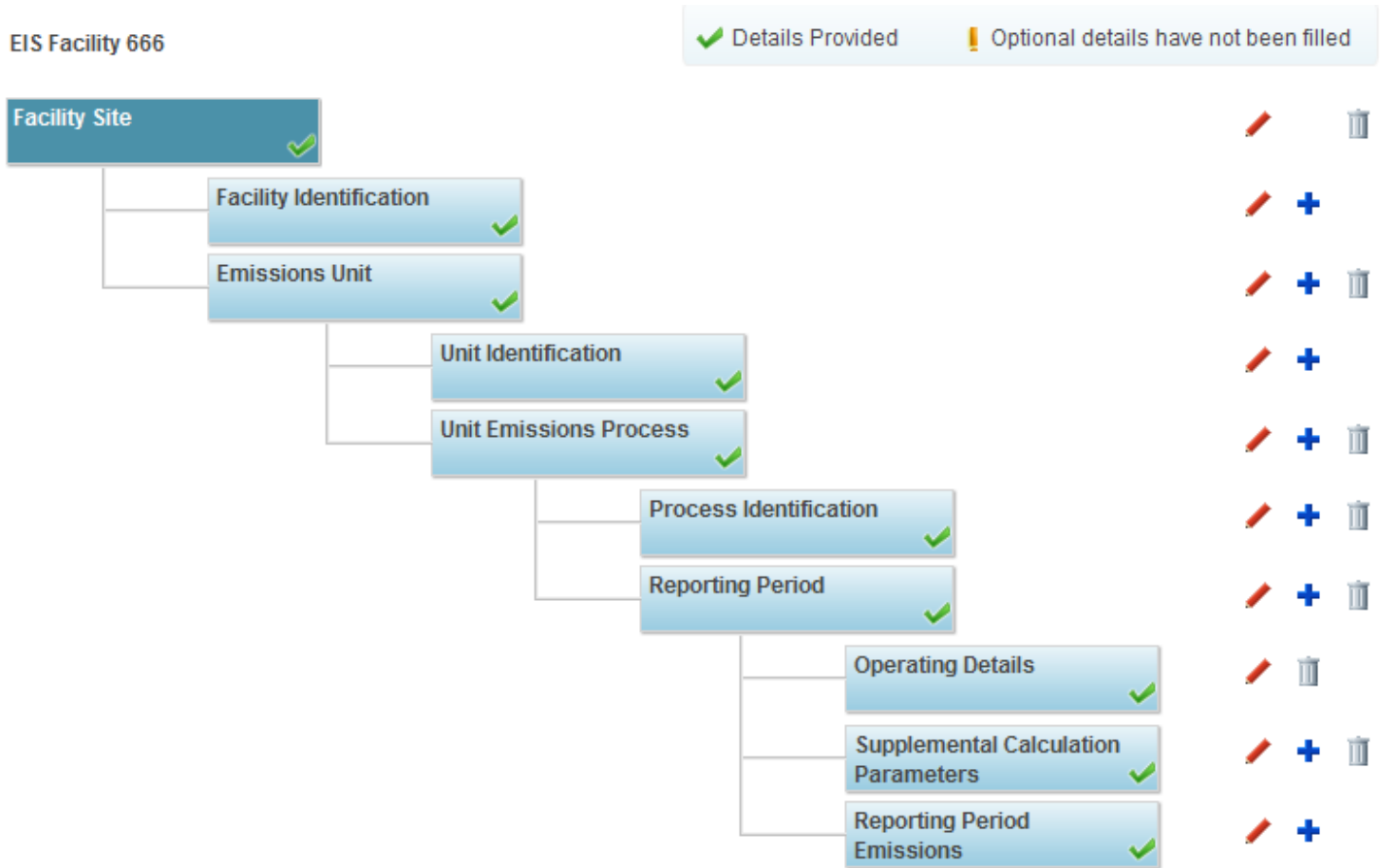
The EIS is the new information system for storing current and historical emissions inventory data. The system is EPA’s compilation of estimates of air pollutants discharged on an annual basis and their sources. The compilation includes emissions estimates submitted by State, Local and Tribal air pollution control agencies, estimates calculated by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and emissions obtained from other sources. EPA uses the system to track emissions over time, develop regional pollutant reduction strategies, set and analyze regulations, perform air toxics risk assessments including inhalation risks and multi-pathway exposures, model air pollutant dispersion and deposition, and measure environmental performance as required by the Government Performance and Results Act.

After implementing these data flows, the Community is able to communicate environmental data information quickly to external organizations, and, more importantly, to the SRPMIC Tribal Community Members. It is important to thank the National Exchange Network for its progressive work in the data management field which helps protect the Community.

Figure 2: Screen shot of Graphical User Interface



Figure 3: Screen shot of EIS schema details



MEET ANGEL MCCORMACK—ON DETAIL TO OAQPS

My name is Angel McCormack and I am excited to have the opportunity to be here at Research Triangle Park working in the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards on national tribal issues. I am a member of the Nez Perce Tribe from Lapwai, Idaho and the mother of two beautiful girls. Taking this position has been an adventure even before entering the building, moving first to Seattle, Washington and now RTP, North Carolina.

The Nez Perce Tribe has blessed my decision to take on this opportunity to work with EPA in an effort to assist in more effective collaboration and communication with tribes regionally and nationally. I recently completed an assignment in Region 10 (R10) with the Air, Waste and Toxics program and gratefully thank them for all the wonderful experience. Before being at R10, I began work in December 1999 with the Nez Perce Tribe's air quality program. I worked in

as many aspects of the program as possible, including developing and implementing the Tribe's Smoke Management Program.

My personal goals for the work at RTP are to share what I have learned in working for and with Tribes for many years and to learn what I can from the years of experience available at EPA. I look forward to becoming a pivotal part of the team and assisting where I can — giving input, feedback, and sharing information. In the positions I've held in the past, I have worked very hard to better understand the delicate balance of working between agencies, tribes and the public. By doing this work, I feel that a bridge can be built to keep work moving forward achieving clear outcomes and objectives.

I can be reached at: mccormack.angel@epa.gov or 919-541-3588.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE IN JANUARY

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS), the National Institute of Environmental Health Institute (NIEHS) Worker Education and Training Program (WETP) and Dillard University will co-sponsor a conference entitled Environmental Justice (EJ), Air Quality, Goods Movement and Green Jobs on January 25-29, 2010 in New Orleans, LA.

This conference will highlight best practices and provide tools, information, and resources to communities and agencies to improve their capacity to make measureable improvements in air quality in overburdened communities.

If you are interested in helping your community become more effective in addressing environmental justice issues, please consider attending this conference to learn more about using collaborative problem solving, analytical tools and governmental

databases, as well as governmental programs and funding sources.

The major topics of discussion at the conference are:

- Goods Movement - new initiatives to reduce the impacts of transporting goods or produce.
- Sustainability/Green Jobs - sustainability in the context of jobs aimed at preserving ecosystems and reducing consumption.
- Ambient Air/Climate Change - impacts of ambient air pollutants and greenhouse gases on disproportionately affected communities.
- Hazardous Waste Cleanup/Job Training - impacts and challenges of hazardous materials, waste exposure and cleanup activities.

For more information or to register for the EJ Conference, please visit the following website: <http://www.cleanairinfo.com/ejconference>.

If there are additional questions, please contact Lena (Vickey) Epps-Price at (919) 541-5573 or epps-price.lena@epa.gov.



2009 A LANDMARK YEAR FOR CLIMATE

Climate change is the greatest environmental challenge of our time and now, more than ever, the world is eager for U.S. leadership and action on this issue. The U.S. is answering the call to act and 2009 has been a landmark year for climate action at the EPA. In her address to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen on December 9, 2009, EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson noted that 2009 will have a “place in history as the year when the United States Government began seriously addressing the challenge of greenhouse gas pollution and seizing the opportunity of clean-energy reform.”

It has been an active and dynamic time at the Agency and EPA has proposed and finalized several climate-related regulations in the past year. While the Administrator has said that the Obama Administration supports a comprehensive legislative solution to climate, she has emphasized EPA’s commitment to science and the law by addressing climate change in a common-sense, reasonable and responsible way that will make important progress.

Here is a quick summary of the climate change highlights of 2009:

California Waiver

On June 30, 2009, a final decision was issued granting California’s waiver request, enabling the state to enforce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions standards for new cars and light trucks. California had initially requested this waiver in 2005 but the previous Administration had denied the request. Thirteen states have formally adopted California’s GHG rules and four others are poised to adopt them. Furthermore, the granting of the California waiver is broadly supported by several national automobile manufacturing organizations and most of the major auto companies. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/otaq/climate/ca-waiver.htm.

Proposed Light-Duty Vehicle GHG Emission Standard

EPA proposed this rule, the first-ever national GHG emission standards under the Clean



Air Act, on September 15, 2009 jointly with the Department of Transportation (DOT). Known as the Clean Car Rule, this rule proposes new standards for both GHG emissions (under the EPA’s program) and fuel economy (under the DOT’s CAFE program) and will apply to vehicles that are responsible for almost 60 percent of all U.S. transportation-related GHGs. The rule represents the second phase of EPA’s response to the Supreme Court decision in *Massachusetts vs. EPA* (the final Endangerment Finding, see below, is the first phase). EPA hopes to have a final rule in place by March 2010. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/otaq/climate/regulations.htm.

Final Mandatory GHG Reporting Rule

This final rule was signed by the Administrator on September 22, 2009, and emissions monitoring is set to begin on January 1, 2010. This rule requires reporting of GHG emissions by suppliers of fossil fuels and industrial gases, manufacturers of vehicles and engines, and facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons or more of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per year. An estimated 85 percent of the total U.S. GHG emissions, from approximately 10,000 facilities are covered by this rule. The rule covers emissions of the six major GHGs including carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) and other fluorinated gases. Data collected through the reporting program will provide a better understanding

of where GHGs are coming from and will guide development of the best possible policies and programs to reduce emissions. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html.

Proposed PSD Tailoring Rule

This common-sense rule was proposed on September 30, 2009 and applies to permits under the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) program. A PSD permit is required before a new industrial facility can be built or an existing facility can expand in a way that increases emissions. GHGs (especially CO₂) are emitted in much greater mass than other pollutants, so regulating GHGs under the Clean Air Act could potentially trigger permit requirements for millions of small sources. In order to avoid placing an undue burden on small businesses around the country, EPA is proposing to tailor the PSD permit program to apply only to the largest facilities – those emitting at least 25,000 tons of CO₂e a year. These facilities account for nearly 70 percent of the GHG emissions in the U.S. It makes sense to remove smaller sources from permitting, however, there may be other cost-effective ways to address their emissions. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/nsr/actions.html.

Reconsideration of Johnson Memo

This reconsideration, also announced on September 30, 2009, requests public comment on when certain pollutants, including CO₂ and other GHGs, would be subject to regulation and covered under the permitting provisions of the Clean Air Act. The original memo by then-Administrator Stephen Johnson indicated that the PSD permitting program would apply only to pollutants that are subject to the CAA or EPA regulation. CO₂ was not considered to be in either category, but the events related in this article could change that regulatory landscape. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/nsr/guidance.html.

Final Endangerment Finding

On December 7, 2009, the Administrator finalized the “Endangerment Finding” that greenhouse gases threaten both the public health and the public welfare, and that GHG emissions from motor vehicles contribute to that threat. By issuing this finding, EPA is responding to the 2007 *Massachusetts v. EPA* Supreme Court decision, in which the court found that greenhouse gases are air pollutants under the Clean Air Act. The Court held that EPA must determine whether or not emissions of greenhouse gases from new motor

vehicles cause or contribute to air pollution which endanger public health or welfare, or whether the science is too uncertain to make a reasoned decision. The action does not itself impose any requirements on industry or other entities. It does, however, pave the way for EPA to finalize the proposed GHG emission standards for light-duty vehicles (see “**Proposed Light-Duty Vehicle GHG Emission Standard**” above) and other possible rules. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/climatechange/endangerment.html.

Tribal Climate Listening Session (non-regulatory)

In addition to the regulatory actions listed above, EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation teamed up with the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) to host a tribal listening session on climate change on November 23, 2009. Over 60 callers participated in the session and comments were heard from tribes around the country. Gina McCarthy, the EPA Assistant Administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation, participated in the call and asked tribes to continue to send documentation, comments, observations, and papers on how climate change is currently impacting their communities. NTAA compiled these comments and observations and the resulting documents are available through NTAA (kcronin@ntec.org).

In addition to these efforts by the EPA, Congress is moving forward with several legislative proposals to address climate change. Most of these efforts focus on the use of a cap and trade program to reduce emissions, but other policy tools, including energy efficiency and renewable energy, are being discussed. Finally, there has been renewed engagement with the international community on climate change, culminating in the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen last month.

Contact: Wilson.Erika@epa.gov

For the most recent action on climate change at the EPA, visit www.epa.gov/climatechange.



NTAA MEETS OAR AA

By Bill Thompson,
National Tribal Air Association

In early October, leaders of the National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) met with the Assistant Administrator (AA) for the US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air and Radiation (EPA OAR), Gina McCarthy. The picture here shows the meeting, and a beautiful basket that Rose Kalistook wove for Gina. Because EPA employees are not allowed to accept personal gifts, Gina held the Native American artwork for a photo to immortalize the moment.

Our meeting was a success. I opened the meeting by thanking her for meeting with us, and noted to her that this was the first time, and hopefully not the last, that the AA of

OAR and NTAA had ever met. After introducing ourselves, I gave a brief accounting of NTAA, and stated our famous caveat that "we do not speak for All Tribes..." and explained why. We all reiterated this periodically throughout the meeting.

We hit all of our points in a conversational give and take, and Gina's countenance exhibited 100 percent engagement and concern.

This is simply a brief account; Stephen and I will give a fuller summary of the meeting soon. [NTAA representatives] each did exceptional work in representing the intentions of our Executive Committee. We told her our intention was to have an ongoing dialogue with her, and to meet again in six months. Who wants to go next?"



Pictured, from left to right, are: Bill Thompson of NTAA and TAMS, Rose Kalistook of Alaska Upik, Gina McCarthy, James Tempte of Southern Ute, Stephen Hartsfield of NTAA and Bob Gruenig of NTAA.

Photo by Laura McKelvey



UPDATE ON TRIBAL NAAQS DESIGNATIONS

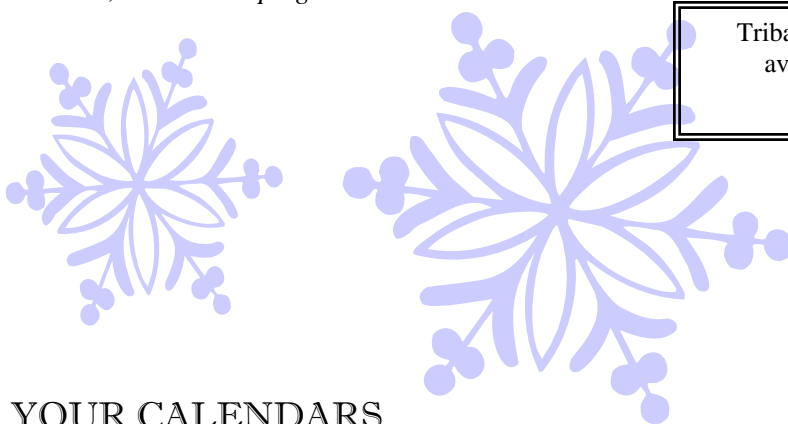
You may have been wondering what is going on with Tribal National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) designations, and how the ozone NAAQS reconsideration and upcoming NAAQS reviews will impact Tribes, states and EPA Regions where Tribes are located. OAQPS has been working with various OAR and OGC representatives to develop a Tribal Designations Policy that will facilitate national consistency and uniformity for implementation.

OAQPS expects for the Tribal Designations Policy and associated information materials to be available on the Tribal Air Website in early 2010. We will provide a story with more details in the April issue of the Tribal Air News.

Contact: Tom Link, link.tom@epa.gov



Tribal NAAQS designations information will be available on the EPA Tribal Air website at: www.epa.gov/air/tribal



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- January 12 –14: Developing Environmental Codes and Ordinances, San Diego, CA (ITEP)
- January 12-15: Introduction to Tribal Air Quality, Flagstaff, AZ (ITEP)
- January 26—28: Environmental Justice Conference, New Orleans, LA (OAQPS)
- March 9: Sustainable Skylines/Sustainability for the Seventh Generation Kickoff Workshop, Washington, DC (OAQPS)
- June 6-10: 2010 National Tribal Science Forum, Traverse City, MI





Tribal Air News

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