



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

*Week of March 19th-
March 23rd, 2018*

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Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be found here.15

TOP STORIES

NY Times – [There’s Never Been a Native American Congresswoman. That Could Change in 2018.](#)

High Country News – [Northwest tribes aid a fight against fossil fuels](#)

E&E News – [Air Pollution: D.C. Circuit hands down split ruling on boiler standards](#)

The Hill – [Court questions greens’ challenge to EPA chemical rule delay](#)

HEADLINES

Photos from the field

PRI – [Jobs in solar energy fall for the first time in seven years](#)



*This large solar photovoltaic installation can be found in Hunter Liggett, California.
Credit: US Army Corp of Engineers*

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Native Sun News Today – [OST argument to stop Black Hills uranium mining to be heard](#)

Huffpost – [Tribes Come Together For Fight To Bring Back Protections For Bears Ears National Monument](#)

The Hill – [EPA proposes tweaks to oil refinery pollution rules](#)

Native Sun News Today – [Standing Rock pushes back on spill claims](#)

NPR – [Former Coal Lobbyist On Tap For No. 2 Spot At EPA](#)

E&E News – [Pruitt is expected to restrict science. Here's what it means](#)

The Hill – [Native American, conservation groups sue Trump for failing to protect humpback whale habitat](#)

Bloomberg – [Chevron, Oil Giants Lose Latest Fight Over Climate Jurisdiction](#)

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

Climate Change/Energy

Arizona Daily Sun – [City of Flagstaff and Hopi Tribe partner on renewable energy project](#)

NY Times – [Kelp Farms and Mammoth Windmills Are Just Two of the Government's Long-Shot Energy Bets](#)

NPR – [FEMA Drops 'Climate Change' From Its Strategic Plan](#)

NY Times – [Where Are America's Winters Warming the Most? In Cold Places.](#)

E&E News – [Trump official trumpets clean energy – and budget cuts](#)

E&E News – [Climate science 30 years later. What’s changed?](#)

Detroit News – [Solar project targets struggling households](#)

Houston Chronicle – [Solar power capacity in Texas expected to double, making life tougher for power companies](#)

NY Times – [Climate Fwd](#)

(Editor’s Note: Climate Fwd is the New York Times weekly newsletter. We will be including a link to it each week in this section.)

Oil and Gas Development

NPR – [‘Keep It In The Ground’ Activists Optimistic Despite Oil Boom](#)

Indianz – [Red Lake Nation calls for removal of oil pipelines from reservation](#)

Yes! Magazine – [Tribes Build a Traditional Watch House to Stop Kinder Morgan Pipeline Expansion](#)

Think Progress – [Community fights massive drilling site planned near public school in low-income area](#)

Baltimore Sun – [Maryland regulators approve Potomac River gas pipeline](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

NY Times – [A Bold, Divisive Plan to Wean Californians From Cars](#)

Ensia – [New Life For Toxic Land](#)

CNBC – [CEO whose firm invested \\$400 million last year names the next big thing for ‘green’ tech](#)

The Guardian – [Ban new petrol and diesel cars in 2030, not 2040, says thinktank](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Greentech Media – [The Latest Research Is Clear: Clean, Efficient Buildings Make People More Productive](#)

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UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

EPA IRIS Public Science Meeting (March 22, 2018)

EPA is hosting a public meeting to present comments and feedback on the draft IRIS Assessment Plan (IAP) for Uranium which was open for a 30-day public comment period as announced in the Federal Register. Meeting information and registration for the upcoming Science Meeting via Webinar are available in link below.

Registration Link: draft IRIS Assessment Plan for Uranium:

<https://www.epa.gov/iris/iris-public-science-meeting-mar-2018>

Point of Contact: Paul White, EPA Office of Research and Development, IRIS Program Science Meeting Lead, White.paul@epa.gov, Telephone: (202) 564-1369

Air Sensors International Conference Now Accepting Abstracts

[Submit your work](#) for consideration as a Podium or Poster Presentation!

Important Dates

Abstracts Open: March 5, 2018

Abstracts Close: April 23, 2018

Abstracts Acceptance: May 11, 2018

Conference Dates: September 12-14, 2018

EPA Workshop & Webinar: Deliberating Performance Targets for Air Quality Sensors

Date and Time: Monday, 06/25/2018, 9:00AM EDT to Tuesday, 06/26/2018, 5:00PM EDT

[Click here for more information](#) from EPA's website.

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!

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.

Status of Tribal Air Report Work Group: This group meets every other Wednesday, January-April, to produce the STAR	Wednesday, March 21, 1pm ET
EPA Policy Update Call: Receive updates from EPA	Thursday, March 29, 2pm ET
Indoor Air Quality Work Group: Help implement IAQ priorities and develop webinars	Thursday, April 19, 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 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	March 27-28	Boise, ID
GIS for Air Quality	April 17-19	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Air Quality in Alaska	April 17-20	Barrow, AK
IAQ Diagnostic Tools for Alaska	May 1-3	Tazlina, AK
<i>National Tribal Forum on Air Quality</i>	<i>May 14-18</i>	<i>Duluth, MN</i>
Management of Tribal Air Programs and Grants (lower 48)	June 5-7	Flagstaff, AZ

Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online
Residential Building Science Review	Open	Online
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online
Quality Assurance (QA) Fundamentals	Open	Online
Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP)	Open	Online
Emissions Inventory (self-paced, instructor assistance as needed)	Open	Online
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	January-March	Series of 5 webinars

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 or phone 928-523-6721. For more information, please visit [ITEP's website](#).

Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke: January-March, 2018.

This webinar series provided attendees with an understanding of the impacts of wildland smoke on the health of tribal communities and strategies to minimize exposure. Each 90-minute webinar was free and open to anyone. The webinars were recorded. **All webinars must be completed prior to the in-person workshop for tribes, March 27-28, 2018, in Boise, Idaho.** The in-person workshop application is available on the ITEP website:

http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air. If you would like additional information please contact Pat Ellsworth, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, at patricia.ellsworth@nau.edu or 928-523-6721.

Climate Change / Energy

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

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Volkswagen Tribal Beneficiary Settlement Update

DOJ and EPA are inviting Tribal Leaders to discuss several issues related to the allocation of VW Settlement funds to Tribal Beneficiaries for an oversubscribed funding cycle, and have set up a schedule of calls and deadlines for written comments. Registration is required for each call being scheduled.

The schedule for the telephonic sessions and for providing any written comments is as follows:

- Wednesday, March 21, 2018: Discussion Session 3:00 pm Eastern. Link to register for the call and receive the call-in information: <http://dpreister.com/10118206>
Wednesday, March 28, 2018 for written comments
- Tuesday, March 27, 2018: Discussion Session 4:00 pm Eastern. Link to register for the call and receive the call-in information: <http://dpreister.com/10118234>
Tuesday, April 3, 2018 for written comments

If you have questions or have trouble using the links to register, please contact the Office of Tribal Justice at OTJ@usdoj.gov.

Indoor Air Quality

Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities presents Asthma Webinar Series: Asthma 101

Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 1:00 PM ET

Reserve your webinar seat now at

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/9173791048949750531>

Many tribal communities have high rates of asthma. Asthma is a unique medical condition that can benefit from both medical treatment and environmental mitigation. This webinar is the first in a series about asthma, and covers asthma basics, which includes basic the physiology of asthma and asthma episodes. The webinar will also look at statistics of asthma prevalence and disparities across the country. The role of the EPA and other Federal Agencies will be discussed. The presenters will review common asthma triggers, tips for reducing the triggers, and some actions that can be taken in the healthy homes framework.

Questions: Contact Mansel A Nelson at mansel.nelson@nau.edu or 928-523-1275.

Be Tobacco Free in March

[Kick Butts Day](#) is March 21, 2018. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Indoor Environments Division supports efforts to educate America's youth about the [health risks](#) of smoking and exposure to [secondhand smoke](#).

Cigarette smoking is responsible for more than 480,000 deaths per year in the United States, including more than 41,000 deaths resulting from secondhand smoke exposure. This is about one in five deaths annually, or 1,300 deaths every day. On average, smokers die 10 years earlier than nonsmokers. [Learn more](#) from EPA about secondhand tobacco smoke and why good indoor air quality is important to your health.

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RESOURCES

Now Hiring!

Summit Lake Paiute Tribe is hiring for three positions:

- 1) **Tribal Coordinator**
- 2) **Program Office Assistant**
- 3) **Maintenance Worker**

More information can be found at www.summitlaketribe.org.

Gila Watershed Partnership is hiring a Nursery Manager

Application deadline is March 21st, 2018.

For more information contact Melanie Tluczek, Executive Director at melanie@gwpaz.org.

The Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians is hiring an Environmental Director

Application deadline: April 30, 2018

For more information or questions please contact Thomas Jordan at (707) 533-2870.

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

EPA Tools and Resources Webinar Series

Usually held the third Wednesday of every month from 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Who should attend? Representatives of state environment and health agencies, tribes, local governments, communities, and others interested in learning about EPA tools and resources available to help inform decision-making.

[Access past webinars and learn more here.](#)

No-Cost Technical Assistance from DOE

The DOE Office of Indian Energy provides federally recognized Indian tribes, including Alaska Native villages, tribal energy resource development organizations, and other organized tribal groups and communities, with technical assistance to advance tribal energy projects at no cost. Technical experts from DOE and its national laboratories, along with other partnering organizations, provide support to assist Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages with energy planning, housing and building energy efficiency, project development, policy and regulation, resilience, and village power.

For more information, visit the on-request [technical assistance description](#).

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

Climate Change/Energy

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

The National Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee is seeking applications for five openings.

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

Application deadline is May 25, 2018

EPA is releasing three draft guidance documents for public comment clarifying the circumstances under which the Agency may disclose Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) confidential business information (CBI) with an expanded set of people.

EPA invites governments and other stakeholders to review and comment on these draft guidance documents, available here: <https://www.epa.gov/tsca-cbi/requesting-access-cbi-under-tsca>. The 30-day comment period will open upon publication of the notice in the Federal Register; comments can be submitted to docket EPA-HQ-OPPT-2017-0652.

Don't Mess with Mercury – A mercury spill prevention initiative for schools
The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry [has this website](#) as a resource for mercury and schools.

Indoor Air Quality

EPA is excited to announce their latest additions to the Burn Wise educational materials. They have new flyers, videos and even a children's activity book! See below for details and links. You can order hard copies via the new order page at www.epa.gov/burnwise/orderform. If you have recommendations or questions related to EPA's Burn Wise Program, contact me at brockman.larry@epa.gov or 919-541-5398.

- [How to Build a Firewood Storage Shed Video](#) - this 6-minute video shares the benefits of storing firewood properly, lists the materials needed for the project, and demonstrates how to build the firewood storage shed.
- [Build a Firewood Storage Shed Guide](#) - the updated 2-page how-to guide (a companion to the video) provides a list of the materials, cost, photos and simple schematics for building a firewood shed that holds about one cord of wood.
- [Wood Smoke Children's Activity Book](#) – a 16-page coloring and activity book that teaches children about wood smoke and ways their family can reduce smoke from wood burning. For grades K-3. Thanks to Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation's Burn Wise program for allowing EPA to modify their book and make it more widely available.
- [Test Your Wood with a Moisture Meter Flyer](#) – the 1-pager spells out the benefits of burning dry seasoned wood (i.e., <20% moisture content) and how to properly test firewood using a moisture meter to see if it is ready to burn. There is also a Burn Wise [video](#) that demonstrates how to use a wood moisture meter.
- [New EPA Wood Burning Best Practices Video Webpage](#) – the Burn Wise Website has a new webpage that includes all of our best burn practices videos in one location. The page also includes links to other useful non-EPA produced videos related to wood stoves.

The Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC) in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a Bed Bug Educational Package meant to provide useful information to Tribal members for

bed bug prevention and control, and is available through the TPPC web site dedicated to bed bug issues at <http://tppcwebsite.org/bed-bugs/>.

Additional useful materials posted at that TPPC web site for Tribes include the Bed Bug Issue Paper (survey of the problem in Tribal Country), EPA webinar on bed bugs in schools, links to other bed bug resources, and Federal funding resources.

Please feel free to contact Donald Baumgartner or Emily Ryan (EPA Headquarters) at 703/347-0595 if you have questions.

Be sure to sign up for [EPA's Healthy Indoor Air newsletter](#).

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Deadline Extended for EPA's Teacher and Youth Awards

Are you an expert at incorporating environmental education into your classroom? Do you know a student with an exceptional environmental stewardship project? You or someone you know might be the next winner of the [Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators](#) or the [President's Environmental Youth Award](#).

Applications are due March 30, 2018.

CEC Youth Innovation Challenge

Attention Students: Submit your bold idea for the chance to receive C\$5,000 in seed funding and present your innovation to North America's top environmental officials in Oklahoma City this summer.

[Learn about the Commission for Environmental Cooperation Youth Innovation Challenge](#). Ideas are due April 3, 2018.

As today's visionaries and tomorrow's decision-makers, young leaders will drive the green growth innovations that are critical to a sustainable future. Canada, Mexico and the United States need innovative science, technology and business solutions to North American's shared sustainability challenges. Students and young entrepreneurs are encouraged to share innovative ideas that:

- Create better or more effective products, processes, services, technologies, business models, marketing, supply chains and/or partnerships for the benefit of society, the economy and the environment.

- Contribute to the natural asset base of North American economies, creating green jobs and/or economic opportunities for citizens in North America; Make good business sense in terms of profitability and potential for growth.

Climate Change/Energy

Updates to 2018 EE Local Grants Request for Proposals

The EE Local Grants Request for Proposals (RFP), originally issued in January, has been modified in order to expand the scope of the environmental issues that can be addressed. The changes to the RFP provide applicants with greater flexibility to address environmental issues relevant to their communities.

To provide applicants with time to modify their proposals, EPA has extended the deadline until **April 11, 2018**. [Read the updated RFP and a summary of the changes](#). For questions, please email eegrants@epa.gov.

DOE Announces Up To \$11.5 Million Available for Energy Infrastructure Deployment on Tribal Lands. Applications are due April 19, 2018.

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) builds on efforts to strengthen tribal energy, economic infrastructure resource development, and electrification on tribal lands. This is also the first time that the Office of Indian Energy is issuing a FOA on an entirely fuel and technology neutral basis. This will expand the potential for tribes to use the particular resources available to them and is consistent not only with an all-of-the above energy policy, but also with the principles of tribal sovereignty and self-determination.

This funding opportunity will address the gaps and barriers by soliciting and selecting applications from Indian Tribes, which include Alaska Native Regional Corporations and Village Corporations, and Tribal Energy Resource Development Organizations in the following areas:

1. Topic Area 1: Install energy efficiency measures and/or energy generating systems for tribal buildings that may include deep energy retrofits, energy generating systems, or a combination of energy efficiency measures.
2. Topic Area 2: Deploy community-scale energy generating systems on tribal lands to provide electricity to a substantial number of buildings or even an entire tribal community.
3. Topic Area 3: Install energy systems for autonomous operation to power single or multiple essential tribal loads during emergency situations, or to

power a substantial number of essential tribal loads for community resilience.

Selected projects will take on a 50% cost-share in order to reduce or stabilize energy costs, as well as increase energy security and resilience for Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages.

For additional details, read the [full press release](#). Download the [full FOA](#). An [informational webinar](#) was held Feb. 27, 2018, to provide potential applicants with more information. See the Office of Indian Energy [website](#) for a map and summaries of these competitively funded projects.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

EPA Solicits Applications for Grants to Provide Businesses with Pollution Prevention Technical Assistance and Training

Informational Webinar to be held March 21, 1-2:30 pm EDT

EPA is calling for grant proposals from state and tribal agencies, universities, colleges and other organizations to provide pollution prevention (P2) technical assistance or training to businesses. These two-year projects are expected to be performed in each EPA region.

The solicitation for this grant competition can be found at www.Grants.gov and at www.epa.gov/p2/grant-programs-pollution-prevention (Funding Opportunity Number – EPA-HQ-OPPT-2018-001). **Grant applications are due April 26.**

Pollution Prevention (P2) means reducing or eliminating pollutants from entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment *prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal*. In keeping with the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, EPA is encouraging P2 because implementing these approaches can result in reductions in pollutants, the use of water, energy and other raw materials, while also lowering business costs. All grant awards will support the delivery of P2 technical assistance and/or training for businesses, and the identification, development, documentation and sharing of P2 best management practices and innovations.

Grant proposals should focus on one or more of the following P2 priority areas, referred to as National Emphasis Areas (NEAs):

- NEA #1: Business-Based Pollution Prevention Solutions Supporting Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Priorities and Chemical Safety:
- NEA #2: Food and Beverage Manufacturing and Processing:

- NEA #3: Hazardous Materials Source Reduction Approaches in States or Communities

Webinar for Potential Applicants

EPA's national P2 Program will host an informational webinar for potential applicants and interested stakeholders on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 from 1:00 PM– 2:30 PM EDT. To register, please go to:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1881359341448649473>. Attendees are advised to connect early (12:45 pm to 1:00 pm EDT) to ensure proper connection and to type in questions. The webinar link works best when using the Google Chrome browser

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](#).

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Most Recent Listing: EPA Rules from the Federal Register can be [found here](#).

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