



Tribal Air News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

OCTOBER 2008

US EPA OAQPS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Ozone Science 2
to Policy
Workshop

Do More by 3
Working
Together

NSR Training in 4
RTP

National Tribal 5
Conference in
Billings

National Tribal 6
Forum on Air
Quality

Climate and Air 8
Quality Broad-
cast

Dates to 8
Remember

SIP Training 9

Lead NAAQS Signature Pending

In May, EPA proposed to strengthen the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for lead to a level between 0.10 and 0.30 µg/m³. The current level, 1.5 µg/m³, was established in 1978. On July 1, 2008, EPA received a court order to extend the public comment period on the proposed rule through August 4, 2008, and to extend the deadline for signature on the final lead NAAQS rulemaking to October 15, 2008.



Visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/air/lead/> for documents related to this rule-making. The Agency is currently working to complete the final rule, which will be available on the website by the October 15th deadline. Contact: Erika Sasser at sasser.erika@epa.gov

Lead smelters are a significant source of airborne lead

Updated NAAQS Review Schedule

MILESTONE	POLLUTANT						
	Ozone	Lead	NO ₂ Primary	SO ₂ Primary	NO ₂ /SO ₂ Secondary	PM	CO
Rule Proposal	<u>Jun 20, 2007</u>	<u>May 1, 2008</u>	<u>May 28, 2009</u>	<u>Jul 30, 2009</u>	<u>Feb 12, 2010</u>	Jan 2011	Oct 2010
Final Rule Signature	<u>Mar 12, 2008</u>	<u>Oct 15, 2008</u>	<u>Dec 18, 2009</u>	<u>Mar 2, 2010</u>	<u>Oct 19, 2010</u>	Oct 2011	<u>May 13, 2011</u>

Note: Underlined dates indicate court-ordered or settlement agreement deadlines

Contact: Beth Hassett-Sipple at hassett-sipple.beth@epa.gov or Tom Link at link.tom@epa.gov

O₃ Science to Policy—A Chance to Speak Up

EPA will use the input received from this workshop to draft an integrated Ozone NAAQS review plan.

The Clean Air Act requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to carry out periodic reviews of the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for criteria air pollutants, including ozone (O₃). The last review of the ozone NAAQS was completed on March 12, 2008.

The Agency is now initiating the next review of these standards. As a first step, EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) and the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) are co-sponsoring a meeting entitled, "*Workshop to Discuss Policy-Relevant Science to Inform EPA's Integrated Plan for the Review of the Ozone NAAQS.*"

You are cordially invited to attend this workshop, which will be held October 29-30, at the main EPA campus in Research Triangle Park, NC. The workshop will inform the planning for EPA's next review of the primary (health-based) and secondary (welfare-based) NAAQS for ozone, scheduled to be completed in 2013.

The workshop will provide an opportunity for participants to highlight new and emerging ozone research and to make recommendations to the Agency regarding the design and scope of the review.

EPA encourages participants to think broadly about scientific evidence completed since the last review of the primary and secondary ozone NAAQS and to come prepared to participate in an open dialogue regarding ways in which this new science could most effectively be used in the review.



The workshop discussions will provide important input as EPA considers the appropriate design and scope of the major elements of the ozone NAAQS review.

After the workshop, EPA will draft an integrated ozone NAAQS review plan that will outline the schedule, process, and approaches for evaluating the science and addressing the key issues to be considered.

Contact: Beth Hassett-Sipple at hassett-sipple.beth@epa.gov or Tom Link at link.tom@epa.gov



Do More by Working Together

Recent changes in air quality standards demonstrate the need for a collaborative effort initiated by communities and tribal councils in the months and years to come.

This year, the Environmental Protection Agency significantly strengthened its national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone. The change was designed to improve protection of both public health and sensitive trees and plants. But, the new standard will also result in more communities needing to take action to meet the standard.

Historically, we have seen that ozone-impacted areas are better served when they work together. Participants from different geographic areas joined forces in the Voluntary Ozone Reduction Council (VORC) to identify and implement practices that could reduce ozone — to hopefully enable the areas to meet the new standards and remain in attainment.

Formed in 1998, the VORC included representatives from cities, state air pollution control officials and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Council members joined to share their experience and expertise regarding ozone reduction efforts.

The council provided a simple tool for a complex problem. As facilitator, EPA communicated through conference calls to share information with regard to transportation planning, new rules and any subject that affects air quality and is of interest to participating members. Synergies enable more to be accomplished than working singly.

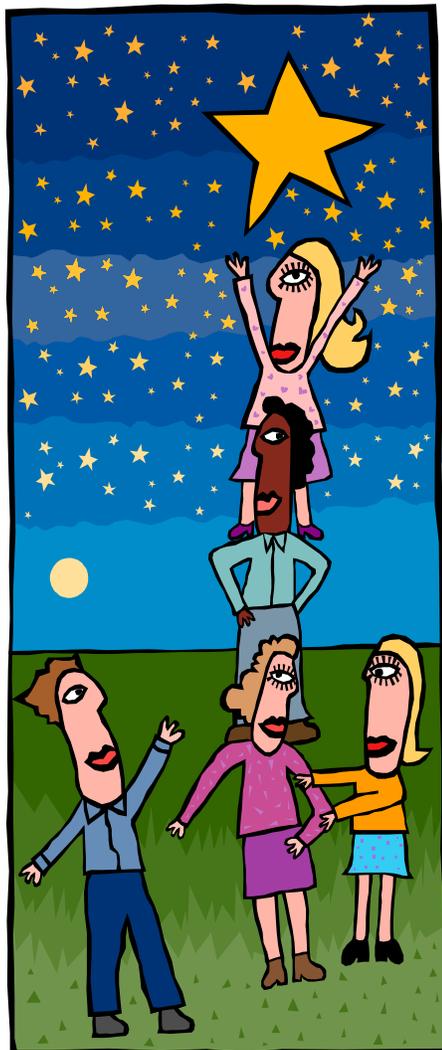
Tribes can do the same thing to pool limited resources on their issues of concern. Such a group could work together on air quality issues for ozone, particulate matter or any other pollutant. Establishing a council can be accomplished through a few simple steps.

Interested tribes should:

- Set a date and place to convene and determine common issues, such as pollutants and goals;
- Name a facilitator – someone to set up the meetings, call-in number, and agenda items. This does not have to always be the same person!
- Determine how often the group should meet and who else may be interested in joining the call;
- Create a group e-mail listing, so articles of common interest can be shared (e.g., gas can replacement programs);
- Stay “in-tune” with national rules, such as the revised ozone standard, and discuss how this affects, or may affect, your council members;
- Talk about pollutant-reducing activities and share equipment, ideas, and even events;
- Consider using “guest speakers” who are experts in the field.

With the challenges of meeting new standards or other common issues, an organized group can leverage their resources to be proactive and maximize effectiveness in advancing air quality activities.

By Heather Hamilton, facilitator of the Voluntary Ozone Reduction Council, EPA Region VII



Tribal New Source Review Training

For three days in July, EPA hosted the first New Source Review tribal training. It was conducted by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and led by Pat Ellsworth.

The New Source Review program covers pre-construction permitting of all new and modified sources of air pollution in the country. By law, states or tribes must have authority for implementing these permitting programs or the federal government will implement the programs for their jurisdictions.

Currently, the federal government issues these permits in almost all tribal lands. This NSR training provided tribes with information to help them to participate meaningfully during the federal permitting process and, eventually, to run their own permitting programs.

The training included both lectures and small group exercises. The

routine was broken with the in-house quiz game, QuestionAir, complete with “I know the answer!” buzzers for contestants to hit. There were several lectures from EPA, including Laura McKelvey, experts from the OAQPS New Source Review Group and tribal permitting expert, Dan Blair. Breaks provided valuable opportunities for networking. A group dinner at the Cheesecake Factory allowed for a more informal sharing of experiences and the opportunity to get to know new people better.

Pat Ellsworth did a great job of developing a very useful program, as ITEP is known to do.

If you wish to take this training in the future, see the ITEP website trainings page: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/>

By Nancy Mayer



A triumphant moment playing QuestionAir



Jessica Montanez, of the OAQPS New Source Review Group, explains Prevention of Significant Deterioration

The view from
the cliff walk,
Billings, MT



National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management

Opening with a prayer and a posting of colors, the Eighth National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management meeting this June adopted the title: Nurturing Mother Earth.. Our People's Destiny. This year's conference contained, for the first time, a session track devoted strictly to air issues.

"The Nations of Winged Ones" track presented in-depth analyses of air programs run by, and related to, tribal air pollution issues. Tribal representatives presented information on developing implementation plans and permits. EPA representatives spoke on woodstove changeout programs, Region X's Federal Air Rules for Reservations and other upcoming federal rulemaking activities.

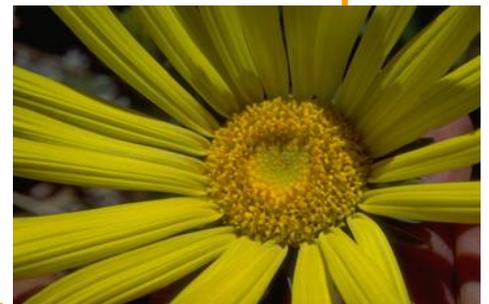
Related tracks, such as "Law, Policy and Environmental Justice: Going by the Rules and Being Fair" and "Water: Nations of the Water People," provided additional information on issues affecting tribal air pollution. For example, there were sessions on: the Tribal Air Rule (TAR); tribal experiences with providing input for EPA and State actions; legal issues surrounding regulatory enforcement in and near tribal lands, and; using supplemental environmental projects to benefit tribes.

Plenary sessions also addressed many issues of concern for people that work on tribal air pollution issues. The speakers presented thoughtful and insightful commentaries on contemporary environmental issues from several perspectives. Particularly moving were presentations on the foundation for the current environmental situation in our country and what Native Americans can do to improve the land we all share.

This conference was held in beautiful Billings, Montana. The hosts provided interesting and meaningful evening activities -- a meditation, a musical performance and a walk on the rim of local cliffs with a Native Crow historian describing the natural and human history of this beautiful geological formation. The hosts even provided some local cuisine by serving buffalo for one lunch.

This was a valuable conference, that held true to it's title and provided useful information about relevant issues and opportunities to improve our environment.

By Nancy Mayer



National Tribal Forum on Air Quality

In early June, in a quiet corner of Las Vegas, about a hundred tribal air quality professionals gathered to convene the annual National Tribal Forum on Air Quality. We are proud to say that what happened in Vegas didn't stay in Vegas. We came to learn, and we took it home.

A comprehensive agenda provided widely useful plenary sessions on issues such as air quality and public health, air regulations and program funding. In addition, diverse session tracks gave attendees a choice of technical issues (monitoring and data exchange), policy issues (in-depth examination of air rules), and practical activities (programs, projects and internship opportunities which can be useful in advancing clean air action). In addition, the third day was devoted to the issue of climate change – its impacts on tribes and tribal resources.

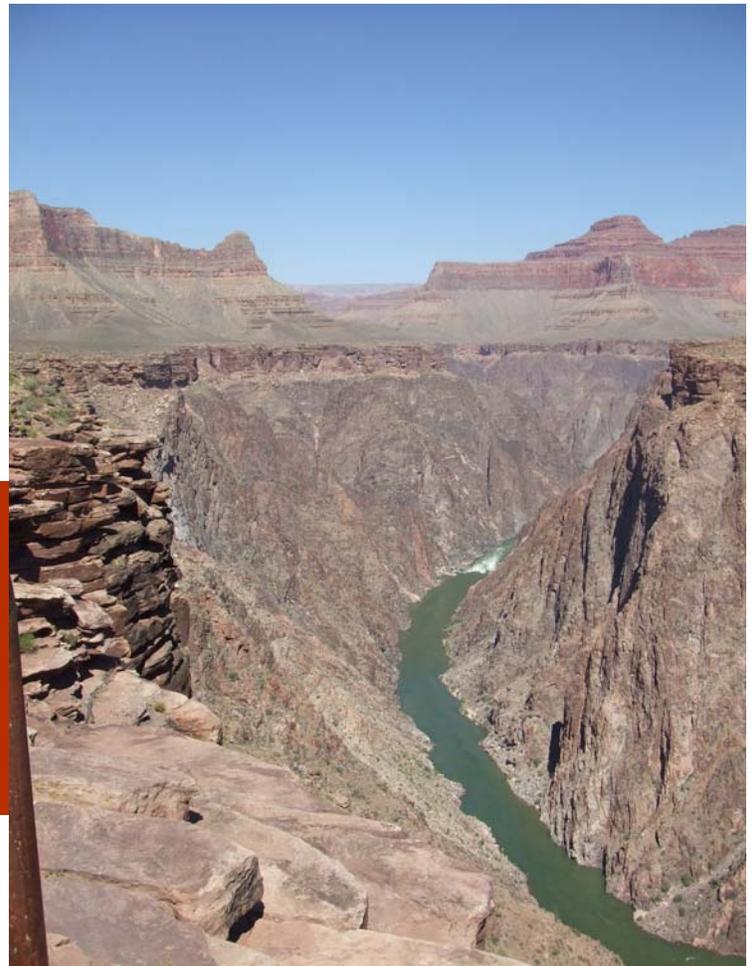
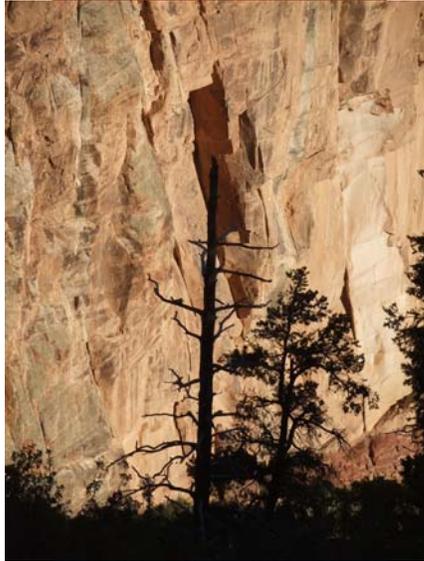
There was ample opportunity to network and socialize. The reception on the second night was the most meaningful. A drum circle and dancers created a celebratory and respectful atmosphere for the presentation of the 2008 Virgil Masayesva Awards for Excellence in Tribal Air Programs.

Given in memory of Virgil Masayesva, the late co-founder and Director of the Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals, the award honors the inspiration and leadership he provided to the developing community of tribal air professionals.

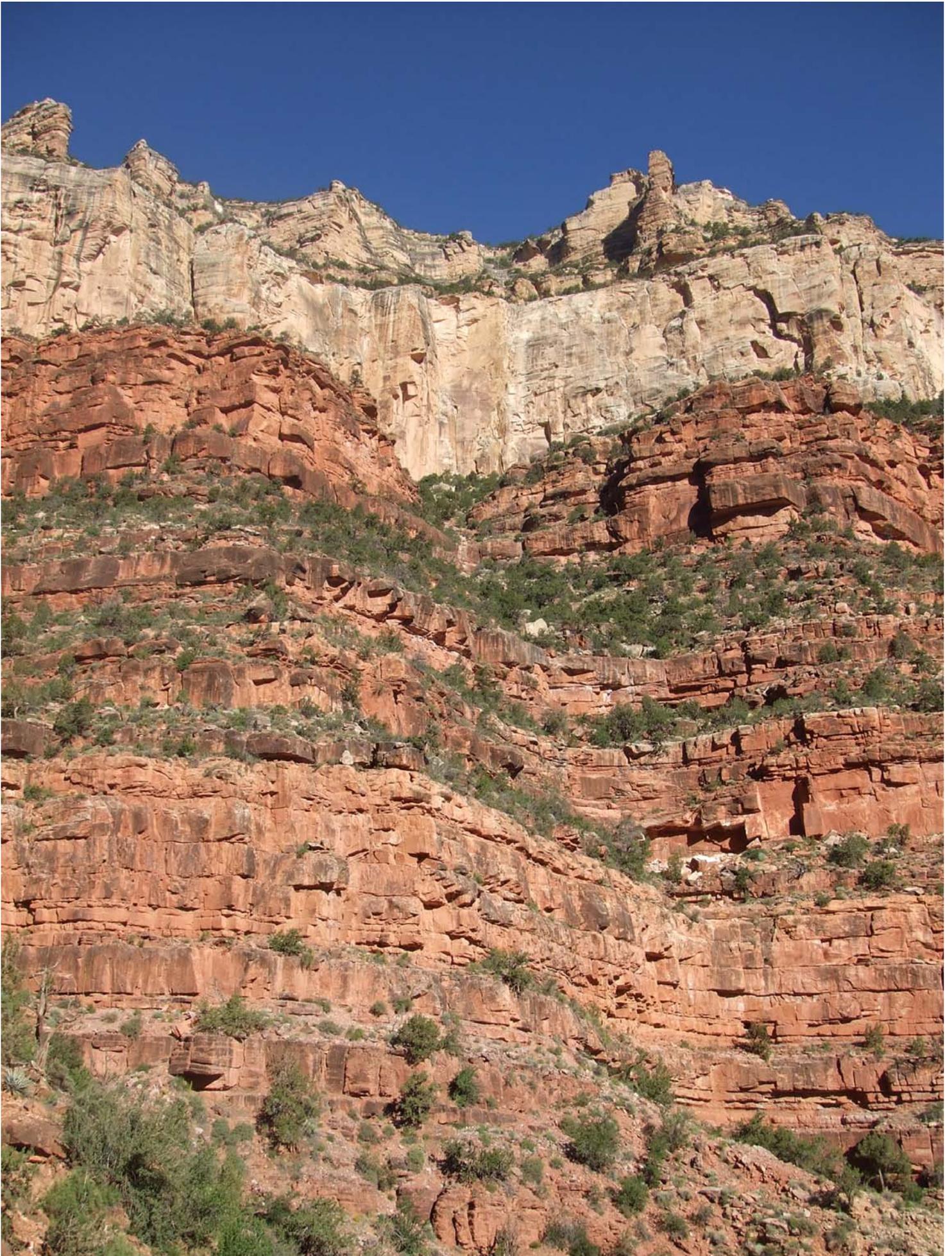
Recipients this year were Dwayne Beavers, of the Cherokee Nation, and the Nez Perce Air Quality Program.

The learning, sharing and leadership demonstrated at this conference is a good indication that the pool of deserving awardees for later years will continually grow!

By Melissa McCullough



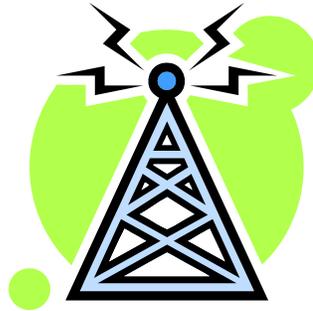
Photographs of the Grand Canyon



**Training
Broadcast
October 22:
Climate and
Air Quality:
Applications
for Air
Quality
Professionals**

Climate and Air Quality Broadcast

On October 22, 2008, at 1:00 pm EDT, EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards will broadcast a 3-hr training program for air quality program personnel about the interactions between climate change and air quality. There will be expert information on science and policy, with the opportunity for questions and discussion following each segment.



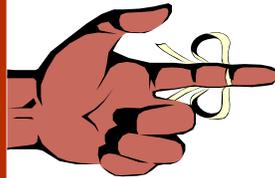
In the first part of the broadcast, we will explore the science of possible climate change impacts on air quality and, conversely, how

emissions of criteria pollutants may impact climate. In addition, the broadcast will describe multi-pollutant approaches and tools that are addressing those impacts. This segment will feature leading scientists, researchers, and environmental professionals.

In the second part of the program, we will highlight two successful initiatives: Connecticut's Climate Change Action Plan and the Sustainable Skyline Initiative featuring the first pilot city, Dallas. This segment will feature business leaders, elected officials and air quality planners.

A recording of the session will be available on the Air Pollution Training Institute website, probably after the first of the year. For additional information, contact Deborah Miller at miller.deborah@epa.gov.

By Yvonne Johnson



Dates to Remember

October 19 - 23	National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) annual conference/meeting, Phoenix, AZ
November 10 - 14	National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC), Myrtle Beach, SC
December 1 - 4	Climate Change meeting for Great Lakes Tribes (by EPA Region 5), Milwaukee, WI
May 10 - 14	NTEC conference, Bar Harbor, ME
June 1 - 5 (tentative),	National Tribal Forum, location TBD

Upcoming ITEP training courses:

Oct 28-30	Air Quality System (AQS), Las Vegas, NV
Nov 18-21	Gaseous Pollutant Monitoring, Las Vegas, NV
Nov 18-21	Air Quality in Alaska Native Villages, Anchorage, AK
Dec 9-12	Advanced Air Program Management, Tahlequah, OK

www.epa.gov/apti The EPA Air Pollution Training Institute website includes upcoming training courses, past broadcasts (e.g. rule updates) and webcasts.

SIP Training Conducted in Tempe



In September, the Improve and Protect Air Quality workshop was held in Tempe, AZ. The training has been given previously in Seattle, Alaska, Tulsa and San Diego.

Targeting at tribal air program staff and other interested tribal members, the goal of the training is to provide resources to help tribes participate in State permitting, regulatory and State Implementation Plan (SIP) processes, or to develop a Tribal Implementation Plan (TIP).

The first day began with an overview of the Federal Clean Air Act (CAA) laws and rules. The day closed with a presentation on the health and environmental impacts of air pollution, which the CAA aims to address. In between, Glenn Gehring, of the Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals' Tribal Air Monitoring Support Center, provided tools to put the axiom, "a picture is worth a thousand words" to work. He discussed tools and methods on how to turn air monitoring data, modeling data and maps into persuasive stories.

The second day went into more detail on how Federal, State and local air programs work, with presentations from EPA Region IX, Arizona DEP, San Diego and South Coast air staff. They provided information about programs, and opportunities for tribal involvement in those programs.

The third day addressed, more directly, the question of how tribes can get involved in state agency actions, on ways to reduce emissions and how to build effective relationships with relevant agencies. A case study presented by **Ondrea Barber**, with the Salt River Pima – Maricopa Indian Community, provided a real life application of the issues. Attendees broke into small groups to discuss their own air issues and brainstorm options, utilizing the information from the past days.

There was ample time during breaks and meals for folks to put the workshop goal of building relationships into practice. To this end, a few participants took a hike up Piestewa Peak after the first day's session. It was a great hike, with great views. The Salt River

Pima – Maricopa Indian Community was starkly visible from the peak, a rectangle of green amidst a sea of sprawl. It provided a tangible demonstration of some of the air issues that tribe faces.

Materials from the training are available; by contacting mccullough.melissa@epa.gov.

By Melissa McCullough





US_EPA OAQPS, C304-03

Research Triangle Park, NC 27711

Phone: 919-541-5646

E-mail: mccullough.melissa@epa.gov



Tribal Air News

Tribal Air News is produced by the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Outreach and Information Division, Community and Tribal Programs Group.

The newsletter is produced quarterly and is distributed electronically.

For more information about the newsletter, or to contribute stories and pictures contact:

Laura McKelvey (mckelvey.laura@epa.gov) Or

Melissa McCullough (mccullough.melissa@epa.gov)

Sunset over Phoenix

