



**National Tribal Air Association**

**NTAA Weekly Update**

*Week of January 14<sup>th</sup> –  
January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

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## PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

NY Times – [U.S. Carbon Emissions Surged in 2018 Even as Coal Plants Closed](#)



*Passenger planes at the Phoenix airport in July. Greenhouse gas emissions from airplanes and trucking increased sharply in 2018. Photo credit: Angus Mordant/Bloomberg*

## TOP STORIES

**Save the Date for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual 2019 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality!**  
See below for more details!

**The NTAA releases a Fact Sheet on EPA's Proposal: *NSPS for GHG Emissions from New, Modified, and Reconstructed EGUs***

In advance of the comment deadline of February 19, 2019, the NTAA has published a Fact Sheet to help Tribes understand the proposal. In addition, the NTAA will develop a template comment letter for Tribes to use in developing their

comments. You can find this and all of NTAA's [Policy Response Kits on our website](#). For more information, please contact [dara.marks-marino@nau.edu](mailto:dara.marks-marino@nau.edu).

EPA – [In Civil Settlements with the United States and California, Fiat Chrysler to Settle Allegations of Cheating on Federal and State Vehicle Emissions Tests](#)

## **HEADLINES**

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

Huffpost – [Trump Nominates Andrew Wheeler as Permanent EPA Administrator](#)

The Hill – [Dems ask why EPA is preparing for Wheeler confirmation during shutdown](#)

YubaNet – [Governor Newsom Appoints Secretaries for California Environmental Protection Agency and California Department of Food and Agriculture](#)

Forbes – [Meet the Macedonian Software Engineer Fighting Air Pollution with an App](#)

Futurity – [Severe Air Pollution Cuts Productivity at Work](#)

Energy News – [EPA proposal would put federal mercury rules on shakier legal ground](#)

StarTribune – [Tribal leaders fault state plan, say wild rice in Minnesota is endangered](#)

AP – [EPA criminal action against polluters hits 30-year low](#)

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

### ***Impacts of Federal Shutdown***

WRAL – [Triangle EPA employees volunteer during shutdown](#)

Indianz – [St. Regis Mohawk Tribe fully funded for now with no end in sight to shutdown](#)

NY Times – [Shutdown means E.P.A. Pollution Inspectors Aren't on the Job](#)

Indianz – [United South and Eastern Tribes: 'This shutdown must end now'](#)

Cronkite News – [Shutdown, additional requests for water could disrupt Arizona drought plan](#)

Indianz – [Navajo President: Government shutdown violates treaty obligations](#)

Indian Country Today – [Tribal leaders say government closure puts citizens in jeopardy](#)

NPR – [Despite Shutdown, Trump Administration Continued Effort to Expand Alaska Oil Drilling](#)

NPR – [Shutdown Hampers Wildfire Preparedness and Training across the Country](#)

### ***Climate Change/Energy***

Native News Online – [Big Navajo Energy Receives Funding to Provide Solar Energy to Navajo Families](#)

E&E News – [This Republican wants to tax CO2 – and change Trump's mind](#)

E&E News – [Southern Co. assets could run greener under NextEra](#)

E&E News – [Next president could declare climate emergency, GOP fears](#)

Clean Technica – [Plant-Based Diets Can Make "A Huge Difference in Our Carbon Footprints"](#)

Colorlines – [Inside the Long, Hard Fight to Stop the Bayou Bridge Oil Pipeline](#)

Yes Magazine – [How to Not Be \(Completely\) Depressed About Climate Change](#)

Carbon Brief – [Observations and models agree that the oceans are warming faster](#)

USA Today – [Antarctic ice melting 6 times faster than it did in '80s](#)

### ***Toxics/Mobile Sources***

Wood TV – [Fiat Chrysler to pay \\$650M in emissions cheating](#)

Energy News – [In Massachusetts, momentum builds for carbon pricing for transportation](#)

Indianz – [Bill John Baker: Cherokee Nation celebrates removal of nuclear waste](#)

Bloomberg – [Electric Cars Are Cleaner Even When Powered by Coal](#)

### ***Indoor Air Quality***

CT Post – [January is Radon Action Month](#)

Be sure to subscribe to [EPA's IAQ Bulletins](#)

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## **UPCOMING CALLS/EVENTS/NOTICES**

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

#### ***2019 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality to Highlight 20 Years of Protecting Tribal Air Resources***

The 2019 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) will take place on May 6-9, 2019 at the Pechanga Resort Casino in Temecula, California. This year will be the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the NTFAQ and we invite you all to come help us celebrate!

This year's Forum co-hosts, the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, has long been considered a leader in protecting tribal sovereignty and regulatory authority through the actions of their air quality program and other environmental protection efforts. Members of the Band's environmental program have been recipients of the Virgil Masayesva Tribal Air Programs Excellence Award, bestowed annually on a deserving tribal program or staff leader.

If you have questions about the NTFAQ, please contact [Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu](mailto:Lydia.Scheer@nau.edu) or [Andy.Bessler@nau.edu](mailto:Andy.Bessler@nau.edu). A draft agenda, conference registration and scholarship requests will be available starting February 1 at [www.nau.edu/ntfaq](http://www.nau.edu/ntfaq).

## **EPA Publishes Proposal to Revise Greenhouse Gas New Sources Performance Standards for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants**

The proposal is open for public comment through February 19, 2019. For further information, click [here](#). The NTAA is currently preparing a Policy Response Kit for this proposal that will be [posted here](#).

*Editor's Note: This public hearing will most likely be postponed if the Government Shutdown continues, so check back on the website below for updates.*

## **Public Hearing and Reopening of Comment Period for Proposed Determinations of Attainment by the Attainment Date, Extensions of the Attainment Date and Reclassification of Several Areas Classified as Moderate for the [2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards](#)**

EPA will hold a public hearing on this proposed action. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (local time) or 2 hours after the end of testimony from the last registered speaker at EPA's Offices in Washington, DC. EPA will begin pre-registering speakers for the hearing upon publication of the hearing notice in the Federal Register.

*Editor's Note: This conference has been postponed due to the Government Shutdown, so check back on the website below for updates.*

## **Tribal Exchange Network Conference 2019**

Planning for the Tribal Exchange Network Conference 2019 is underway! The Conference is set to take place February 26-28, 2019 in Pala, California. The Tribal Exchange Network Conference provides tribal professionals, and those working with tribes, an opportunity to meet and learn about current initiatives, funding, and technical topics related to the Exchange Network. Come and share your experiences or to learn from and network with other tribal professionals!

Stay tuned! Registration, scholarship/presenter/poster/sponsorship requests, and an agenda will be shared when available at [www.tribalexchangenetwork.org](http://www.tribalexchangenetwork.org).

*Tell us what topics you are interested in by completing this short poll: [goo.gl/QmiUHg](http://goo.gl/QmiUHg).*

## **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Ogden-Murphy-Wallace Tribal Environmental Seminar**

Dates: Wednesday, March 27 – Thursday, March 28, 2019

Location: Seattle, WA

The theme for the 2019 Seminar is “Exercising Governmental Sovereignty: What have Tribal environmental programs accomplished in the last 20 years and what does the future hold?” For more information, call Jennifer Sanscrainte or Richard Du Bey at 206.447.7000.

**Tribal Grants Education and Technical Assistance Webinar Series Second Wednesday of Every Month at 1pm ET**

[For more information, click here!](#)

**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](mailto: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.

<p><b>NTAA/EPA Air Policy Update Call:</b> Receive air quality policy updates from EPA and NTAA</p>	<p>Thursday, January 17, 2pm ET <i>Please note that the December and January calls are combined due to the holiday season. Despite the Govt. Shutdown, the call will go on.</i></p>
<p><b>STAR Work Group:</b> Help in the creation of the Status of Tribal Air Report</p>	<p>Wednesday, January 23, 2pm ET</p>
<p><b>Wood Smoke Work Group:</b> Join this work group to help address air quality issues arising from wood smoke</p>	<p>Wednesday, February 6, 3pm ET</p>
<p><b>Volkswagen Settlement Work Group:</b> Continue to track the ongoing developments and help guide the process</p>	<p>Thursday, February 7, 2pm ET</p>
<p><b>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join these calls to help address the air most people breathe most of the time</p>	<p>Thursday, February 21, 2pm ET</p>

**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 [2018-2019 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
Air Quality Computations	January 29-February 1	Phoenix, AZ	1
IAQ Diagnostic Tools	<i>Postponed due to federal shutdown</i>	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Air Pollution Technology	March 12-15	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Quality in Alaska ( <i>tentative</i> )	March 19-21	AK	1
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	April 2-3	Boise, ID	2
Air Quality Project Planning, QAPPs, and Grants for Alaska	April 9-12	AK	2
Fundamentals of Air Monitoring	April 16-18	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	2
Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Communities (lower 48)	TBD	TBD	3
NTF	May		
Introduction to Tribal Air Quality	June 4-7	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Pollution and Ecosystems	Late July	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke (hybrid course)	January-March	Series of 6 Webinars	NA
Indoor Air Quality – Independent Study	Anytime	Independent Study	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates	Open	Online	1
Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Warm Climates	In development	Online	1
Residential Building Science Review	Open	Online	1
Radon Fundamentals	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Fundamentals (QA 101)	Open	Online	1
Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) (QA 201-209)	Open	Online	2
Emissions Inventory (self-paced, instructor assistance as needed)	Open	Online	3

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](mailto:Patricia.Ellsworth@nau.edu) or phone 928-523-6721. For more information, please visit [ITEP's website](#).



## ***Climate Change / Energy***

**ITEP's Climate Change Adaptation Training Courses registration is online!**

[Learn more about the courses and register here.](#)

## ***Toxics/Mobile Sources***

**ITEP VW Settlement Technical Assistance Program's Informational Webinar on the VW Settlement for Tribes, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm ET.**

You are invited to join the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) VW Settlement Technical Assistance Program's informational webinar on the Volkswagen Diesel Emission Environmental Mitigation Trust for Indian Tribe Beneficiaries. This webinar will provide overview of the "Trust Agreement" and the process and deadlines associated with the Second Round of funding for Tribes. Please join the webinar on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 3 pm ET. You can call into 1-805-309-2350 or toll free 1-800-309-2350 and use code 928-523#. To view documents discussed on the call, please [click here](#).

A copy of the final, filed version of the Modified Indian Tribe Trust Agreement was filed with the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (the "Court") on November 30, 2018 (the "Trust Modification Effective Date"). A searchable copy of the executed, Modified Indian Tribe Trust Agreement is available for download on the Indian Tribe Trust's public-facing [website here](#).

## ***Indoor Air Quality***

**The NTAA IAQ work group will present an informational webinar on *Policy Tools to Improve Indoor Air Quality in Tribal Homes***

Save the Date: March 6, 2019, at 3:30pm ET (*Note that this is a change in date from previous Weekly Update announcements.*)

Information to follow.

## **Webinar: The Intersection between Energy and Health**

The National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition is hosting a webinar on the intersection of energy efficiency and health outcomes on January 22, 2019, from 1-2 p.m. Eastern. The conversation will include both an introduction to the connection between energy and health and dispatches from ongoing projects and case studies, so we encourage anyone with interest or experience in this topic to

attend! The webinar will include a time for questions after presentations by the following speakers:

- Eric Behna, Program Policy and Communications Manager, National Association for State Community Services Programs.
- Tim Bernthal, Weatherization Program and Communications Coordinator, Low-Income Weatherization Program, Washington State Department of Commerce.
- Jamal Lewis, Policy and Technical Assistance Specialist, Green and Healthy Homes Initiative.

[Register here!](#)

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## **RESOURCES**

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

#### **HOST SITES NEEDED FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals – Environmental Education Outreach Program at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona is seeking air quality focused offices and programs to host a college student for an 8-week summer internship. Tribal environmental offices, EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations are encouraged to apply. The interns will be highly motivated undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental or related careers from different colleges and universities nationwide. ITEP provides each student intern with a \$4,000 stipend, and limited housing and travel allowances. The host site provides a work place and supervision for the intern. The projects **MUST** focus on addressing air quality issues in tribal communities.

[Submit an application online](#)

Deadline: Apply by January 18, 2019.

If you know of a college student that might be interested in being an intern, [encourage them to apply](#).

For detailed information on the internship and requirements, [visit our internship web-site](#).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

ITEP Intern Coordinator Mansel A. Nelson, EEOP Program Coordinator  
EEOP-INTERN@nau.edu 928-523-1275 (Please leave a message)

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***

#### **TWAR SC seeks your input!**

The members of the Tribal Waste and Response Steering Committee has created a special feedback tool for you, called the [TWAR SC Priorities Document Survey](#). As you may know, the TWAR SC creates an annual priority document for senior staff at the US EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management. This document lays out various Tribal priorities for solid waste, USTs, emergency response, Superfund, and brownfields programs. The TWAR SC members spend a great deal of time talking with their colleagues at various Tribes, as well as RTOCs, other Tribal Partnership Groups, and the National Tribal Caucus when they work on this document. But this year they want to hear directly from you.

You only have to fill out this document for the parts that resonate to you specifically. And if you fill this out before the deadline of [January 18, 2019](#), you will be entered into a random drawing for a free registration to the 2019 Tribal Lands and Environment Forum.

### ***Indoor Air Quality***

#### **January is National Radon Action Month**

January is National Radon Action Month. Radon is an odorless and colorless gas that is the second leading cause of lung cancer. Testing and having a plan to mitigate high levels of radon in your home, schools, and other buildings can help prevent unnecessary exposure. If a high radon level is suspected in your home, you can [take steps to fix the problem](#).

- Test your home. Winter is the best time to test for radon. Testing is easy and inexpensive. Learn about [testing your home](#), including how to obtain an easy-to-use test kit.
- Spread the word. Encourage others to learn about radon and test their homes. Tell your family and friends about the [health risks of radon](#).
- Plan an activity in your community to help raise awareness.

EPA Region 10 recently produced a video to raise awareness about radon hazards in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. The video is an effective tool to educate viewers and is available on EPA's [YouTube channel](#). To learn more about radon and National Radon Action Month, check out EPA's [National Radon Action Month Consumer Information](#) website.

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

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### ***Now Hiring!***

**Navajo Nation is hiring a Senior Environmental Specialist**

Closing date: 1/24/19

Department Name: NNEPA – Air & Toxics Department/Air Quality Control Program

For more information, visit the [DPM website where the job listing can be found](#), or view the [job description online](#).

### ***Ambient Air Quality/EPA/NTAA/Tribes***

**EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Opportunity is Now Open!**

**2019 Request for Proposals**

Full Proposal Due Date: Friday, February 15, 2019 by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

The Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) program awards grants that support community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand local environmental and public health issues and develop strategies for addressing those issues, building consensus in the community, and setting community priorities. The EJSG program will award approximately \$1.5 million nationwide for this competitive opportunity. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 50 grants (5 per EPA region) of up to \$30,000 each. These grants are for one-year projects. See additional details at: [FY2019 EJ Small Grants RFP webpage](#)

Informational Pre-Application Assistance Calls (Eastern Time)

- Thursday, December 13, 2018 (EJSCREEN Tutorial for applicants) - 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 16, 2019 (en Espanol) - 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 23, 2019 - 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

- Thursday January 31, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Go directly to the EJSG program website to access the full RFP including instructions on applying through [Grants.gov: FY2019 EJ Small Grants RFP webpage](#).

## ***Climate Change/Energy***

### ***Toxics/Mobile Sources***

**EPA Tribal Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program FY18 – \$2 million**

*Applications Due: April 3, 2019*

*Eligible Entities: Tribal governments and Alaska Native Villages which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality*

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 located in areas designated as having poor air quality. Further, priority for funding will 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. For more information, visit the Clean Diesel Tribal Grants [web page](#).

### ***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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