

Glossary of Terms for Tribal Air Quality Baseline Needs Assessment

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Term	Definition
Administration for Native Americans (ANA) - Environmental Regulatory Enhancement (ERE) Grant	The ANA funds an Environmental Regulatory Enhancement (ERE) grant program that provides funding for the costs of planning, developing, and implementing programs designed to improve the capability of Tribal governing bodies to regulate environmental quality pursuant to federal and Tribal environmental laws.
Air Quality Activities	Air Quality activities include but are not limited to data collection and monitoring, emissions inventories, outreach, and education, permitting, and enforcement.
Air Quality Department or Program	An Air Quality Department (or Program) generally means that there are designated air quality staff position(s) who are responsible for conducting Air Quality Activities, often as part of a continuous air quality grant.
Air Quality Modeling	Modeling is often used to predict potential impacts on air quality from new or modifying emission sources. Air quality dispersion models use meteorological data such as temperature, wind direction, and wind speed to calculate concentrations.
Air Quality Monitors	An air quality monitor is an instrument used to measure the type and level of a variety of air pollutants.
Air Quality Low-Cost Sensors (e.g., Purple Air)	Low-cost air pollution sensors use technologies to count particles and provide a reasonably accurate and inexpensive way to measure smoke, dust, and other particulate air pollution. Laser air quality sensors with both internal storage and data-transmitting abilities. These sensors can store data internally but are also capable of transmitting data in real-time to a website.
Allergy and Asthma Triggers	Substances that cause allergies can trigger asthma. If someone inhales something they are allergic to, they may experience asthma symptoms. Some examples of allergens include dust mites, pollen, and mold.
Asbestos	Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral composed of soft and flexible fibers that are resistant to heat, electricity, and corrosion. Asbestos is an effective insulator, and it can be used in cloth, paper, cement, plastic, and other materials to make them stronger. Scientific studies show exposure to asbestos is linked to several diseases, including cancers.
Attainment	If the air quality in a geographic area meets or is cleaner than the national standard established by EPA regulations, it is called an attainment area (designated "attainment/unclassifiable"); areas that don't meet the national

	standard for a particular pollutant are called nonattainment areas. Certain areas have insufficient data and are considered "unclassifiable".
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Funding - Housing Improvement Program	The BIA funds a Housing Improvement Program that is available for low-income members of Tribes with no immediate source of housing assistance. These grants can be used by homeowners for interim improvements, repairs & renovations, replacement housing, and new housing projects.
Carbon Dioxide (CO ₂)	Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that is natural and harmless in small quantities, but as levels rise it can affect productivity and sleep. Often produced indoors by the air we exhale, CO ₂ levels often concentrate indoors when there is low ventilation.
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Carbon monoxide is an invisible, dangerous gas and is the leading cause of poisoning death in the United States. Some devices that produce carbon monoxide gas are gas stoves, fireplaces, woodstoves, charcoal grills, and gas water heaters.
CARES Act or American Rescue Plan Funding	CARES Act funding is eligible to be utilized for necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency. American Rescue Plan Act funding is eligible to be utilized to meet pandemic response needs and rebuild a stronger, and more equitable economy as the country recovers. These new sources of funding have been utilized by some Tribes for air quality activities.
Clean Air Act	The Clean Air Act (CAA) is the comprehensive federal law that regulates air emissions from stationary and mobile sources. Among other things, this law authorizes EPA to establish National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect public health and public welfare and to regulate emissions of hazardous air pollutants.
Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 103 Grant Program	CAA Section 103 grants are used to study or investigate the causes and prevention of air pollution. Funding is used for community education and outreach, monitoring studies, training, home assessments and research on health impacts of air quality issues.
Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 105 Grant Program	CAA Section 105 grants are used to implement Air Quality Programs to control and prevent air pollution (ambient and indoor) or Air Quality Programs that implement the national primary and secondary ambient air quality standards described by the CAA.
Coarse Particulate Matter (PM ₁₀)	Once inhaled, these particles can affect the heart and lungs and cause serious health effects. "Inhalable coarse particles," such as those found near roadways and dusty industries, are larger than 2.5 micrometers and smaller than 10 micrometers in diameter.
Control Strategies	A control strategy related to air quality is a set of specific techniques and measures identified and implemented to achieve reductions in air pollution to attain an air quality standard or goal.

Department of Energy (DOE) - Technical Assistance and Grant Programs	The DOE offers Tribes technical assistance on tribal energy projects. This office provides Tribes with three types of technical assistance: Technical Analysis, Financial Analysis, and Strategic Energy Planning. Technical Experts from DOE are available to provide up to 40 hours of support per project.
DERA (Diesel Emissions Reduction Act) Funding	The Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Program funds grants and rebates that protect human health and improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions from diesel engines.
Direct Tribal Dollars	Some grants require a grant match that must come from hard Tribal dollars (i.e., a cash match).
Dust Mites or Bedbugs	Dust mites are invisible microscopic bugs in the spider family. They live in warm or moist, soft places, such as mattresses, pillows, bedding, upholstered furniture, carpets, and curtains. Bedbugs are small, reddish-brown parasitic insects that bite the exposed skin of sleeping humans and animals to feed on their blood.
Emissions Inventories (EI)	An emissions inventory is a database that is created by an inventory that estimates the amount of air pollutants discharged into the atmosphere during a year or other period. Emissions inventories are used to help determine significant sources of air pollutants and to target regulatory actions.
EPA Performance Partnership Grant (PPG)	Through the PPG program, EPA provides financial assistance to states and Tribes to help them develop and implement environmental programs. For many years, states and Tribes wanted greater flexibility in how they use and manage the grant funds they receive from EPA. In 1996, Congress responded by authorizing EPA to award PPGs. States, certain interstate agencies, and Tribes can now choose to combine two or more environmental program grants into a single PPG.
Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5)	Once inhaled, these particles can affect the heart and lungs and cause serious health effects. "Fine particles," such as those found in smoke and haze, are 2.5 micrometers in diameter and smaller. These particles can be directly emitted from sources such as forest fires, or they can form when gases emitted from power plants, industries and automobiles react in the air.
Formaldehyde	Formaldehyde is a colorless, strong-smelling, flammable chemical that is produced industrially and used in building materials such as particleboard, plywood, and other pressed-wood products. Formaldehyde can cause irritation of the skin, eyes, nose, and throat. High levels of exposure may cause some types of cancers.
Greenhouse Gases	Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere are called greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases. These gases are linked to climate change. Primary sources of greenhouse gas emissions

	are transportation, electricity production, industry, commercial and residential, agriculture, and land use and forestry.
Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)	Hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), also known as toxic air pollutants or air toxics, are those pollutants that are known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health effects, such as reproductive effects or birth defects, or adverse environmental effects. EPA is working with state, local, and tribal governments to reduce air emissions of 187 toxic air pollutants to the environment.
Hazardous or Toxic Materials	A hazardous substance is one that is ignitable, corrosive, reactive, and toxic. A toxic substance is a substance or waste that when ingested or absorbed can be fatal and harmful to a person.
Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant Programs	HUD funding allows Tribes to conduct retrofits on their existing housing stock to improve environmental health conditions within the home. HUD provides a wide range of housing grants to Tribes, however, they also have grant programs that fund inspection, assessment, repairs, and mitigation of indoor air hazards.
HVAC Systems	HVAC stands for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems. HVAC systems are responsible for heating and cooling a home and includes products like furnaces, air conditioners, heat pumps as well as ductwork, thermostats, and other home comfort controls. HVAC systems are not present in many homes.
Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) Grant Programs	IGAP grants are used to assist Tribes and inter-Tribal consortia in developing the capacity to manage their own environmental protection programs and to develop and implement solid and hazardous waste programs in accordance with individual Tribal needs and applicable federal laws and regulations.
Indoor Air or "Healthy Home" Assessments	The purpose of these assessments is to identify all potential hazards or pollutants inside a home. The assessments rely on visual inspection, and instruments are also often used to measure the presence, absence, or level of pollutants (e.g., lead, radon, carbon monoxide, wood smoke).
In-kind Tribal Contribution (non-cash match)	Some grants require an in-kind contribution. Examples of non-cash contributions include staff time, resources, meeting space, and technical expertise.
Lead (Pb)	Lead paint was used for decades and can be found in house dust and soils. However, it can also be found in imported consumer products. Even low levels of lead have negative effects on virtually every organ and system in the body.
Mold and Moisture	Excessive moisture may lead to allergic reactions, asthma attacks, and inflamed lungs. It can also cause rot, structural damage, and mold to grow in your home. Mold often causes allergies and asthmatic reactions like sneezing, wheezing, coughing, and shortness of breath.

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	Nitrogen dioxide forms from emissions from cars, trucks and buses, power plants, and off-road equipment. Elevated levels of nitrogen dioxide can cause damage to the human respiratory tract and increase a person's vulnerability to, and the severity of, respiratory infections and asthma.
Nonattainment	If the air quality in a geographic area does not meet the national standards for a particular pollutant over a certain period established by EPA regulations, this area is considered "nonattainment".
Ozone (O ₃)	Ozone (O ₃) is a highly reactive gas composed of three oxygen atoms. It is both a natural and a man-made product that occurs in the Earth's upper atmosphere (the stratosphere) and lower atmosphere (the troposphere).
Radon	Radon is a naturally-occurring radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer. Radon gas is inert, colorless, and odorless. Radon is naturally in the atmosphere in trace amounts and can cause lung cancer. You can't see or smell radon. Testing is the only way to know your level of exposure.
Sulfur Dioxide (SO ₂)	The largest source of SO ₂ in the atmosphere is the burning of fossil fuels by power plants and other industrial facilities. Smaller sources of SO ₂ emissions include: industrial processes such as extracting metal from ore; natural sources such as volcanoes; and locomotives, ships and other vehicles and heavy equipment that burn fuel with a high sulfur content. Exposure to SO ₂ can harm the human respiratory system and make breathing difficult.
Title V	Title V is a federally-mandated operating permit program for major sources of air pollution. Title V is intended to further facilitate and enhance air quality planning, emission controls, compliance, and improve existing emission inventories.
Volkswagen Settlement Act Funding	The U.S. government and Volkswagen (VW) have resolved allegations that VW violated the Clean Air Act by selling approximately 590,000 vehicles equipped with defeat devices. As a part of this settlement, VW will provide \$2.7 billion for the 2.0 liter violating vehicles and \$225 million for the 3.0 liter violating vehicles to an Environmental Mitigation Trust. Funds from the trust will be used to fully remediate the excess NO _x emissions from the illegal vehicles.
Wood Burning Device	People use several types of wood-burning appliances to heat their homes, either as a primary source of heat, as supplemental heat, or for ambiance. Some wood burning devices include fireplaces, wood stoves, hydronic heaters, forced-air furnaces, masonry heaters, and pellet stoves.
Wood Smoke	Smoke forms when wood or other organic matter burns. The smoke from wood burning is made up of a complex mixture of gases and fine particles (also called particle pollution, particulate matter, or PM). The more efficiently you burn wood (e.g., using an EPA-certified wood stove and dry, seasoned wood) the less smoke is created.