

**SUMMER 2017 RTOC MEETING, FULL RTOC
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23RD 2017
EPA REGIONAL OFFICE
HUALAPAI YOUTH CAMP PEACH SPRINGS, ARIZONA**

OPENING PRAYER

OPENING REMARKS

- Welcoming by Damon Clarke, Hualapai Tribal Council Chairman. Chairman Clarke spoke about Hualapai Tribe's relationship with the EPA and the current political state of the US EPA.
- Welcoming by Philbert Watahomigie Sr., Hualapai Tribal Council Vice-Chairman. Vice-Chairman Watahomigie spoke about the history of the Hualapai people, the reservation and the youth camp.
- Welcoming by Clay Bravo, Hualapai Tribal Council Member and former Region 9 RTOC Tribal Co-Chair. Council Member Bravo spoke about the history of the RTOC Tribal Caucus and the National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC).

Introductions are made around the room

- Roll is called for Region 9 RTOC Tribal Representatives by Tribal Co-Chair Alan Bacock
- Roll is called for Region 9 RTOC EPA Representatives by EPA Co-Chair Jeff Scott
- Opening remarks given by Jeff Scott, Region 9 RTOC EPA Co-Chair.
- Opening remarks given by Alan Bacock, Region 9 RTOC Tribal Co-Chair.

ISSUES REVIEW FROM SPRING RTOC

LAURA EBBERT, TRIBAL SECTION MANAGER, LAND DIVISION, REGION 9, US EPA

The following issues were highlighted from the Spring RTOC meeting with a full listing of action items shared with the Tribal Caucus by email prior to the Summer RTOC meeting.

- UST Inspector credentials taking a very long time to be approved by EPA
EPA Response – Water Enforcement Division has acknowledged this issue and senior management within Enforcement Division who is responsible for credential approval will make sure to highlight credentials that are needing approval at their weekly meetings. They will be working toward providing quicker service to tribes for credential approval in the future.

- Questions from 2017 Spring RTOC and from 2017 Summer RTOC Tribal Caucus meeting about Indirect Cost

EPA Response - Craig Wills, EPA Grants Management Officer could not be present at the 2017 Summer RTOC to discuss the complexities of indirect cost. However, he sent some responses to action items that will be reviewed later in the agenda. He passed along two key messages relating to discussions at the 2017 Spring RTOC meeting. First, headquarters has not yet issued the upcoming Indirect Cost guidance that was mentioned at the Spring RTOC as it has yet to be published. Second, it is important to have the financial department staff of your respective tribes read the terms and

conditions of your grants. These terms and conditions will be sent as an attachment with your award document and they do include specific language about when you can and cannot draw indirect cost.

- Tribes wanted to make sure that EPA was engaging in meaningful discussions on Salton Sea issues

EPA Response - Jeremy Bower from EPA US/Mexico Border Program has been looking into Salton Sea issues and will be taking on the role of the EPA counterpart in these discussions.

NTOC REPORT AND UPDATES

PAULA BRITTON, CA NTC REP – CLIFFORD BANUELOS, NV NTC REP – ALEX CABILLO, AZ NTC REP

- The National Tribal Caucus (NTC) recently met with EPA senior administrative staff in Tulsa. These senior staff seemed to not have much background relating to environmental issues or environmental protection programs. They had expressed great interest in cooperative federalism and putting more responsibility in the hands of states. It was suggested that the NTC review the ECOS documentation regarding cooperative federalism. After review of the Environmental Council of States (ECOS) Cooperative Federalism 2.0 document, the NTC thought it would be beneficial to share a similar paper from a tribal perspective. This idea will be presented to the whole NTC to see if they would like to adopt the same concept as the ECOS document.
- There was discussion about the 1984 Indian Policy reaffirmation. Region 9 NTC representatives are hopeful that the 1984 policy will be signed before October.
- There has not been a date set for the next NTOC meeting. Hopefully the next NTOC meeting will happen before the Annual Region 9 Tribal/EPA conference. It does not seem likely though.
- The last 2 conference calls with the NTC indicated that there was a shared belief amongst NTC representatives that there is a dismantling of environmental programs happening.
- There was some discussion held about the Trump administration proposed budget and the potential cuts that it contains.
- Most of the NTC budget discussion was on the National Program Manager Guidance and how it will impact tribal environmental programs if the proposed budget is approved. After the NPM Guidance was unveiled it was announced that tribes would have 30 days to comment on the guidance. The Region 9 RTOC Tribal Co-Chair requested an additional 60 days to gather comments, but the EPA only grant 7 additional days.
- OITA Guidance has no reflection of AIEO or the NTOC in their guidance. OITA needs to establish an office of integrity and accountability within AIEO to be credible to tribes. AIEO claims to be the spear head of consultation and they are not doing that. They don't seem to be taking part in tribal environmental budget discussions which is disappointing. ETEPs are being held up as the solution to meeting the needs of tribes. It feels like funding for tribal environmental programs is in jeopardy. NPM guidance recommended cuts to NTC for contractors which is needed for ensuring documentation and action. It seems like whoever decided these cuts were necessary is not in contact with NTC. Need more caucus time on conference calls, seems limited and then EPA takes over the line.

Tribal Co-Chair Bacock – It is frustrating seeing what is happening on the national level. It is insulting that tribes are not being properly consulted with or if they share information and are not given responses until actions are determined. Actions are being pre-determined prior to the time tribes are given to interact. This was demonstrated during the consultation period for the Clean Water Rule. After the

consultation period was closed, it was opened up for public comment. To date, there has still been no response provided for comments submitted by tribes during the consultation process. Change is needed so that tribal voices are heard and a part of this process. This is not an acceptable way of working together.

At the Tribal Caucus meeting it was discussed that Region 9 RTOC seems to have found ways to create agendas that work for both the Tribal Caucus and the EPA and have found ways to address issues with some effectiveness. This seems to not be the case with our national counterparts dealing with those in DC.

Question from EPA – Could Region 9 RTOC do anything to help drive the agenda at the national level with NTOC?

Response from Tribal Caucus – The Region 9 RTOC Tribal Caucus has been helping Region 9 NTC representatives with this to a degree.

Question from EPA – Perhaps this accountability for agenda items from the NTC could not only pushed by the Region 9 Tribal Caucus but also Region 9 EPA.

Comment from attendee - R9 has a very strong voice. It has the 2nd highest number of tribes in the nation and the highest number of tribes with environmental programs. We need EPA Region 9 to be a voice supporting the needs of tribes.

EPA Co-Chair Scott – make sure what you want to weigh in on is in writing, that it is short and to the point. Don't lose stuff in too much detail or too much political correctness. Let them know what is happening and what is not happening. Tailor your messages so they hear what you want them to hear.

Question from attendee – Where would Region 9 Tribes come into play in the transition? Where is EPA's role in AIEO budget? How do messages (effectively) go through NTOC and to AIEO?

Response from EPA – EPA provides input into guidance's. This input is more powerful coming right from a specific tribe to headquarters. Sometimes this is more effective than a message from a regional body like the RTOC. The appointee's administrators will probably have little to no environmental background and will need to be educated on tribal issues. If education is done early and right it will have an impact.

Comment from attendee – Senator Lisa Murkowski intends to submit language under the GAP statute for implementation of solid waste in tribal environmental programs. Could we hear from AIEO about this? Why haven't they reached out to the tribes?

ACTION ITEM - Request for Felicia Wright to attend the Annual Conference to provide a detailed update on AIEO projects mentioned at May RTOC.

Comment from EPA- Everything will be done to bring political leadership to the annual conference. The message is not the same if it comes from EPA staff. Cooperative federalism is a high priority for Administrator Pruitt. Currently, politicians are listening to tribes more so than EPA staff.

Ken Wagner is looking to come out to the annual conference. This man has a lot of influence. He likes to hear that stakeholders are not just depending on EPA to fix things. He likes to hear that each party is bringing a piece of something to the solution.

ACTION ITEM – Tribes need to send letters to regional, national, and political offices detailing concerns.

ACTION ITEM - Send letters to each AA summarizing inadequate tribal consultation and coordination, identifying desired future state, and inviting them to come consult with tribes.

Question from attendee – Can EPA fund a program that has not been included with the guidance (ie. CWA 319)

EPA Co-Chair Scott – things can be done if they are not included in guidance. There is a difference between guidance and regulation. If Clean Water Act Section 319 grant opportunities are not in the guidance but EPA receives funding for 319 programs, then EPA can still fund 319 programs through the year.

TRIBAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS BRAINSTORMING SESSION

Last RTOC discussion took place about creating a way to showcase tribal accomplishments and success. Several template documents were passed around the room as examples to help the RTOC decide on what kind of format and features the RTOC would like to see in an accomplishments/successes reporting document. Each table reviewed the templates and discussed which templates they like or dislike, which features within the templates they like or dislike and what their ideal reporting document might look like. One document is the Region 10 annual submission form for General Assistance Program, one is a CWA 319 NPS form and one AIEO put together in 2015.

Comments about accomplishment/success document:

- Most groups in the room found the NPS checkbox form the least appealing
- Document should be visual, short and should include maps
- Would be beneficial to index/list tribes by geographic areas within the region
- Don't use population or demographic information but rather a community profile
- Use of bullet points for highlights then elaborate with narrative (about 3 bullet points would probably be most effective)
- Should have a place for before and after photos
- Should have an element indicating some sort of economic return
- Should be an area to demonstrate an element of beneficial results to environment that were achieved
- It would be good for geographic areas to have a variety of success stories from different environmental media programs
- Should be an area to demonstrate an element of unmet need (what else could be done to expand on these successes?)
- Check box type forms don't tell a story as there may be many variants aside from choices provided.
- Compelling story telling and data collection are seen as high goals
- Changed behavior is not the only means of success

Questions about accomplishment/success document:

- What kind of stories should be told to express certain points?
- Is there a criteria for stories that make it into a final document
- What is purpose for this form? (Is it for more funding?)
- Who is audience? (Regional Administrator, other staff, new Project Officers, Tribal Council)
- Would tribes be willing to share the type of data that might be necessary to create this document? (confidentiality)

Additional comments about accomplishment/success document:

- Tribes should do this for themselves so it can be used independently and not just for EPA
- Tribes should think about putting this in work plan, so this activity will be funded

The next step after gathering this information will be put together a pilot template that will be out in about a month.

Question from EPA - At the annual conference, is there anything helpful that could be provided by EPA that could help with production of visual elements?

Response from Tribal Caucus Member - Learning about drone technology (flying drones, aerial photography and video)

John Flores will be creating a success story board display for the Tribal/EPA Annual Conference. Stories to be submitted would resemble the kind of success document discussed today in a one or two page format. Deadline to send out success stories is October 15. John Flores also requested Region 9 tribal seal images from the different tribes to place on the conference website.

ACTION ITEM - Send success stories to John Flores by October 15th for inclusion in Annual Conference poster session. All Region 9 Tribes by October 15th.

ACTION ITEM - Develop draft success story template to discuss at Annual Conference. Kate Fenimore will have this available for the next RTOC at the 2017 Tribal/EPA Annual Conference.

Question to EPA - Concern with economic return aspect of pilot form. Is this a requirement?

Response from EPA - This isn't something that would be a requirement in a success presentation it is an option.

Comment from RTOC attendee— some kind of value should be mentioned (how environment or people benefit from this)

Question to EPA – Will this success document in the future become a requirement for tribes?

Response from EPA - None of this will be mandatory for grants, this was to answer the question from the May 2017 RTOC, how to showcase success. If tribes like it, that's great, if not that's ok.

Comment from RTOC attendee - The benefit of this success document is it will help maintain a funding level per tribe and region wide. Perhaps it could serve to gain a tribe additional funding.

EPA ADMINISTRATION & BUDGET UPDATES

EPA MANAGEMENT, REGION 9, US EPA

GAP JOINT EVALUATION PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

Under part 35 of the CFR EPA is obligated to provide a joint evaluation (also referred to as end of year report), which is an annual accounting how well a program has performed against the commitments your program has made. In this process EPA will look at your work plan to see if your program completed the things that the work plan said you would do. EPA will then do an assessment of completed work versus commitments to ensure that funding provided is commensurate with work status.

When the end of the year is coming, take a careful look at deliverables you said would be provided and make sure they are completed. If you need to, you can renegotiate the deliverables with your Project Officer and clarify new deliverables that will justify your work. Work that is completed should match your work plan. If there is a deviation of what was promised and what was done, talk to your PO. Since it is a joint evaluation process, EPA will send a draft to your environmental office for review and correction. It will then be sent back to EPA to finalize and then back to the tribe.

Question to EPA- Is this evaluation judged on commitment or components?

Response from EPA - This evaluation is judged on commitment and not components.

EPA Region 9 has been backlogged with previous years end of year reports. They are about to get caught up on the last remaining end of year reports and hopefully it won't happen again in the future.

Advanced monitoring will be done on 10% of all awards issued every year. Advanced monitoring is picked randomly and EPA tries not to repeat advanced monitoring on a specific tribe. If a tribe has not experienced advanced monitoring yet, then it will likely be happening in the near future. Advanced monitoring is very much like an end of year report. A series of questions are asked and those answers are entered into a database that will determine if the things that need to be done are being done and at the right cost. Advanced monitoring can either be done by site visit or via phone session.

Comment from attendee- There should be additional oversight when project officer changes happen shortly before or during the end of year reports process.

Response from EPA – We are working on trying to create a more efficient place for information to be stored so that information can be accessed with greater ease by whoever might need it.

Comment from attendee- It seems like there has been process change from effort/level assessment to counting items. It seems like extra achievements that are consistent with ETEP's or capacity indicators seem to go unrecognized and forgetting to do something as simple as attach a meeting agenda from a meeting that was attended will get us reprimanded. This process of trying to get capacity indicators is discouraging and frustrating.

Response from EPA – All of the above mentioned reasons make the accounting process difficult. If EPA is audited the grant file they keep on a tribe needs to be very clear.

When constructing your work plans, contemplate meaningful deliverables. Think about how you would like to characterize work. Remember to think about what you put in your work plan (going to a meeting) because you will be asked to show proof of that.

STRENGTHENING RTOC UPDATE

GAP CHARTER WORKGROUP LEADS

- There are currently two standard operating procedure documents that are under revision right now. The workgroup is accepting comment on these documents. Comments can be sent to Ginny Hatch, workgroup lead for the Charter Workgroup.
- There is not yet an action plan for Charter Workgroup.
- Meeting frequency was also a topic that was covered at workgroup meeting. One thing that was discussed was possibly have a monthly RTOC call.
- Training for RTOC representatives was discussed. Right now there are currently none in place. There are currently discussions to create a training for RTOC representatives so they can be more effective.
- Taking suggestions on how everyone can receive more support from reps.
- Aside from training orientation for reps, there was the question of the reps retreat. If the reps retreat is being considered it will happen next January.
- Information about what that training entails will be sent out through RTOC email.

Question from attendee – Had submitted a request about creating an additional geographic area within Colorado River area. Is this being considered?

Response from Co-Chair Bacock - This would require a change to the charter and right now the Charter Workgroup is working on revising the previously mentioned documents. This is a relevant question and concern which the Charter Workgroup should take into consideration while working on amendments to the charter.

Upcoming Tribal Workgroup call will have deeper discussion about all the previously mentioned topics plus discussion about the upcoming assessment document will be happening.

EPA RESPONSE TO TRIBAL CAUCUS REPORT

- Willard Antone, GRIC - Ozone attainment guidance options for defining boundaries

EPA Response – This issue will be sent to Stephanie Valentine with a request to respond by September 1st. Lauren Maghran provided an answer at meeting. In October of 2015 the Ozone Standard was lowered to 70 parts per billion. Areas can either be designated as attainment, unclassifiable or non-attainment. Tribal designation policy that guides this process. EPA also reached out to tribes for their recommendations on what they believed their areas should be based on monitoring.

- NV Tribes - Could someone from Nevada BLM come to the annual conference and talk about mining and water concerns?

Conference Planning Response – Clifford Banuelos and John Flores have already responded to this item.

- Lisa Gover, Campo - Regarding E-Enterprise, Nicole Moutoux has been named as the new Regional Coordinator. We would like to know about her experience working with Indian Tribes as co-regulators and her goals and priorities moving forward.

EPA Response – Nicole Moutoux will be contacting Lisa Gover and filling her in with this info.

- So Cal Tribes - Request grants.gov Workspace training at the annual conference

Conference Planning Response - Craig Wills will help John Flores get an invitation to proper person.

- NV Tribes - The Nevada reps want a grant writing session during the conference.

Conference Planning Response – There is a possibility that someone from a university will be at conference to conduct a grant writing workshop.

- NV and Eastern CA Tribes - Eastern CA and NV need clarification on indirect cost rate development process. The annual process that Tribes work through are fairly consistent, but are conflicting with EPA. Tribes need to know how to be able to budget for and drawdown indirect costs.

EPA Response - Federal Regulation 2 CFR 200, Appendix VII Section D.1.(a-d) describes submission of indirect cost rate proposals. In part, it states "each Indian tribal government desiring reimbursement of indirect costs must submit its indirect cost proposal to the Department of Interior" (Interior Business Center). Further, the regulation states "indirect cost proposals must be developed within six months after the close the Tribe's fiscal year". Currently, EPA Region 9 will allow a Tribe to budget for indirect costs when applying for EPA grants. However, the Tribe is not allowed to drawdown funds (get reimbursed) for those budgeted indirect costs until they receive an approved negotiated rate from the Department of Interior that covers the period of time when the indirect costs are to be expended. Additionally, EPA Region 9 is working with HQs EPA to update agency policy regarding indirect costs. If contract for indirect cost is going to expire a new proposal should be turned in to the Department of Interior Business Center.

- Eastern CA Tribes - EPA Exchange Network Regional Coordinators are not attending the National Exchange Network or Tribal Exchange Network conferences. There is a need to have staff in those positions at both conferences.

EPA Response - Connie Choy will respond to this by September 5th.

- Eastern CA Tribes - Request to have the National Exchange Network Conference held on the West coast since it seems to be held regularly east of the Mississippi.

EPA Response - Connie Choy will respond to this by September 5th.

- TREX is going offline due to lack of funding, without advance notice. There are 17 tribes that were using the system that have no other way to grade and submit data. Why did this happen, and what systems will replace this function for users?

EPA Response - Connie Choy will respond to this by September 5th.

- So Cal Tribes - Tribes would like to see EPA Project Officers read Tribal quarterly reports within and respond within a timely manner (30 days) if that report has been accepted or needs to be updated. Tribes are frustrated when no response is provided until the grant closeout when the PO lists that a task deemed fulfilled within a quarterly report is listed as not complete. If no response is received the report will be considered to be accepted as submitted.

EPA Response - The Regional Indian Program Steering Committee will review this request and provide a response by the October RTOC.

- Tribes would like a protocol that Project Officers would share in advance a list of topics that would be covered on site visits and what materials the tribe needs to prepare or have at hand.

EPA Response - The Regional Indian Program Steering Committee will review this request and provide a response by the October RTOC.

- Some Nevada tribes have expressed their displeasure that they are continuing to have to make additional changes to their work plans that were not outlined in their respective guidance letters. Tribes are still in the process of making changes to their work plans for FY2018 in the middle of August when grant recipients typically are receiving their award documentation. Why is this happening?

EPA Response - Grant negotiation may take more than one exchange to accomplish, and can be ongoing up to and in some cases past the start date of the grant.

- Ginny Hatch, Yerington Paiute Tribe - The Yerington Paiute Tribe does not feel that EPA has met its trust responsibility to the Tribe for the cleanup of the Anaconda Mine Site. The Tribe has requested consultation between decision makers of the Tribe and EPA to discuss the consideration of deferring the Anaconda Mine Site from the National Priority Listing. However, EPA is moving forward to make a determination to provide the state oversight on lands that affect the Tribe. The Tribe also has jurisdiction over a portion of the cleanup areas and decisions about those areas have been made without consulting the Tribe. The Tribe is being treated as merely a stakeholder and not as a governmental unit. In addition costs incurred by the Tribe on the deferral process are not being reimbursed by EPA to the Tribe, they may be in the next fiscal year but the work needed now for the deferral process is not receiving any additional funding.

EPA Response - Enrique Manzanilla met with tribal leaders at Yerington Tribe and Walker River Tribe on June 27 and 28 regarding the site and the state's deferral concepts and hear the tribes concerns. On 7/31, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) requested a formal deferral and Enrique Manzanilla instructed them the process must be completed in a manner that respects tribal sovereignty and jurisdiction and provides for meaningful involvement by the tribes. EPA is now working with parties on drafting agreements consistent with EPA guidance.

- Could the Air Program guide that has been created be replicated for Water Division?

EPA Response - Tomas Torres requested additional information on the Air document.

- NV Tribes - A major issue in Nevada is over-permitting of water rights. Could a conference session that speaks to this problem happen at the annual conference? It would make sense to tie it to the NDEP session that usually takes place on one of the mornings of the conference. Would it also be possible to invite the Nevada State Engineer, Jason King, to the conference?

EPA Response – Addressed and completed

- Water Project Officers told tribes that water trainings were eligible for the Tribal Travel Fund, but the GAP Project Officers said otherwise. Is this training eligible?

EPA Response - The Tribal Travel Fund is a GAP Grant, and all travel must support GAP-associated capacity building. Travel to support CWA106 or 319 objectives are not eligible. Gail Louis will ensure her staff share correct information going forward.

- So Cal Tribes - Closing out a grant that has run for 4 to 5 years is a challenge for both EPA and Tribal staff. We request joint evaluations for GAP every year, then the end of grant closeout will be much simpler and quicker.

EPA response - As discussed at prior RTOCs, some grant end of year reports are behind and the section is nearly done with these back logged end of year reports. Going forward, joint evaluation will occur annually.

- So-Cal Tribes - GAP Online requires using the Internet Explorer browser which has been discontinued and is not secure. We request that GAP Online use be put on hold until the program can accept use of a modern secure browser.

EPA Response - This item was sent to Rebecca Roose for a response.

- NV Tribes - The Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada's (ITC-N) Environmental Liaison position has had a decrease in funding and ITC-N would like to maintain that position. How can the Nevada Tribes ensure the Liaison position is maintained?

EPA Response - ITCN's funding this year was reduced because the Consortium did not provide timely documentation of tribal support for the work plan. Note that documentation is due with GAP proposals in December of each year. Nevada tribes can support ITCN by providing timely letters or resolutions of support that reflect the specific value of ITCN's work plan activities on the individual tribe's success under GAP.

- NV Tribes - Tribes want better assistance and support from EPA for new Tribal GAP managers. In NV there are a number of new GAP managers which would be better equipped with more training opportunities for GAP.

EPA Response - Move to gap workgroup to get a specific description of what kind of training is needed.

- Southern AZ - Please explain how eligibility to use the Tribal Travel Fund is treated for tribes with PPGs.

EPA Response - The Tribal Travel Fund is a GAP Grant, and all travel must support GAP-associated capacity building. This means that the GAP-associated work plan elements of a PPG, and the budget associated with those work plan elements, must identify how the travel under the fund supports the purpose of GAP. EPA is updating the Travel Fund explainer document to try to add clarity for PPG grantees.

- AIEO has identified that ETEPs must cover all EPA programs. Is GAP going to be used as the platform for all media specific programs in the future?

EPA Response - This new item will be sent to Rebecca Roose for a response.

- Since the publication of the 2013 GAP Guidance, how many tribes have lost eligibility because of the guidance?

EPA Response – Region 9 EPA is not aware of any grantees who have lost eligibility for GAP due to the GAP Guidance. There are a number of tribes each year who are not receiving GAP funds. For FY18, that includes 28 grantees who did not apply for GAP for FY18 (one of which may have decided they no longer find GAP useful to them, but that's speculation), 3 who may not receive a grant due to financial or programmatic performance issues, and one who is not being issued a grant due to an active grant enforcement related to performance.

- Is GAP Online required for PPGs? Is it required for quarterly reporting?

EPA Response - No and no

- Central CA Tribes - New PO requested deliverables that were not included in work plan. Why?

EPA Response - Need more information, please have requesting tribe contact Laura Ebbert directly.

- So Cal Tribes – Building environmental capacity requires training a large audience of tribal members, who might in the future become environmental staff of the Tribe. Want to make sure education is available to a broader group of individuals at the tribe.

EPA Response - The beneficiaries of GAP must be the individuals identified in the GAP work plan and budget. Individuals not listed in those materials are not eligible to attend GAP-funded training programs designed to build environmental staff capacity. See also grant regulations about recipients of training.

- So Cal Tribes – Tribes want consortia to be able to support outreach events.

EPA Response - Where Consortia are performing activities, it is on behalf of member tribes. Since outreach events are no longer about the recipient community, but instead about the capacity of program staff to deliver effective training, having consortia support outreach events could mean the recipient tribe is not eligible to support those events. How is the consortia building the capacity of environmental program staff to deliver new content to tribal members at these events? Suggest send to NTC/AIEO. Further conversations will take place to define outreach

EPA Co-Chair Scott – Remember that there will soon be a new Regional Administrator. These issues might be something that this person will be willing to listen to, look at and change. This whole process of creating perfect work plan and executing it should not be hard but it is. It is important for the new regional administrator to see what tribes are doing. EPA needs to get in gear and get tribes those venues so they can show the new administrator these things.

It is announced that Laura Ebbert will be leaving for 5 months to a senior level leadership training.

HONORING CLANCY TENLEY

Clancy Tenley was honored by the RTOC Tribal Caucus for his years of service as the Tribal Program Manager.

REVIEW NEW ISSUES/ACTION ITEMS

KATE FENIMORE, GAP PROJECT OFFICER, LAND DIVISION, REGION 9, US EPA

- Sharing of latest training on trust responsibility and understanding tribal governments - Laura Ebbert will have response in 2 weeks
- Send in link for air program guidance - Rob Roy will respond in 2 weeks
- NTC will revisit GAP Guidance? – respond 2 weeks
- Tribal conference stuff
- Letter to Wagner – next Friday, deadline for comments
- Letters to each AA about adequate consultation and invite state people for consultation with tribes - 2 weeks
- Oct 15 send success stories to John Flores
- Kate Fenimore will create success story document to be presented at conference
- Want to hear from AIEO about GAP statute and omnibus – 2 week

CLOSING COMMENTS

Brief closing comments were shared by both the Tribal and EPA Co-Chairs.

ANNOUNCE NEXT RTOC MEETING LOCATION/ ADJOURN

Tribal/EPA Annual Conference

October 30, 2017

Viejas Casino & Resort

5000 Willows Rd, Alpine, CA 91901