



National Tribal Air Association

NTAA Weekly Update

Week of June 19th – June 23rd, 2017

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TOP STORIES

NTAA has published the Summary Report for the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality! [Follow this link](#) to the NTAA Tribal Air website to view the report, videos, and other documents from NTFAQ 2017.

Mother Jones – [These Republicans Are Pretty Upset About Trump’s EPA Budget](#)
 Editor’s Note: As the above story mentions, Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.) spoke specifically in support of Tribal environmental grants and programs.

NPR – [Judge Delivers Blow To Trump Administration In Dakota Access Fight](#)

HEADLINES

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

Axios – [Scoop: Jeff Holmstead expected to be #2 at EPA](#)

Washington Post – [EPA just gave notice to dozens of scientific advisory board members that their time is up](#)

Los Angeles Times – [California’s air quality waiver appears secure for now as Trump’s EPA chief tells Congress it’s not under review](#)

Colorlines – [The Trump Administration Postpones Regulation on Methane and, Subsequently, Toxic Pollutants](#)

Colorlines – [Climate Change Mentions Are Deleted From the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Website](#)

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

Navajo Generating Station coverage

AP – [Navajo Generating Station owners deny deadline extension](#)

AP – [Navajo council waiting for special session on plant lease](#)

AP – [Coal plant’s possible closure spurs Grand Canyon tram debate](#)

Washington Times – [Fate of Arizona coal mine, power station and tribal economies rests with Trump administration](#)

Climate Change/Energy

NPR – [Climate Activists Court Hill Republicans With ‘Civil Conversations’](#)

Reuters – [Nevada reinstates key solar energy policy](#)

Wisconsin State Journal – [Lawmakers say GOP reining in DNR scientists who rebelled on climate change](#)

The Hill – [171 House Dems slam Trump’s Paris Agreement withdrawal](#)

Reuters – [Carbon capture needed in climate change fight, IEA says](#)

Native Sun News – [Standing Rock Sioux Tribes \\$1-million pledge goes to renewable energy transition](#)

Indian Country Today – [Climate Change Is Shrinking the Colorado River](#)

Toxics/Mobile Sources

E&E News – [Conservatives pitch environmental rollbacks in highway package](#)

E&E News – [Lyft promises to tackle climate change. Can it?](#)

Tribal Tribune – [Okanogan River Airshed Partnership hosts ‘community cleanup’ in Omak district](#)

Indian Country Today – [Oil v. Culture: The Battle Goes on to Protect Columbia River](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Science Daily – [Radon increases risk for malignant skin cancer](#)

Photos from the field

Time – [Why California’s Climate Change Fight Is Also About Public Health](#)



A view of downtown from Hollywood with the Capitol Records tower and lots of smog in the foreground in February 1995 in Los Angeles, California. Photo credit: Ron Eisenbeg—Getty Images

SFGate – [California clamps down on natural gas leaks from pipelines](#)



This infrared image released by the Environmental Defense Fund shows methane gas leaking from the Aliso Canyon facility near the Porter Ranch suburb of Los Angeles in 2015. California utility regulators on Thursday approved new rules designed to prevent, find and fix leaks at natural gas facilities ranging from storage sites to pipelines. Photo credit: -, AFP / Getty Images

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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 Elaine.Wilson@nau.edu if you have any questions about any call!

EPA Policy Update Call: Receive updates from EPA	Thursday, June 29, 2pm ET
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Volkswagen Settlement Work Group: Stay informed about the VW settlement with these monthly calls	Thursday, July 13, 2pm ET
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National Air Quality Conference Registration Open and Call for Abstracts

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA) and the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA) invite you to attend this year's National Air Quality Conference, which will be held Monday - Wednesday, September 11-13, 2017, in Austin, Texas. Air quality professionals from federal, state, local and tribal air pollution organizations, metropolitan and regional planning organizations, environmental and research organizations, and industry representatives are encouraged to participate to learn the latest information on air quality forecasting and mapping, air quality and your health, and innovative outreach programs. For more information and to register [click here](#). If you are interested in participating as a speaker or poster presenter for the 2017 National Air Quality Conference, please [click here](#) for more information. All abstracts are due Monday, July 10, 2017.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is seeking nominations for technical experts to serve on its Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC), a federal advisory committee to the Office of Research and Development (ORD). The BOSC provides independent scientific and technical peer review, consultation, advice, and recommendations for each of its research programs.

- Information on the BOSC can be found [here](#).
- Information on ORD's research can be found [here](#).

Individuals and organizations can nominate themselves or others by using the [nomination form](#) on the BOSC website. The nomination period is open until June 30, 2017.

Details regarding areas of expertise sought, process for submitting nominations, and selection criteria can also be found in the [Federal Register](#). Please contact the BOSC Designated Federal Officer, Tom Tracy (tracy.tom@epa.gov), for assistance.

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

- **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 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](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location
2017		
Reviewing NSR and Title V Permits	July 11-14	Fargo, ND
Indoor Air Quality – Level 1	September 26-28	TBD
Air Quality & IAQ in Alaska	October 10-13	Nome, AK
IAQ Diagnostic Tools	October 24-27	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV
Fundamentals of Air Monitoring	November 28-30	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV

2018		
Introduction to Air Quality	January 23-26	Flagstaff, AZ
Air Quality Computations	February 27- March 2	Phoenix, AZ
Air Pollution Technology	March 20-23	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

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

6th Annual Arizona Student Energy Conference (AZSEC) on Renewable Energy Science, Technology, and Policy will be held on October 19th & 20th, 2017

Location: Arizona State University, Tempe, ASU Memorial Union

Online registration July 15 – September 15

Join us for 2 exciting days of student presentations, poster session & prizes, faculty lectures, site tours, and more!

Possible site tour on 10/18 as well.

More information to come later this month at www.energy.arizona.edu/AZSEC

Toxics/Mobile Sources

Indoor Air Quality

The Alliance for Green Heat announces the webinar “Automated wood stoves: technology, policy and barriers”

Date and Time: Thursday, June 29, 2017 - 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM ET

Presenters: Dr. Ricardo Carvalho, Thermochemical Conversion Energy Laboratory; Scott Nichols, Tarm Biomass

Topic: The presenters will discuss technology that can be used to automate wood stove operation. Sensors and controllers can improve combustion efficiency and reduce air pollution. Automated controls can also improve ease of use and open the market to younger, more environmentally conscious consumers who want greater convenience, safety and smart phone connectivity.

Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8938771531938759169>

This webinar supports the Alliance's 4th Wood Stove Competition that will focus on automation and electricity generation. Click [here](#) to learn more!

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RESOURCES

Now Hiring!

The Arizona Land and Water Trust is currently hiring a Development Coordinator, Program Manager, and Major Gifts Officer.

The position descriptions are listed on their website at <http://alwt.org/about/>, scrolling down to "Employment Opportunities". Open until filled.

Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes

LEO Network Integrates Traditional Ecological Knowledge into Environmental Change Conversations across North America

The [Commission for Environmental Cooperation \(CEC\)](#) and the [Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium \(ANTHC\)](#) invite North Americans to join the increasing number of communities using the [Local Environmental Observer \(LEO\) Network](#), a unique observation platform where traditional ecological knowledge, local knowledge and science converge to record and highlight instances of unusual change in nature and the environment.

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

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 presentations of the VW Settlement Training at the National Tribal Forum on Air Quality held in Tucson, Arizona on May 1, 2017 are now available on video!

[Use this link](#) to access presentations made by NTAA, EPA and DOJ regarding the VW Settlement for Tribes. If you have a hard time hearing the audio on the videos, a separate audio file is included that you can use to play instead.

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 Tribal Healthy Homes Network (THHN) has a webpage dedicated to [Healthy Homes Resources!](#)

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

FY 2017 Economic Development Assistance Programs, Department of Commerce

Full details [here](#)

There are no submission deadlines under this opportunity.

Funding range: \$100,000 to \$3,000,000

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) solicits applications from applicants in rural and urban areas to provide investments that support construction, non-construction, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund

projects under EDA's Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs. Grants and cooperative agreements made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets and support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities. EDA provides strategic investments on a competitive- merit-basis to support economic development, foster job creation, and attract private investment in economically distressed areas of the United States. There are no submission deadlines under this opportunity. Proposals and applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis until the publication of a new Economic Development Assistance Program Federal Funding Opportunity announcement.

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

Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program FY 2017, Environmental Protection Agency

Full details [here](#)

Applications close July 5, 2017.

Award Ceiling: varies

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting proposals nationwide for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure, particularly from fleets operating at or servicing goods movement facilities located in areas designated as having poor air quality. Further, priority for funding may be given to projects which result in outcomes that benefit affected communities, those that engage affected communities with respect to the design and performance of the project, and those which can demonstrate the ability to promote and continue efforts to reduce emissions after the project has ended. Eligible entities include regional, state, or local agencies, tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and

native villages, or port authorities, which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality, and nonprofit organizations or institutions that: a) represent or provide pollution reduction or educational services to persons or organizations that own or operate diesel fleets or b) have, as their principal purpose, the promotion of transportation or air quality.

Toxics/Mobile Sources

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.](#)

Indoor Air Quality

Rural Development Acting Deputy Undersecretary Roger Glendenning announced that USDA is seeking applications for grants to make housing repairs for low- and very-low-income rural residents. The grants are being provided through USDA Rural Development's [Housing Preservation Grant program](#).

“These grants help rural homeowners and rental housing owners repair and improve their properties,” Glendenning said. “Funds may be used to resolve health or safety issues, make accessibility modifications for people with disabilities, or make energy-efficiency improvements to lower utility costs.” USDA provided Housing Preservation Grants for 107 organizations in 46 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in FY 2016. The grants renovated nearly 1,000 rural housing units.

Eligible applicants for Housing Preservation Grants include town or county governments, public agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, and nonprofit and faith-based organizations. USDA does not provide funding directly to homeowners under this program. For additional eligibility information, see page 25228 of the June 1, 2017 [Federal Register](#).

Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 17, 2017. For questions, California applicants can contact [Debra Moretton](#).

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

EPA Rules posted today from the Federal Register for Wednesday, June 21, 2017.

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

Rule

Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Approvals and Promulgations: California Air Plan Revisions, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District, Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District, and San Diego County Air Pollution Control District FR Document: [2017-12475](#) Citation: 82 FR 28240 [PDF](#) Pages 28240-28243 (4 pages) [Permalink](#)

Allocations of Cross-State Air Pollution Rule Allowances From New Unit Set-Asides for the 2017 Compliance Year FR Document: [2017-12967](#) Citation: 82 FR 28243 [PDF](#) Pages 28243-28244 (2 pages) [Permalink](#)

Proposed Rule

Air Quality State Implementation Plans; Approvals and Promulgations: California Air Plan Revisions, Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District, Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District, and San Diego County Air Pollution Control District FR Document: [2017-12474](#) Citation: 82 FR 28292 [PDF](#) Pages 28292-28293 (2 pages) [Permalink](#)

Notice

Proposed Administrative Cost Recovery Settlement Under CERCLA:

Beatrice Former Manufactured Gas Plant Superfund Site, Beatrice, NE FR
Document: [2017-12844](#) Citation: 82 FR 28314 [PDF](#) Pages 28314-28315 (2
pages) [Permalink](#)

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