



### 2006 EPA Science Forum

On May 16-18, 2006, EPA will host its fifth annual science forum to showcase EPA's scientific accomplishments, demonstrate EPA's commitment to quality science, and highlight the impact of science in EPA decision-making. This year's forum is entitled "Your Health, Your Environment, Your Future." This exciting event is designed to bring together top scientists, policy-makers, and citizens to explore how collaborative science and research are leading the effort to better understand environmental challenges, and provide effective tools for helping EPA meet its mission of protecting

human health and safeguarding the natural environment. The 2006 Forum will highlight advances in risk assessment science, explore the relationship between public health and our environment, and examine the complementary roles of federal public health agencies. This event is an ideal opportunity to learn how science and innovation are used to protect health and the environment and how that information is delivered to decision makers to

Forum continued on p.2

### EPA Meetings at Navajo Nation

Both the Indian Program Policy Council (IPPC) and the national EPA-Tribal Science Council (TSC) convened meetings at the Navajo Nation in Window Rock, Arizona, during the week of November 14, 2005. Kevin Teichman, OSP Director, represents ORD on the IPPC, a body of EPA senior managers who advise and support the Agency on major policy, science, and implementation issues affecting EPA programs and activities in Indian Country. Tom Barnwell, from the National Center for Environmental Research (NCER), represents ORD on the TSC, which consists of Agency and tribal representatives developing collaborative solutions to science issues for American Indians. Claudia Walters, from OSP, serves as the Executive Secretary for the TSC as well as ORD's Senior Indian Program Manager.

The IPPC event consisted of various tours and a business meeting, with the IPPC members observing firsthand critical environmental issues faced by the Navajo Nation including uranium mining and milling impacts, open dump sites, and leaking underground storage tanks. The Navajo Nation also demonstrated environmental programs it has initiated to address these issues including air monitoring activities associated with oil fields, mining, and power plants; water quality improvements and restoration activities; and enforcement activities. For part of the business meeting, which focused on a TSC presentation, RCRA Subtitle D and Open Dumps, improving the

EPA-Navajo Meetings continued on p.5

### A Letter from the Director, Office of Science Policy

Greetings OSP Staff:

This is the first OSP update of 2006, and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of the OSP staff members for their continued leadership in ensuring that strong science continues to play a prominent role in Agency decision making, both in the Program and Regional Offices. As reflected by the articles within this edition, we continue to make meaningful contributions to our many customers, including Dr. George Gray, ORD's new Assistant Administrator and EPA Science Advisor; ORD's labs, centers, and offices; and the program and regional offices.

In addition, the new Integrated Service Staff portal now is providing all ORD employees in the Ronald Reagan Building highly efficient and cost-effective financial and administrative services. I am proud of our A-team as they continue to provide the same excellent customer service to all of headquarters that we have always enjoyed in OSP. I also would like to thank Mary Ellen for her leadership in managing the shift to this new administrative and financial support paradigm for ORD.

As always, I look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas as we focus on the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead in service to our customers and protecting human health and the environment.

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## Successful Design, Development, and Deployment of ORD Products to EPA Regions

The November 10, 2005 workshop, *The Successful Design, Development, and Deployment of ORD Products to the EPA Regions*, designed to foster the sharing of experiences and ideas to enhance the utility and track the applications of ORD science and science products intended for use in the EPA regions and states addressed questions such as:

- How can I be sure the regions will use my product?
- How can I find the right partners in the regions to participate in the design and dissemination of my product?
- How can I locate resources to expand my outreach efforts to the regions?
- How can I get feedback on the applications of my product and its contribution to environmental outcomes?

The target audience—scientists and managers in EPA's Research Triangle Park (RTP) facility who are interested in learning more about how to communicate and collaborate more effectively with the regions—included more than 60 ORD attendees and 7 regional employees, including 4 Regional Science Liaisons (RSL) to ORD who responded to questions and helped record key discussion points.

The workshop got off to a great start with a presentation by RSL Mike Callahan (Region 6) on the types and timing of science needs in the regions and states, followed by presen-

tations and discussions of RTP-sponsored ORD products considered successful in meeting the regions' science needs. A presenter from each ORD lab and center located at the RTP facility identified specific elements that they thought were essential to the success of their products:

- Rebecca Calderon (NHEERL)—Identification of Regional Accountability Projects.
- Rob Elias (NCEA)—Integrated Exposure Uptake Biokinetic Model for Lead in Children (IEUBK Model) and the All Ages Model.
- Doug McKinney (NRMRL)—Municipal Solid Waste Decision Support System to States and Locals.
- Rochelle Araujo (NERL)—Mercury Science and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Tools to the Regions.

Some of the lessons learned that were presented and discussed at the workshop included:

- The most successful ORD products for the regions are ones that provide strong science supports to region/state/local decisions that result in significant, preferably measurable, health and/or environmental benefits.
- Successful ORD products for the regions result when strong, trusting, and interactive relationships are created between

science producers (ORD) and science users (the regions and states).

- Count on the full-time equivalent (FTE) and funding costs to be greater than expected.
- Up-front partnering within and outside the Agency will likely be necessary to leverage needed resources.
- The science must be developed and delivered in ways that are directly applicable to specific problems facing the regions.
- To tailor its products to the needs of the regions, ORD must understand the "cultures" of the regions and states, including the political, social, and economic climates within which they operate.
- Involving regions early in the design and development phases helps develop needed "champions" willing to facilitate product marketing and utilization.
- If the regions are involved throughout the research and product development phases, they will understand product applications and provide feedback on product uses.
- Site visits for face-to-face interaction will probably be necessary.

*ORD Products* continued on p. 3

## New Online Training Puts Federal Technology Transfer Activities at Your Fingertips

Are you a researcher developing new technologies at your lab? If so, you can apply for a patent on these technologies and receive royalties when EPA licenses the patents. Perhaps you have an idea for partnering with industry or academia to expand your resources and expertise. Under a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA), you can collaborate with external parties, which

may even include funding for the project. So, how do you do that?

Under the authority of the Federal Technology Transfer Act (FTTA), federal labs and researchers can engage in CRADAs, patents, and licensing activities. To answer

*New Online Training* continued on p. 3

## Forum

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make a difference. Mark your calendar and plan to participate in this premier Agency event, which will be held in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC.

For more information about the 2006 Science Forum, please visit <http://epa.gov/ord/scienceforum> or contact Megan Grogard at [grogard.megan@epa.gov](mailto:grogard.megan@epa.gov) or 202-564-6812. ■



## HSTLs Annual Meeting Held in Conjunction With BOSC Review

The Hazardous Substances Technical Liaisons (HSTLs) held their annual meeting at ORD's labs in Cincinnati, Ohio, on December 15-16, 2005, in conjunction with the Land Research Program Review conducted by the Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Land Subcommittee.

While participating in the BOSC Land Restoration and Preservation Research Program Review, HSTLs heard up-to-date presentations on ORD's Land Research Program and observed the Q&A sessions where members of the BOSC Land Subcommittee queried ORD and program staff on the research program, its results, impacts, and outcomes. Additionally, as part of ORD's waste technical support program, the HSTLs exhibited a poster at the BOSC program review and were present to field questions from the Subcommittee members.

During their annual meeting, the HSTLs received briefings from Randy Wentzel, ORD's National Program Director for Land Research,

on his efforts guiding the Land Research Program. Leah Evison, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) Superfund representative to the Land Research Coordination Team, spoke on the state of the Superfund program and the status of OSWER's new Superfund Sediment Resource Center. HSTLs also discussed 2005 accomplishments and outlined goals and action items for 2006. Options for redesigning the HSTL Web pages and ways to improve Agency awareness and visibility of the HSTL Program also were topics of high interest.

HSTLs Mike Gill (Region 9) and Terry Burton (Region 6) provided a slide show and discussed their experiences in Louisiana as members of EPA's Hurricane Katrina Response Team. Felicia Barnett, Region 4 HSTL, also showed slides and discussed her role as a fill-in On-Scene-Coordinator at a creosote site in Kentucky.

For more information on the HSTLs Program, please contact Ken Sala at [sala.ken@epa.gov](mailto:sala.ken@epa.gov) or 202-564-1567. ■

## HSTLs Release New Technical Support Times Newsletter

In December 2005, the HSTL Program released the third in a series of newsletters designed to aid EPA staff with technical support issues relative to waste sites. This latest issue of the *Technical Support Times* (TST) newsletter focused on the topic of contaminant fingerprinting, and it was co-authored by Jon Josephs, HSTL in Region 2, and Felicia Barnett, HSTL in Region 4.

Contaminant fingerprinting is analogous to human fingerprinting, with both involving pattern recognition. While human fingerprinting matches human fingerprint patterns, contaminant fingerprinting uses methods to compare patterns resulting from chemical analyses with patterns associated with particular contaminants or waste materials. In the December issue, Jon Josephs and Felicia Barnett provide an overview of a number of contaminant fingerprinting techniques and provide references for further information.

Two contaminant fingerprinting case studies also are described: the lower Roanoke River Site, North Carolina (Region 4) and the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site, New Jersey (Region 2). These studies used statistical methods called Fingerprint Analysis of Leachate Contaminants (FALCON) and Polytropic Vector Analysis (PVA), respectively, to identify sources of dioxins in contaminated sediments. Additionally, the authors discuss ongoing or recently completed research on this topic at ORD labs and centers. The upcoming Spring 2006 Issue of TST will focus on mine waste remediation.

Issues of the TST are available in hard copy from OSP and can be downloaded from the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/osp/hstl/techsupp.htm>. For more information, please contact HSTL Coordinator Ken Sala at [sala.ken@epa.gov](mailto:sala.ken@epa.gov) or 202-564-1567. ■

## ORD Products

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- Use existing networks—the RSLs to ORD and the HSTLs are key links to the regions.
- Understanding region and state immediate science needs will assist ORD in prioritizing its long-term research objectives.

At the end of the open discussion period, workshop participants were given the opportunity to share what they had learned and what they were prepared to do to enhance the effective design, development, and deployment of ORD science in the regions. Several ORD staff and the four RSLs attending the workshop volunteered to participate on a working group to further develop some of the ideas and recommendations generated at the workshop. One of the first activities being undertaken by this "ORD Products Working Group" is the creation of an ORD Intranet site to provide information about the workshop to others in the Agency.

For more information, please contact Mimi Dannel at [dannel.mimi@epa.gov](mailto:dannel.mimi@epa.gov) or 202-564-9944. ■

## New Online Training

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all your questions concerning these opportunities, you are invited to take the new online training course designed specifically for EPA staff. The training addresses all aspects of the FTTA, as well as provides specific examples and forms to help you complete the process for a CRADA, patent, and/or license. The training is just a click away at <http://intranet.epa.gov/ospintra/ftta/onlinetraining/index.html>.

For more information about EPA's technology transfer program in general, visit the Intranet site at <http://intranet.epa.gov/ospintra/ftta/ftta.htm> or contact Kathleen Graham at [graham.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:graham.kathleen@epa.gov) or 202-564-2678. ■





## BOSC Update

On September 12-13, 2005, the BOSC Executive Committee met at the Hilton Netherland Plaza in Cincinnati, Ohio, for the Board's third face-to-face meeting of the year. The 2-day meeting included a presentation of the draft report from the BOSC Drinking Water Subcommittee, a site visit to ORD's National Homeland Security Research Center, as well as a presentation on ORD's perspective on the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). There also was a lessons learned session where Subcommittee Chairs and Vice-Chairs described what they had learned in conducting their program reviews in 2005.

Since September, the final report of the BOSC Drinking Water Subcommittee has been transmitted to ORD from the BOSC Executive Committee. The final report can be viewed on the BOSC Website at [www.epa.gov/osp/bosc](http://www.epa.gov/osp/bosc). The BOSC Executive Committee also has committed to launch a program review of ORD's Sustainability Research Program. In addition, ORD proposed two additional program reviews—the Human Health Risk Assessment Program and the Safe Pesticides/Safe Products Program—at the Executive Committee meeting held February 13-14, 2006, in Washington, DC. These program reviews have target meeting dates in late 2006.

Currently, four BOSC subcommittees are in various stages of reviewing ORD research programs:

- The **BOSC Executive Committee** reviewed ORD's Global Change Research Program during three conference calls and a face-to-face meeting September 26-28, 2005, in Alexandria, Virginia. The BOSC Executive Committee reviewed the draft report at its meeting in February 2006.
- The **Land Subcommittee** is reviewing ORD's Land Restoration and Preservation

Research Program. The Subcommittee reviewed the program during three conference calls and a face-to-face meeting that was held on December 13-15, 2005, in Cincinnati, Ohio. A final draft report was reviewed by the BOSC Executive Committee at the Board's February 2006 meeting.

- The **Water Quality Subcommittee** is reviewing ORD's Water Quality Research Program. Two conference calls were held recently in preparation for a face-to-face meeting, which was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, January 25-27, 2006. The BOSC Executive Committee will review the final draft report in spring 2006.
- The **Science To Achieve Results/Greater Research Opportunities (STAR/GRO) Fellowship Subcommittee** will review three NCER fellowship programs (STAR, GRO undergraduate, and GRO graduate programs). Two conference calls will be held in preparation for a face-to-face meeting, which will be in Washington, DC, March 2-3, 2006.

Other BOSC activities include: a "meet and greet" between ORD Assistant Administrator George Gray and the BOSC Executive Committee Chair Jim Johnson on December 20; and in November, an overview of the BOSC's Risk Assessment Workshop held in February 2005 was published in the journal *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*.

To learn more about the BOSC and its subcommittees and to review reports and meeting summaries, please visit [www.epa.gov/osp/bosc](http://www.epa.gov/osp/bosc). If you are interested in serving as a Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the BOSC, please contact Lori Kowalski at 202-564-3408 or [kowalski.lorelei@epa.gov](mailto:kowalski.lorelei@epa.gov) or Heather Drumm at 202-564-8239 or [drumm.heather@epa.gov](mailto:drumm.heather@epa.gov). ■

## Project Horizon

*Project Horizon* brings together U.S. Government (USG) senior executives from global affairs agencies and the National Security Council (NSC) to conduct long-term, interagency strategic planning to develop realistic interagency strategies and identify capabilities in which the USG should invest to prepare for the unforeseen threats and opportunities that will face the nation over the next 20 years.

*Project Horizon*, which will conclude in May 2006, uses a scenario-based strategic planning technique considered a best practice in both the private and public sectors and participants jointly will create a set of scenarios that will serve as the basis for a structured series of strategic planning workshops. Deliverables will include interagency strategies that have been cross-tested across a range of potential future scenarios. Individual agencies then will have the option of using the scenarios to conduct their own internal planning exercises.

Ideally, *Project Horizon* will yield a structured set of interagency strategies and associated implementation considerations and action plans that will fall into the following broad categories: interagency capabilities/tools; organizational models/processes; management/operational models; knowledge/skill/training requirements; and strategic planning approaches and goal frameworks. It is anticipated that *Project Horizon's* strategies will address a range of interagency planning issues including global security, development, trade, health, resource management, and humanitarian relief. It also will deliver a strategic planning tool set that will enable participating agencies to apply this methodology within their organizations and will

*Project Horizon* continued on p.6



## OSWER/ORD Seminar Series

On February 1, 2006, OSWER and ORD held the seventh presentation of the expanded Seminar Series, which for 3 years focused on contaminated sediments, but now features ORD research pertaining to all environmental media. OSP is coordinating the series in conjunction with Leah Evison in OSWER's Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation. The latest presentation, titled "3MRA Multimedia Modeling Capabilities and Applicability for the Resource Conservation Challenge" represents a state-of-the-art environmental modeling system that integrates multimedia, multi-pathway, and multi-receptor exposure and risk assessment science modules and databases within a software

infrastructure. 3MRA also facilitates the conduct of site-based human and ecological risk assessments at geographic scales ranging from local to national. Originally designed and implemented to inform national decisions related to safe exit levels for the Hazardous Waste Identification Rule, it has since evolved to include a full suite of software tools for conducting uncertainty and sensitivity analysis as well as enhancements to facilitate site-specific assessments of risks. 3MRA currently is being applied to several regulatory assessments and its Framework for Risk Analysis of Multimedia Environmental Systems (FRAMES) infrastructure is being supported and utilized by modeling groups across several federal agencies.

### OSP Update Contributing Writers

- Susan Peterson
- Lori Kowalski
- Ken Sala
- Anita Street
- Sarah Bauer
- Megan Grogard
- David Klaunder
- Kathleen Graham
- Jason Edwards
- Claudia Walters

For more information on the *OSP Update*, contact Susan Peterson at 202-564-1077 or [peterson.susan@epa.gov](mailto:peterson.susan@epa.gov).

For more information on the seminar series, please contact Jace Cuje at [cuje.jace@epa.gov](mailto:cuje.jace@epa.gov) or 202-564-1795.

## EPA-Navajo Meetings

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Treatment as a State (TAS) process and establishing water quality standards in Indian Country and the "Snapshot" of the Agency's Tribal Environmental Program, the IPPC was joined by the National Tribal Caucus, tribal leaders from the Navajo Nation and other tribes across the country.

The TSC conducted a 3-day meeting that included a presentation to the IPPC, finalization of TSC technical documents, and introduction by Dr. Teichman of two tribal representatives who spoke on science. The tribes' concern regarding how the EPA hierarchy prioritizes and divides work issues was described, and the IPPC was encouraged to consider tribal values in EPA's decision-making processes. The TSC Co-Chairs (EPA and tribal) presented background information on the TSC, next steps for the TSC, and overviews of two documents representing several years of working with tribes and conducting workshops, which will be circulated to EPA and tribes for comment:

- The *National Tribal Science Priorities*, and
- *Paper on Tribal Issues Related to Tribal Traditional Lifeways, Risk Assessment,*



### Members of the Tribal Science Council

**Top Row:** David Charters (OSWER); Mimi Dannel (ORD); David Carillo (NCCH); Dan Kusnierz (Penobscot Nation); Thomas Baugh (Region 4); Curtis Munoz (Kiowa Tribe); Claudia Walters (ORD); Roland Hemmett (Region 2)

**Middle Row:** Rita Schoeny (OW); Brenda Groskinsky (Region 7); Denise West (Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska); Vickie Kujawa (Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe); Christian Berini (Fond du Lac band of Lake Superior Chippewa); Michele Dineyazhe (Region 9); Robert Hillger (Region 1);

Marshall Cheung (29 Palms Band of Mission Indian)

**Bottom Row (two kneeling):** Linda Logan (Tonawanda Seneca Nation); Dana Davoli (Region 10)

*and Health & Well Being: Documenting What We've Heard.*

Ben Silversmith, a Native American elder, provided a discussion on the Navajo approach to science, explaining that the Navajo believe earth, water, air, and heat exist in every life—in every living thing. The focus the Navajo have on environmental health and impact comes from this perspective. In addition, the

Navajo reported on a recent study they had undertaken, referred to as the Navajo Nation Lake Fish Study, which examined the presence of mercury, methyl mercury, and other trace elements in fish at Navajo Nation lakes. The TSC also discussed the upcoming September 24-29, 2006, conference that

*EPA-Navajo Meetings* continued on p. 8



## Patent Website Launched for Technology Transfer Opportunities

The FTTA Program supports the federal government's goal of moving technologies into the marketplace, as well as provides collaborative environmental research opportunities for external partners. Although CRADAs are most commonly associated with this program, there are other mechanisms available providing benefits to the public and business community, as well as the Agency.

Licensing agreements and royalty rights also are covered under the FTTA, where EPA researchers can patent inventions and receive royalties if their inventions are licensed. Why patent and license EPA technologies? Patents are a key avenue to assist in moving a technology from an EPA research result into a useful tool demonstrating environmental outcomes. Patents promote public use of technologies, thus preventing potential under-utilization. Through a license, a technology developed in an EPA lab or center can be transferred to a partner for further development and/or commercialization, in exchange for a portion of the licensee's net sales. And speaking of royalties, a share of these funds goes to the inventors as well as the EPA lab! If a patent results from a CRADA, the collaborator and the EPA researcher(s) can jointly file for the patent and share in royalties.

OSP assists EPA scientists in evaluating the marketability of employee inventions through a cooperative agreement with the West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation (WVHTCF). EPA TechMatch, a new patent Website developed under this agreement and located at [www.epatechmatch.com](http://www.epatechmatch.com), is a one-stop shop for viewing licensing opportunities for EPA patents. The public now has

access to view and search EPA's patents, and to increase partnership opportunities between nonfederal entities and EPA laboratories. Visitors also will gain an understanding of EPA's research and development capabilities.

"The goal of EPA TechMatch is to encourage entrepreneurs to license EPA technologies and develop new products to strengthen environmental protection and improve the growth and competitiveness of our economy," said Dr. George Gray, EPA Assistant Administrator for ORD.

One of the website's main benefits for the industrial sector is the inclusion of third-party independent analyses performed by the WVHTCF of the commercial potential of the technologies. Technologies that have been assessed to have particularly high market potential are highlighted on the site. EPA TechMatch also includes information on research conducted within the Agency, technology transfer success stories, and links to other useful information associated with technology transfer. Users can search more than 130 EPA patents where they will find information on the specifics of each patent, and can link to the full U.S. Patent and Trademark Office description of each.

If you are interested in the patent and license process or for more information on legislative history, patents, and partnership opportunities, visit EPA's FTTA Web Site at <http://www.epa.gov/osp/ftta.htm>. An online training course is available at this site as well. For more information, you also may contact Kathleen Graham at [graham.kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:graham.kathleen@epa.gov) or 202-564-2678. ■

## Project Horizon

*Continued from p.4*

provide the foundation with an ongoing interagency strategic planning process that will inform governmental strategic planning.

The agencies participating in *Project Horizon* include: Agriculture, Commerce, Defense (Office of the Secretary of Defense and Joint Staff), NSC, Energy, Environmental Protection, Health and Human Services (including Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), Homeland Security, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Labor, State, USAID, Millennium Challenge Corporation, and National Defense University/Interagency Training, Education and After Action (NDU/ITEA).

In February and March 2006, a series of strategy workshops will be held in which senior representatives from the 14 *Project Horizon* participating agencies, as well as select external participants, will develop and test interagency strategies using the developed scenarios. During the workshops, participants will be part of an interagency planning team that will be asked to "live" in this world and develop an in-depth understanding of the challenges and opportunities that it presents for the USG. Each team will develop strategies to address its assigned scenario; the strategies of each team then will be stress-tested across the other scenarios to identify those strategies that are most "robust" (in other words, work across all scenarios).

Anita Street, OSP, has participated in *Project Horizon* since September 2005. OSP hosted meetings in both October and December 2005 and expects to host another round in April 2006.

For further information on *Project Horizon*, please contact Anita Street at [street.anita@epa.gov](mailto:street.anita@epa.gov) or 202-564-3626. ■



## November '05 thru January '06

### Intra-OSP Staff Moves!

**Tia Rush** of OSP's Cross Program Staff has moved to the Regional Science Staff.

**Sarah Bauer** of OSP's Cross Program Staff is working permanently with the Technology Transfer Program.

**Staci Gatica** of OSP's Program Support Staff Land Team has returned

after a 6-month detail assignment with OSWER.

**Megan Grogard** of OSP's Cross Program Staff is working as OSP's Communication Director.

### We'll Miss You!

**James Avery** of OSP's Program Support Staff has moved permanently to the National Center for Environmental Assessment after serving on a detail assignment with them.

**David Klauder** retired after 30 years of federal service and is living in North Carolina.

### Congratulations on the Marriage!

Congratulations and best wishes to **Maggie Javdan** and her husband **Richard LaVay** on December 23, 2005.

Congratulations and best wishes to **Peter Fargo** and his wife **Lauren** on their marriage on December 30, 2005. ■

## Communications Products—What's the Difference?

Ever get confused about the different methods of communication used by EPA? The following information is provided to give you an idea of the differences between a few of these methods:

**News Advisory**—A notice inviting the media to a conference or event.

**News Release**—A release issued to announce or highlight significant activities that are newsworthy. It generally contains at least one quote.

**News Brief**—The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) issues weekly news briefs, usually on Wednesdays, to announce significant activities that do not rise to the expectations of a full news release. A news brief generally contains no quotes, and cover topics such as grants, awards, *Federal Register* notices, etc. News briefs may be issued on any day, but they require OPA approval.

**Desk Statements**—Desk statements are written official responses to respond

to: (1) issues coming from outside the Agency such as letters, reports, or news releases by Congress, interest groups, states, etc.; or (2) respond to issues generated by Agency activity that are gaining considerable media attention. They are not distributed through news release channels but are used to respond to media inquiries by OPA and may be read, e-mailed, or faxed to the media depending on the situation. ■

## ORD Environmental Justice Action Plan

ORD's FY 2006 Environmental Justice (EJ) Action Plan represents a collaborative effort of the ORD EJ Communication Network (ComNet) and is organized to highlight the substantial research in ORD that addresses the Agency's EJ priorities. ORD is committed to supporting environmental justice goals and priorities through our research, expert advice, and leadership in the development of Agency science policies.

In accordance with Administrator Stephen Johnson's November 4, 2005 memoran-

dum, Reaffirming the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Commitment to Environmental Justice (<http://www.epa.gov/osp/EJ/admin-ej-commit-letter-110305.pdf>), ORD will continue to integrate EJ priorities within our research efforts in support of the Agency and continue to raise EJ awareness among our employees. We already have begun making strides towards this goal in ORD by offering the introductory online training, OEJ901. A special thanks to all who participated in the online training course and to our labs, centers, and offices that complet-

ed follow-up discussion sessions on ways in which ORD can more effectively integrate EJ principles/priorities into existing programs. We currently are engaged in designing a more ORD-centric course, to address the unique needs and aspects of ORD.

For further information regarding the EJ Action Plan ([http://www.epa.gov/osp/EJ/FY2006\\_ORD\\_EJ\\_ActionPlan.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/osp/EJ/FY2006_ORD_EJ_ActionPlan.pdf)) or ORD's EJ Program, please contact Jason Edwards at [edwards.jason@epa.gov](mailto:edwards.jason@epa.gov) or 202-564-5568. ■



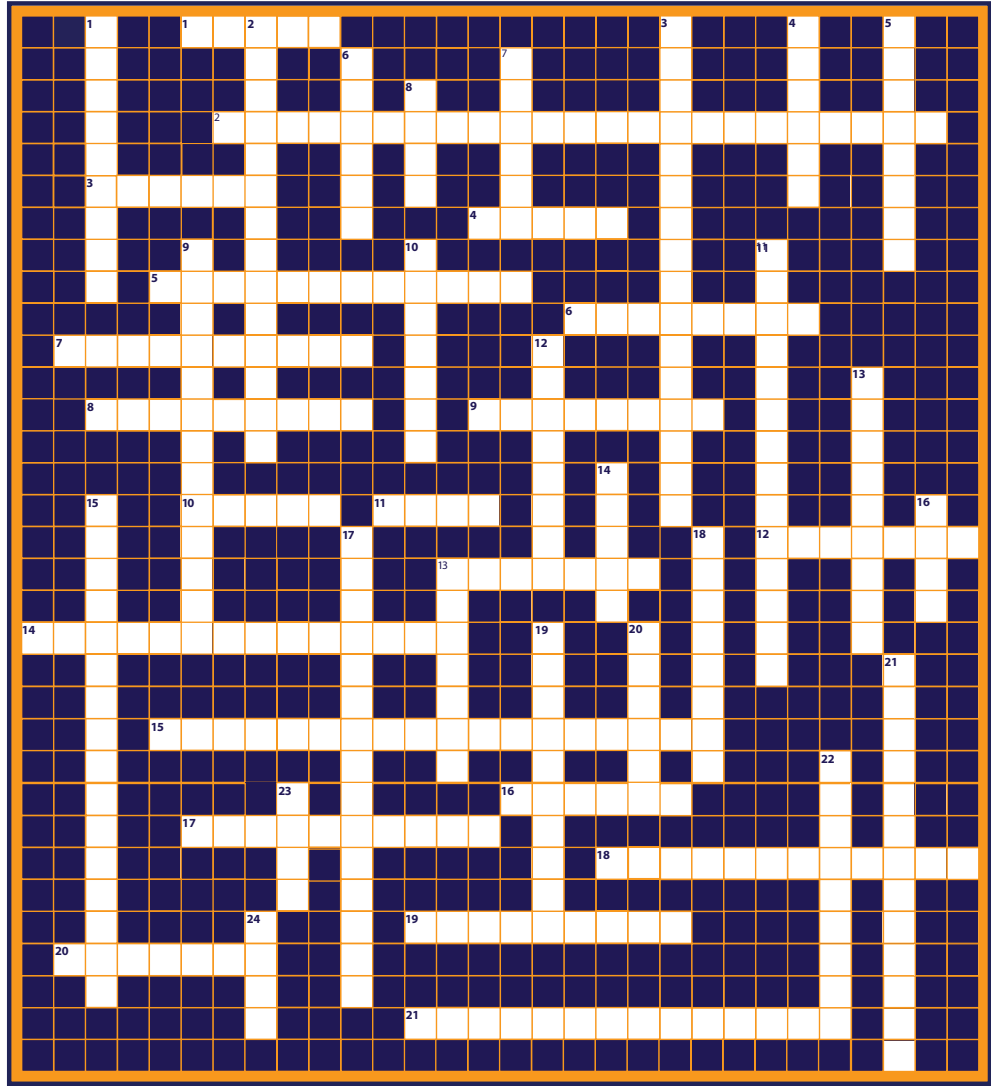
# Crossword

## Across

- Allows collaboration with external parties
- PVA
- Contaminant fingerprint analysis method
- EPA holds one each year
- Comprised of tribal leaders from across the U.S.
- Held one on ORD products
- The labs develop it
- \_\_\_\_\_ Administrator
- Invites the media to an event
- A foundation helping to evaluate the marketability of EPA employee inventions
- Grants program
- \_\_\_\_\_ rights are covered under the FTFA
- Reasoning in a clear and consistent manner
- Uses methods to compare patterns resulting from chemical analyses with patterns associated with particular contaminants
- Topic of OSWER/ORD Seminar
- 3MRA infrastructure
- OSP Update is one
- \_\_\_\_\_ relief
- They help facilitate product marketing and utilization
- Mining of this is a concern to the Navajo Nation
- A proposed BOSC program review

## Down

- Program to clean up worst hazardous waste sites
- Rebecca Calderon's ORD Products Workshop topic
- New Orleans nightmare
- A focus of the 2006 Science Forum
- \_\_\_\_\_ Science Liaisons
- New Web site launched for technology transfer
- TSC met at \_\_\_\_\_ Nation
- OSP's Director represents ORD on it
- One of the BOSC Subcommittees
- Environmental \_\_\_\_\_
- Will yield a structured set of interagency strategies and action plans
- Necessary with tight budgets
- Encourages entrepreneurs to license EPA technologies
- Earth observation is its focus
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Times
- Allows EPA to work with external partners
- The A Team now provides it to all of ORD
- Serves as a pattern or model
- Director Teichman commended OSP staff for this quality
- FTFA training course is available \_\_\_\_\_
- EJ \_\_\_\_\_ Network
- Involving risk or danger
- Annual meeting was held with BOSC review
- \_\_\_\_\_ tools—a topic of Rochelle Araujo's ORD products workshop presentation



## Solution to October OSP Update Word Puzzle

1. FUEL TANK VENTILATION SYSTEM
2. HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENTS
3. EPA SCIENCE FORUM REGIONAL SESSION
4. LICENSED PATENT EXHIBIT BOOTH
5. VARIABLE COMPRESSION RATIO ENGINE
6. DRINKING WATER SUBCOMMITTEE
7. GLOBAL EARTH OBSERVATION SYSTEM OF SYSTEMS
8. BIOMASS CONCENTRATOR REACTOR
9. STAR FELLOWSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE
10. FEDERAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACT
11. NATIONAL VEHICLE & FUEL EMISSIONS LABORATORY
12. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE TECHNICAL LIAISONS
13. INTEGRATED RISK INFORMATION SYSTEM
14. EXHAUST AFTERTREATMENT SYSTEM
15. VULNERABILITY AND LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT
16. MARINE AND ESTUARINE MONITORING

## EPA-Navajo Meetings

*Continued from p.5*

the TSC is planning to hold at the Quinalt Indian Nation Hotel in Ocean Shores, Washington. Overall, the conference will consist of 2 days of training and 2 days of concurrent sessions on various science issues of importance to tribes.

Both meetings were highly productive and subsequent meetings and activities are scheduled to continue the good work. For more information on the TSC and related activities, please contact Claudia Walters at [walters.claudia@epa.gov](mailto:walters.claudia@epa.gov) or 202-564-6762. ■