



# NTAA Weekly Update

Week of May 4-May 8, 2020

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## PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

NPR – [Greenhouse Gas Emissions Predicted To Fall Nearly 8% - Largest Decrease Ever](#)



*The San Gabriel Mountains are seen under a clear sky beyond downtown Los Angeles. Air quality in the U.S. and elsewhere has been improved by reduced traffic from coronavirus restrictions and weeks of rainstorms. Photo credit: David McNew/Getty Images*

## TOP STORIES

### **COVID-19 Economic Impact Check Information**

The [IRS has developed this webpage](#) to help ensure everyone who is eligible receives their economic impact payment.

### **It's Air Quality Awareness Week!**

[Stay tuned here for more information.](#)

The theme for this year is Better Air, Better Health! Our goal is to promote events that increase air quality awareness and encourage people to check the Air Quality Index (AQI) daily. We plan to focus on the following daily topics this year, featuring one each day on the AQAW website (which will be released on May 4, the first day of AQAW):

- Monday - Wildfires & Smoke

- Tuesday - Asthma & Your Health
- Wednesday - Where's Your AQI Coming From?
- Thursday - Air Quality Around the World
- Friday - Shout-out of state and local events

U.S. EPA would also like to share with you a new student engagement activity that was developed this year, [Why I Care about Clean Air](#) (instructions found in link), that can easily be distributed and completed from home.

### **Flexibility with GAP Awards during Coronavirus**

EPA's [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) on Grant Issues in Response to the Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency is available here](#) and addresses generally applicable policies and practices. These FAQs address a broad number of issues, including grant procedures, allowable costs, disruption of services, procurement, and extensions, among other topics. Each individual work plan and award situation may be different based on your tribe's unique situation and tribal personnel policies. We encourage you to work closely with your project officer to address your specific questions. You can also [subscribe to the EPA Grants Listserv](#) so that you may receive updates on information as it becomes available. Generally, EPA is working to provide the maximum flexibility permitted by law to continue financial assistance support to tribes and other grant recipients. For GAP recipients, this means:

- ✓ You may continue to conduct your GAP work plan activities while teleworking. If your current work plan activities are not suitable for telework, you may work with your project officer to re-negotiate some or portions of your work plan,
- ✓ You may request an extension of your project period, and
- ✓ If in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of a stand-alone GAP award (the regulatory limit), AIEO is requesting a one-time waiver so that impacted GAP awards may be extended into a 5<sup>th</sup> year.

### **Proposed Rule: Review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter**

EPA has [published this proposal in the Federal Register](#), and the NTAA is developing a full [Policy Resource Kit](#). The proposal states that no changes to the NAAQS for particulate matter will be taken at this time. The deadline to comment is June 29, 2020, and [two virtual public hearings will be held on May 20 and May 21](#).

## **HEADLINES**

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

EPA – [EPA Provides Grant Funding to Support Environmental Justice Communities Impacted by COVID-19](#)

E&E News – [Tribes: Pandemic relief starts flowing](#)

NBC News - [173 years, \\$170: Why Irish people are donating to help Native Americans hit by coronavirus](#)

EPA – [Science Advisory Board Issues Comments on Agency’s Draft Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science Rulemaking](#)  
*Editor’s note: the NTAA has developed a [Policy Resource Kit](#) in response to this SNPRM, and will be submitting a comment letter opposing the proposal on May 18.*

Alliance for Green Heat - [EPA amending wood heater deadline to address pandemic sales slump](#)

AU News – [Ozone layer: Largest ever tear over the Arctic has closed](#)

EPA – [EPA, CDC Release Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Spaces Where Americans Live, Work, and Play](#)

Indian Country Today – [Virtual meetings set for drilling plan near Chaco national park](#)

Indian Country Today – [Pressure mounts as tribes seek more time on drilling plan](#)

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

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

AP – [Judge cancels hundreds of oil, gas leases in Montana](#)

Bloomberg – [TC Energy Says Montana Ruling Could Delay Keystone XL by a Year](#)

AP – [Takeaways from renewable energy’s struggles amid pandemic](#)

NBC – [Cheap oil? A pandemic? No big deal for renewable energy, experts say](#)

Indian Country Today – [Virus darkens prospects for solar, wind projects](#)

NY Times – [Billions in Clean Energy Loans Go Unused as Coronavirus Ravages Economy](#)

Reuters – [Next risk? Coronavirus pandemic underscores climate health threats](#)

Business Insider – [How climate change could make infectious diseases even more difficult to combat in the future](#)

E&E News – [An Alaska glacier collapsed. Warming was the likely trigger](#)

E&E News – [Is gas really better than coal for the climate?](#)

Yes! Magazine – [Carbon Emissions Turned Back 10 Years](#)

NY Times – [Emissions Declines Will Set Records This Year. But It's Not Good News.](#)

CarbonBrief – [IEA: Coronavirus impact on CO2 emissions six times larger than 2008 financial crisis](#)

NY Times – [The Business of Burps: Scientists Smell Profit in Cow Emissions](#)

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

Bloomberg – [Single-Use Plastics Make a Comeback on Pandemic Fears](#)

EPA – [EPA Announces Cooperative Agreement to Support the National Tribal Toxics Council \(NTTC\)](#)

EPA – [EPA Highlights Enforcement Actions against Those Who Violate the Defeat Device and Tampering Prohibitions under the Clean Air Act](#)

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

Grist – [Study: Gas-powered appliances may be hazardous for your health](#)

Utility Dive – [Elevating energy efficiency – At last!](#)

YubaNet – [How to Reduce Your Exposure to Indoor Air Pollution during COVID-19 Related Lockdowns: New Guide](#)

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



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

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

#### **NEW! Hopi Food Sovereignty through Farming and Coalitions**

*A webinar hosted by the [Indigenous Foods Knowledges Network](#)*

Join us on *Thursday, May 7th*, 10 am AKDT/11 am PDT & AZT/12 pm MST/1 pm CDT 2 pm EDT to hear presentations by Terri Honani (Hopi and Tewa) and Dr. Michael Kotutwa Johnson (Hopi). Honani will present about the Natwani Coalition and how the non-profit organization's initiatives help to preserve Hopi farming traditions, strengthen the local Hopi food system and develop innovative sustainable strategies to promote wellness through "itam naapyani" or "doing the work ourselves." Dr. Johnson will be presenting about the resiliency of Hopi agriculture and how conservation programs can reinforce American Indian Identity and culture. [Registration is required](#). Questions: Contact Mary Beth Jager-[jager@arizona.edu](mailto:jager@arizona.edu) or Noor Johnson- [noor.johnson@colorado.edu](mailto:noor.johnson@colorado.edu).

#### **Tribal Lands and Environment Forum (TLEF) is accepting proposals for TLEF: A Virtual Gathering**

*Deadline: May 8, 2020*

As announced a few weeks ago, we will not be conducting an in-person Tribal Lands and Environment Forum this year due to the pandemic. However, we are offering a special *TLEF: A Virtual Gathering* that will take place this August! This series of events will feature live online events, on-demand prerecorded sessions, and virtual field trips, and we're also designing opportunities to join online and live group discussions with mentors, presenters and colleagues.

We are now accepting proposals from you! Please check out the TLEF website at [www.nau.edu/tlef](http://www.nau.edu/tlef) and click on the Proposal tab for more information and the online submission form. And do note, the deadline is May 8.

These are very uncertain times, when many are facing not only serious health concerns but economic, social, and psychological challenges as well. And yet we all find strength in working with one another. Those of you who have been to past TLEFs know how powerful and inspiring it is to share stories - successes and challenges! - and rekindling our relationships. So we do look forward to seeing your proposals for case studies, virtual tours of your sites and facilities, strategies you're using to protect your lands and communities. We'll be sending out additional information over the next few weeks, but in the meantime be sure to visit [www.nau.edu/tlef](http://www.nau.edu/tlef). We wish all of you peace and good health.

#### **Draft Guidance: Interpretation of "Begin Action Construction" Under the NSR Preconstruction Permitting Regulations**

*Comments due: May 11, 2020*

EPA is providing an opportunity for interested stakeholders to review and comment on the draft guidance titled, *Interpretation of “Begin Actual Construction” Under the New Source Review Preconstruction Permitting Regulations*. This guidance addresses EPA’s interpretation of “begin actual construction” under the regulations implementing the New Source Review (NSR) permitting program. In this draft guidance, EPA is adopting a revised interpretation that is more consistent with the regulatory text. Under this revised interpretation, a source owner or operator may, prior to obtaining an NSR permit, undertake physical on-site activities – including activities that may be costly, that may significantly alter the site, and/or are permanent in nature – provided that those activities do not constitute physical construction on an emissions unit. EPA will accept comment on this draft guidance through Monday, May 11, 2020. The draft guidance, and a link for submitting comments, is available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/nsr>.

### **NEW! NCAI’s Forum “COVID-19: Economic Impacts and Implications for Indian Country”**

*May 12, 1:00-2:15 p.m. ET*

To register for the forum, please click [here](#).

Part of NCAI's ongoing COVID-19 Virtual Events series, this forum will document the data and other evidence emerging from Indian Country about the nature and gravity of the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on tribal nations, and their necessary implications for tribal governmental action and federal funding support.

### **E-Enterprise National Meeting: Envisioning the Future of Environmental Protection**

EE2020 is the latest in a long-running series of meetings sponsored by [E-Enterprise for the Environment](#) and the [National Environmental Information Exchange Network](#). On May 12-14, 2020, EE2020 will bring together a broad community of attendees from state, tribal, and local environmental agencies, U.S. EPA, vendors, and other stakeholders with an interest in improving the productivity and responsiveness of the environmental protection enterprise. The meeting integrates content on information technology, program modernization, and process improvement. [Click here to learn more about EE2020](#), the benefits of attending, and ways to get involved.

### **Wildland Fire Community Engagement and Data Visualization Tools Webinar**

*Wednesday, May 20, 3-4pm ET*

[Register here](#).

This presentation will highlight two wildland fire smoke and health projects. [Smoke Sense](#) is a crowdsourcing, citizen science app which engages the public to broaden awareness of wildland fire smoke locally as well as health protective measures and behaviors. This presentation will share findings from the past two wildfire seasons including community engagement and data visualization tools. The Smoke Ready Communities project offers a model and framework to help communities improve their response. It supports collaboration and capacity building and also fosters preparedness and response to wildfire smoke episodes. This presentation will share a solutions-driven approach for helping reduce the public health burden of smoke intrusion at the community level. Participants will learn about how these projects can integrate a community capacity lens with resources specifically related to wildland fire smoke, air quality and health.

**NEW! EPA Tools & Resources Webinar: EPA Expands Research on COVID-19 in the Environment**

*Wednesday, May 27, 2020; 2-3pm ET*

[Register Here](#)

EPA scientists are building on a foundation of world-class research by applying their knowledge to reduce the risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. This research will help states & territories, tribes, and local governments, including public health agencies guide homeowners, business owners, and others reduce the risk of exposure. This webinar will highlight research EPA is working on with CDC, including the following:

- Environmental Cleanup and Disinfection
- Wastewater Virus Detection
- Salivary Antibody Assay Development

**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.



<b>STAR Planning Call:</b> The NTAA Status of Tribal Air Report (STAR) helps tell the story of Tribal Air Programs, why additional funding for Tribes is critical to advance air quality, and is a great resource for Tribes.	Wednesday, May 6, 2 pm ET <i>This is also the deadline for submissions!</i>
<b>Mobile Sources Work Group:</b> This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues.	Thursday, May 7, 2pm ET
<b>Wood Smoke Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country.	Thursday, May 21, 2pm ET
<b>EPA Policy Call:</b> Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality.	Thursday, May 28, 2pm ET
<b>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country.	Thursday, June 18, 2pm ET

**The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional's (ITEP's) [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#)** includes conferences, trainings, webinars and other events related to tribes and climate change.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's other trainings and events.

[Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. New courses have been added, so check it out!

### ITEP's [FY20 AIAQTP Course Schedule](#)

Course Title	Dates	Location	Course Level
	<b>2020</b>		
Air Pollution Technology <i>(Postponed!)</i>	TBD	Flagstaff, AZ	2
Meteorological Monitoring <i>(Postponed!)</i>	Fall 2020	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	3
Air Pollution Modeling	Fall 2020	TAMS Center, Las Vegas, NV	3
Air Quality Outreach	TBD	TBD	1
National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) <i>(Postponed!)</i>	May 2021	Tulsa, OK	n/a

Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke	Anytime	Series of 6 recorded webinars	n/a
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 Fundamentals	Open	Online	2
Emissions Inventory Advanced	Open	Online	3
<i>Note: This schedule is subject to change. For up-to-date information, course descriptions, and applications please visit <a href="http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air/">http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/Training/training_air/</a></i>			

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

#### **NEW! May 6, 13, 20, and 27, Noon (ET) – Ask the Expert**

Every Wednesday ENERGY STAR holds a Portfolio Manager "Ask the Expert" session. It's a live webinar that gives all users an opportunity to ask their questions directly to EPA experts in an open forum. Want to talk to a "real" person? Have a question about how Portfolio Manager calculates your score? Want to learn more about entering Green Power? Join ENERGY STAR, and they'll answer all your questions about ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager in this public forum.

[Register](#)

#### **NEW! May 6, 2 PM (ET) – Portfolio Manager 101**

Learn about EPA's ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Tool. Attendees will learn how to: navigate Portfolio Manager; add a property and enter details about it; enter energy and water consumption data; and generate template performance reports to assess progress.

[Register](#)

#### **NEW! May 7, 2 PM (ET) - Replacing Diesel in an Alaskan Community: Cordova's New Battery Energy Storage System**

Join this webinar with the Cordova Electric Cooperative to learn about its recently installed energy storage system. Cordova installed its 1MW/1MWh utility-scale lithium-ion system in June 2019 to allow the utility to harness more hydropower and reduce reliance on diesel fuel. In this webinar, Cordova Electric will describe

how its evaluation, analysis, and modeling led to the installation of the battery. In addition, Cordova Electric will explain the battery's main functions on its hydropower microgrid and detail the battery's performance during a 2-day operation last November in which the coop was able to avoid spilling hydro generation capacity. Lastly, the panelists will cover battery operation and project financing.

[Register](#)

**NEW! May 13, 1 PM (ET) – Portfolio Manager 201**

Continue to learn about EPA's ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Tool with a deeper dive into more advanced functionalities such as: editing property data; correcting and updating property use details; using the data quality checker; and sharing property data.

[Register](#)

**NEW! May 14, 2 PM (ET) – Using ENERGY STAR Recognition in Strategic Energy Management Programs**

Helping facilities earn recognition for energy performance can be an effective way to demonstrate the value of Strategic Energy Management (SEM) and build support energy management broadly. ENERGY STAR offers several different recognition opportunities for industrial facilities through the Challenge for Industry and the Find the Treasure Campaign that SEM programs can leverage. Join to learn more about these and other SEM resources.

[Register](#)

**NEW! May 15, 2 PM (ET) – Decarbonizing Electricity: The Critical Role of Firm Low-Carbon Resources**

Wind, solar, and batteries will be star players in a 100% carbon-free electricity sector. But reaching zero emissions cost-effectively requires completing the low-carbon team with one or more "firm" low-carbon resources. This webinar will summarize research on deep decarbonization of the electricity sector and the portfolio of solutions needed to reach this key goal at an affordable cost. At the conclusion of a presentation by Jesse Jenkins of Princeton University, there will be opportunity for audience questions.

Presenter: Jesse Jenkins, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering and Andlinger Center for Energy & Environment, Princeton University

[Register](#)

**NEW! May 19, 1 PM (ET) – Portfolio Manager 301**

With a good background on the basic functionality of EPA's ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Tool, learn about some advanced features including: using

spreadsheet upload templates to update property data; setting goals and targets to plan energy improvements for properties; creating custom reports; and using the Sustainable Buildings Checklist.

[Register](#)

**NEW! May 20, 2 PM (ET) - Tracking GHG Emissions in Portfolio Manager**

This webinar will provide a closer look at tracking and reporting your GHG emissions using the EPA's Portfolio Manager tool.

Attend this webinar if you're interested in:

- Understanding the Portfolio Manager GHG emissions inventory
- Learning how to track emissions benefits from green power use in Portfolio Manager
- How to use Portfolio Manager's reporting functionality to track GHG emissions for the properties in your portfolio

[Register](#)

**NEW! May 21, 2 PM (ET) - Renewable Energy Options for Small Businesses and Congregations**

Electricity use is often the single largest source of an organization's emissions and air pollution footprint, not to mention being a significant expense. Making the simple choice to use renewable energy can offer environmental, economic and community benefits. On this webinar, you will learn about the various options available in the market to buy green power through retail purchase, self-generation and direct purchase from a renewable project. You will learn about how to align your desired energy and environmental outcomes to specific green power supply options. You will learn about the role of renewable energy certificates and how they can support your organization meeting its renewable energy and carbon footprint reduction goals. Speaker: James Critchfield, Program Manager, EPA Green Power Partnership

[Register](#)

**NEW! May 27, 1 PM (ET) – Tribal Energy Project Technology Options**

The energy landscape continues to evolve rapidly. In many areas, costs continue to drop as technology improvements and other market drivers create greater opportunity for distributed generation. This webinar will provide an overview of several common energy technology options. Hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Indian Energy, the 2020 Tribal Energy Webinar Series will focus on how to accomplish specific tasks related to energy development on tribal lands. Presenters will provide instruction and sharing tools and resources.

[Register](#)

### **NEW! May 28, 2 PM (ET) - Strategies for Setting Effective Energy Performance Goals**

Are you aiming to set meaningful energy performance goals for your buildings? Join this webinar to hear from three ENERGY STAR partners how to use a technical approach to estimate the energy efficiency improvement potential of a building and set effective goals. Boston Properties will share how they used a scientific method for setting performance goals for targets to make them realistic and achievable. In addition, Commonwealth Partners will talk about how they provide guidance on tracking emissions through ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager to all their properties and established science-based emissions targets. Finally, Hudson Pacific Properties will discuss how they setting performance goals and updating targets for their buildings, and how to incorporate carbon reduction goals into a program.

Speakers:

- Ben Myers, Director, Sustainability, Boston Properties
- Jessica Loeper, Director of Sustainability, Commonwealth Partners
- James Soutter, Vice President, Engineering, Hudson Pacific Properties

[Register](#)

### **NEW! June 3, 2PM (ET) - Equity in Action: Heat Planning in Greater Phoenix**

This 90 minute webcast will cover how The Nature Conservancy Arizona, Arizona State University, the Maricopa County Department of Public Health, and other partners developed the [Heat Action Planning Guide for Neighborhoods of Greater Phoenix](#). This team worked directly with community members using a participatory process to identify challenges and create community driven solutions to mitigate and adapt to future heat. Specific cooling solutions include revitalizing vacant lots with trees and vegetation, and increasing shade along transit routes and at bus stops. The process was designed to develop awareness, agency, and social cohesion in underserved communities.

Speakers:

- Victoria Ludwig, U.S. EPA Heat Island Reduction Program
- Melissa Guardaro, Arizona State University
- David Crummey, Retail, Arts, Innovation & Livability Mesa

[Register](#)

### **NEW! Registration Is Now Open: National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference**

*August 31-September 3, 2020, St. Paul, Minnesota*

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) is honored to host the United States' first [Biennial National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference \(NTICC\)](#) along with support from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal



Resilience Program. The NTICC is open to all US tribal nations and Indigenous Peoples from throughout the world, with an emphasis on including our Elders and Youth. The NTICC will convene experts on climate change and will include a balance of Traditional Indigenous Knowledges and Western Science. We invite people to [submit proposals](#) before May 29, 2020, discussing climate-related impacts, assessments, tools, adaptation planning, mitigation and actions in one or more of the following tracks:

- Indigenous Knowledges
- Air, Health & Well-Being
- Land
- Water
- Relocation
- Infrastructure
- Energy Systems
- Food Sovereignty
- Ecosystems and Biodiversity

### **South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center: Earth to Sky Workshop**

Earth to Sky is a partnership between NASA, NPS, and USFWS that enables and encourages informal educators to access and use relevant NASA science, data, and educational and outreach products in their work. The partnership's focus is on climate change science and communication. Join us for three days of training with native informal educators from across the South Central region who recognize the importance of teaching climate change. The workshop will take place July 15-17 in Sulphur, OK. [Learn more here.](#)

### **Save the Date: Southwest Tribal Climate Resilience Camp**

Date: July 26-31, 2020

Location: Navajo Technical University – Crownpoint, NM

The Tribal Climate Resilience Camp will support teams of Tribal Leaders, climate change coordinators, planners, and program managers to build skills, gather information, and develop Tribal policies and plans needed for Tribal Nations to address climate change impacts. Information about travel, lodging, and registration will be available soon. You may contact Althea Walker, Tribal Climate Science Liaison, at [AWalker@aihec.org](mailto:AWalker@aihec.org) or (480) 258-3963 with questions.

#### **SEEKING TRIBAL DELEGATES**

We are currently recruiting 10 Southwest Tribes to participate in the 2020 Camp. Each Tribe should identify three delegates per Tribe. The delegates must participate for the entire week curriculum. Delegates may include climate change staff, tribal policy leaders, Tribal Council, natural resource and environmental managers and staff, administrators, department staff from health, public works, education, housing, and other relevant departments that should engage in climate change planning. FOR APPLICATIONS [Visit this link.](#)

### **Save the Date: Shifting Seasons Summit 3, October 6-8, 2020, Keshena, WI**

Contingency dates: March 2021

The Shifting Seasons Summit is a gathering that focuses on climate resilience planning and implementation within Tribes and across Tribal ceded territories in the Northeast Region. This summit will also include network-building opportunities and initiatives developed outside of the Northeast by capacity building organizations, academic institutions and Tribes. Visit [www.NICRN.org](http://www.NICRN.org) for more details.

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

### **Toxics/Mobile Sources**

#### **NEW! Tribal Consultation Period Extended for EPA's Draft Plan for the Federal Certification of Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides within Indian Country**

*Extended through August 3, 2020*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) – Office of Pesticide Programs is provide notice to federally-recognized tribes that EPA's Tribal Consultation on the *Draft EPA Plan for the Federal Certification of Applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides within Indian Country* is extended through August 3, 2020 to accommodate a recent tribal request. The timeline for the consultation and consultation period will extend from February 10–August 3, 2020. During this period, a third consultation session will be conducted. To participate, the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) invites you and/or your designee to join us during the following consultation session:

- Session 3: Wednesday, July 15th from 12:00pm-2:00pm ET  
 Conference Line: 866-299-3188; Code: 202-566-0603  
 Adobe Connect: <https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/draftepaplan3>

#### **Postponed: Green Transportation Summit & Expo and the West Coast Collaborative Partners Meeting has been postponed until August 24-26, 2020**

After careful consideration of the growing public health concerns associated with the coronavirus (COVID-19), the Green Transportation Summit & Expo and the US EPA West Coast Collaborative is postponing our GTSE | WCCPM event until August 24 – 26, 2020, at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center in Tacoma, WA.

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) and the Green Transportation Summit & Expo (GTSE) have partnered to provide 25 complimentary full-conference passes to the Green Transportation Summit & Expo. The GTSE is the Pacific Northwest's premier clean fleet and transportation event, focusing on fleets, fuels, technologies, policy & practice, with a regional focus and a national scope. We will provide you the opportunity to see, touch,

drive, and learn about new transportation technologies firsthand, such as electric, hydrogen, natural gas and propane-powered heavy-duty vehicles, off-road utility vehicles, generators, and others. Workshops on DERA, VW funding, other federal funding opportunities, and alternative fuels will be presented. Please join us at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center for the 10<sup>th</sup> annual GTSE to learn about clean transportation, how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, pollutants, and costs in your fleet operations. To learn more about the conference, [check out our website](#). To receive the code for the complimentary passes, please contact ITEP's Dara Marks Marino at [Dara.Marks-Marino@nau.edu](mailto:Dara.Marks-Marino@nau.edu).

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

#### **NEW! Cleaning Schools to Control for Viruses and Bacteria: Maintaining Healthy Indoor Learning Environments**

*Save the Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020; 2:00-4:30pm EDT*

[Register here](#).

Cleaning for health, using effective and efficient products, policies and practices, has always been the first line of defense for schools when it comes to controlling the spread of infectious disease and providing healthy, safe and productive indoor learning environments. This webinar is designed to help school district facilities and custodial staff put action plans in place to meet modern day environmental health challenges, while maintaining good indoor environmental quality, ensuring staff safety and protecting occupant health.

**Be sure to subscribe to [CodeTalk](#), HUD's Office of Native American Programs newsletter, for webinars and opportunities!**

## **RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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

#### **NEW! EPA is Hiring a Branch Chief of State and Local Energy and Environment Program**

*Closes May 12, 2020*

Application and more information available on USAJOBS at at [RTP-OAR-DE-2020-0027](#), and you can [learn more about us on our webpage](#).

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

#### **Indigenous Environmental Network's COVID-19 Emergency Mutual Aid Fund**

IEN has launched a COVID-19 Emergency Mutual Aid Fund to quickly mobilize resources to our frontline communities and groups that have a demonstrated need

experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Community-based Indigenous peoples and organizations from the U.S. and Canada are [eligible to apply](#). Small grants up to \$2,000 are being offered to assist with either of the following three situations:

1. Purchase of essential provisions: food, water, medication, diapers, cleaning supplies, pet food, etc.
2. Support with transportation for essential needs and provisions, such as medical appointments and clinic/hospital visits, medication, groceries etc. This includes deliveries, gas money, local transport and getting a ride from your relatives, so long as everyone is practicing precautionary measures to avoid transmission of the virus. In some situations, this can also support getting/leaving home from long distances to care for family members as long as all legal guidelines around travel restrictions are recognized and "Stay in Place" mandates, curfews, etc. are observed.
3. Home business slowdowns in sales and other cash flow difficulties (maybe your supplier is shut down, or a big order for an event is canceled). For this support "home business" is referring to things like quilting, regalia making, bead and quillwork, moccasin making, basket making, pottery, silversmithing, etc.

In line with the Principles of Respect and the Consciousness of Caring for our Relatives, IEN invites those in need, to apply for support. [This is the link to the Application Form](#).

### **DOI OSM Science and Technology Projects Related to Coal Mining and Reclamation - \$1.5 million**

*Applications Due: May 25, 2020*

*Eligible Entities: tribal governments, state governments*

The United States Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) is requesting Applied Science proposals for projects that develop and demonstrate improved science and technologies related to the mining of coal and the reclamation of the land after mining. Funded projects will help address important OSMRE issues related to implementation of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA). Applicants may request funding up to \$200,000. The award will be by cooperative agreement (or as an Interagency Agreement if another Federal Agency is involved). Each cooperative agreement will be for a period of time consistent with the proposal but not to exceed two years from date of award. Each cooperative agreement grantee may apply for and be granted non-funded extensions of time only as necessary to complete the project. OSMRE will only grant extensions if the delays are beyond the control of the Principle Investigator (PI). Included in this document are instructions for preparing the proposal including a list of eligible issues and a description of the proposal review process. OSMRE will only accept proposals that

address the specific list of eligible issues. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

### **EPA Children's Healthy Learning Environments Grant Initiative - \$315 thousand**

*Applications Due: June 1, 2020*

*Eligible Entities: state or state agencies, local governments, city or township governments, county governments, and federally recognized tribes*

The purpose of the Children's Healthy Learning Environments Grant Initiative is to provide capacity building to address children's environmental health in school and childcare settings. The Children's Healthy Learning Environments Grant Initiative provides funding directly to organizations to support school- and/or childcare center-based capacity building projects that help school communities understand and address local environmental and public health issues that affect children. EPA anticipates awarding two grants of approximately \$145,000 each for up to a two-year funding period. Grant applications should reflect multi-media and holistic approaches for reducing environmental exposures in schools and childcare settings through capacity building, trainings, and technical assistance. Proposals should also demonstrate a broad reach and collaborative problem-solving with appropriate partners. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

### **DOI BLM National Threatened and Endangered Species Funding Opportunity - \$2 million**

*Application Due: June 01, 2020*

*Eligible Entities: City or township governments, State governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), special district governments, County governments*

This funding opportunity is to work with partner organizations at a national level to assist with the conservation of various species, to include federally-listed, candidate and Bureau sensitive species across state boundaries. Conservation includes, but is not limited to, gaining knowledge about species and their habitats, providing for protection or management of species and their habitats, augmenting species, restoring, and enhancing rare species habitat. This program is in support of creating a conservation stewardship legacy second to only Teddy Roosevelt by providing an opportunity to strengthen state and local partnerships, implement priority species and habitat monitoring, support restoration activities that enhance habitat connectivity and resiliency, and enhances opportunities for volunteer service and youth engagement on public lands. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

### **Native American Agricultural Fund (NAAF) Request for Applications Open**



Today we announce our 2020 Request for Applications (RFA), the second application cycle to date. Since NAAF was launched in 2018, our Board of Trustees and staff have taken steps to craft a strategy that can begin to realize the promise we knew was possible when NAAF was created. Agriculture across Indian Country is as diverse as our Native nations and we hope the applications for funding will reflect that diversity. Native farmers and ranchers are key to the success of Native food systems and diversification of our agriculture economies. We look forward to the next step on this journey. Even in the face of the COVID-19 crisis, we know that it is important to keep moving forward and ensure that Native farmers, ranchers, fishers and food champions are provided support. Prospective applicants are encouraged to view the RFA at [NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org/2020-RFA](https://NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org/2020-RFA). The request for applications opened on Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Eligible applicants must submit a complete application no later than **Monday, June 1, 2020 by 11:59 pm CT**. NAAF will provide flexibility for applicants with hardships applying due to COVID-19. Please visit our website, email or call for further details.

Grants are available to eligible grant recipients in the mission areas of business assistance, agricultural education, technical support and advocacy services. We are also accepting applications across four special emphasis areas listed below:

- Traditional Foods and Food Sovereignty
- Advocacy
- Agriculture Extension
- Youth (available in a separate application process)

Prospective applicants may register for informational RFA webinars at [NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org/grants-webinar](https://NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org/grants-webinar). Technical assistance relating to the application process is available by emailing [grants@NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org](mailto:grants@NativeAmericanAgricultureFund.org) or calling 479-445-6226.

### **Two New Funding Opportunities Available Through Engagement Opportunities in NASA's Minority University Research and Education Project for American Indian and Alaska Native STEM Engagement – NASA MAIANSE**

This National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Research Announcement (NRA), entitled *Engagement Opportunities in NASA STEM (EONS) – 2020*, solicits proposals for competitive funding opportunities in support of the Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) administered by NASA's Office of STEM Engagement. EONS 2020 is an omnibus announcement that includes a wide range of NASA science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) Engagement opportunities for basic and applied science and technology research and education. Specific opportunities will be issued periodically throughout the year as Appendices to this solicitation with

individual requirements and milestones. For more information regarding the following opportunities and scheduled information sessions, please visit the [ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN NASA STEM \(EONS-2020\)](#) page on the NASA Solicitation and Proposal Integrated Review and Evaluation System ([NSPIRES](#)) website and click on ‘List of Open Program Elements’.

**First Funding Opportunity: APPENDIX I: MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) Planning Grant**

*Proposals due: June 15, 2020*

In support of [NASA’s Artemis program](#), the MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) activity is established, to strengthen and develop the research capacity and infrastructure of U.S. Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in areas of strategic importance and value to NASA’s mission and national priorities. Overall, M-STAR awards act as planning grants with the goals of promoting literacy in STEM and enhancing the capability of institutions to participate in [NASA’s Space Technology Mission Directorate \(STMD\)](#) opportunities. Awards are up to \$40k for a maximum duration of four months. For general inquiries, contact:

[NASAMSTAR@nasaprs.com](mailto:NASAMSTAR@nasaprs.com).

*If you are interested please attend the pre-proposal webinar Wednesday April 22, 2020.*

Pre-proposal Webinar for the EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN NASA STEM 2020 MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) Planning Grant  
Wednesday, April 22, 2020, 4:00 – 5:00 pm Eastern Time

The MUREP Space Technology Artemis Research (M-STAR) Planning Grant Pre-proposal webinar will give an in-depth overview of the opportunity. During the session, information regarding proposal preparation, guidelines and requirements will be provided. For complete information regarding this NASA opportunity, go to the [M-STAR solicitation page](#) in NSPIRES. You must be registered to participate in the webinar, and [pre-registration](#) is available now.

**Second Funding Opportunity: APPENDIX J: NASA MUREP INCLUDES Planning Grant**

*Proposals due: June 15, 2020*

In response to the [Federal STEM Education Strategic Plan](#), MUREP is working with the NSF to expand the [NSF INCLUDES \(Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science\) National Network](#) of partners. This NRA invites planning grant proposals to assist in the formulation and convening of MSI-led coalitions in support of broadening participation in engineering. This is a novel and strategic partnership initiative, enabling MSIs to assemble and lead coalitions comprised of multiple organizations, institutions and agencies. The planning grant enables applicants to prepare for response to a full solicitation, tentatively scheduled to be released in Fall 2020. Awards are up to \$50k for a maximum duration of four months. For general inquiries, contact: [NASAMUREP-INCLUDES@nasaprs.com](mailto:NASAMUREP-INCLUDES@nasaprs.com).

**DOI BOR Native American Affairs: Technical Assistance to Tribes for FY20 and FY21 – \$1 million**

*Applications Due: October 28, 2020 for FY21*

*Eligible Entities: federally recognized tribes or tribal organizations of the 17 Western States identified in the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902*

The objective of this opportunity is to invite federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations to submit proposals for financial assistance for projects and activities that develop, manage, and protect tribal water and related resources. Through this opportunity, Reclamation provides funding for projects that increase water reliability consistent with sections 3 and 4 of the October 19, 2018, Presidential Memorandum on Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

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

***Climate Change/Energy***

**Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Climate Leadership Program Applications are Open**

*Deadline to apply: May 8. [Link to Application](#)*

350.org is launching a BIPOC Climate Leadership Program. The purpose of the program is to train BIPOC humans with an unapologetic climate justice and racial justice lens. [Learn more about the program here](#). This is a free online + training program! Our main point of contact is out NY Organizer, Dominique Thomas: [dominique.thomas@350.org](mailto:dominique.thomas@350.org), Phone: 917-693-8246.

**DOE GFO Solar Energy Technologies Office Fiscal Year 2020 Funding Program - \$125.5 million**

*Applications Due: May 21, 2020*

*Eligible Entities: unrestricted*

This funding opportunity is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO). SETO supports solar energy research and development (R&D) in three technology areas—photovoltaics (PV), concentrating solar-thermal power (CSP), and systems integration—with the goal of improving the affordability, reliability, and performance of solar technologies on the grid. This section describes the overall goals of the Solar Energy Technologies Office Fiscal Year 2020 (SETO 2020) funding program and the types of projects being solicited for funding support through this FOA.

The SETO 2020 funding program seeks to advance R&D of solar technologies that reduce the cost of solar, increase the competitiveness of

American manufacturing and businesses, and improve the reliability of the grid. These projects will advance R&D in PV, CSP, and energy management technologies, while also working to improve cyber security, expand solar to new applications like agricultural solar, integrate solar and storage, and utilize artificial intelligence to address research challenges. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

**DOE Announces Up To \$15 Million for Tribes to Deploy Energy Technology**  
*Deadline to Apply: July 1, 2020*

DOE is soliciting applications to install energy technology on tribal lands. Specifically, the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs is soliciting applications to:

- Install energy generating systems and energy efficiency measures for tribal buildings;
- Deploy community-scale energy generating systems or energy storage on tribal lands;
- Install integrated energy systems for autonomous operation (independent of the traditional centralized electric power grid) to power a single facility or multiple essential tribal facilities during emergency situations or for tribal community resilience; or
- Deploy energy infrastructure or integrated energy systems to electrify tribal buildings.

Applications may also be submitted on behalf of an Indian Tribe(s) by an authorized Tribal Organization, provided evidence of that authority is included as part of the application. [See the FOA](#) for all eligibility requirements. Applications are due **July 1, 2020**.

**DOE BIA Offshore Wind Energy Atmospheric Science and Project Development - \$20 million**

*Applications Due: July 9, 2020*

*Eligible Entities: unrestricted*

The Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) is within the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). EERE advances America's leadership in science and technology through early-stage research and development in sustainable transportation, renewable power, and energy efficiency. This FOA has Two Topic Areas:

Topic Area 1: The overall goal of this Topic Area is to provide funding for a project that will improve wind resource modeling and predictions in offshore wind energy development areas. Using lessons-learned and information gained during the previous program work in complex-terrain wind resource modeling and prediction, this Topic Area will focus on improving wind resource model physics

for foundational wind forecasts and other applications in offshore wind energy development areas.

Topic Area 2: The overall goal of this Topic Area is to provide funding for a project(s) that will enable demonstration of a novel technology and/or methodology that will advance the state-of-the-art of offshore wind energy in the United States. The proposed project must either implement an innovative technology at engineering/pilot or full-scale, and/or employ a novel methodology that has yet to be utilized commercially in the United States for offshore wind.

For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

### **DOE BIA Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development: National Tribal Broadband Grant (NTBG) - \$1.2 million**

*Applications Due: June 15, 2020*

*Eligible Entities: county governments, state governments, city or township governments, special district governments, Native American tribal governments (federally recognized and other than federally recognized)*

The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED), Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs is soliciting proposals from Indian Tribes, as defined at 25 U.S.C. § 5304(e), for grant funding to hire consultants to perform feasibility studies for deployment or expansion of high-speed internet (broadband) transmitted, variously, through digital subscriber line (DSL), cable modem, fiber, wireless, satellite and broadband over power lines (BPL).

TBG grants may be used to fund an assessment of the current broadband services, if any, that are available to an applicant's community; an engineering assessment of new or expanded broadband services; an estimate of the cost of building or expanding a broadband network; a determination of the transmission medium(s) that will be employed; identification of potential funding and/or financing for the network; and consideration of financial and practical risks associated with developing a broadband network. For more information, visit the funding opportunity [description](#).

**Join NCAI's [Climate Action email](#) listserv here!**

**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***

**EPA OAR 2020 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Tribal Grants - \$2 million**

*Applications Due: July 9, 2020*



*Eligible Entities: Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native Villages, which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality.*

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting applications 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. DERA grants provide funding to eligible recipients so that they may implement programs which incentivize and accelerate the upgrading or retirement of the legacy diesel fleet. For more information, visit the [funding opportunity description](#). Here are several helpful links as well:

- [2020 Request for Applications](#)
- [Important Dates](#)
- [Supporting Information for RFA](#)
- [Questions and Answers](#)
- [Eligible Applicants and Uses of Funding](#)
- [Grant Process](#)
- [Tool and Resources for Applicants](#)
- [Reporting Templates for Grantees](#)

### ***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](#).

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

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