



# NTAA Weekly Update

Week of November 29 – December 3,  
2021

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## PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

CNN - [An Indigenous tribe in Texas is getting its sacred burial ground back](#)



*For decades, development has been encroaching on the Lipan Apache cemetery in Presidio, Texas. As of this week, the burial ground is back in the hands of the tribe.*

## Top Stories

**TODAY!** NTAA Leaders to speak at EPA’s Public Hearing on the Proposed Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review

December 1, 2021, 2pm – 5pm EST | Click here to see the [speaker list](#)

To join the call, click on this [YouTube link](#)

**Submit your 2022 NTFAQ Presentation Abstract | [Google Form](#)**

The National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ) aims to support Tribal programs by fostering information-sharing and networking opportunities that are focused on building Tribal capacity in air quality management. The event’s agenda is driven by Tribal input and priorities, with a focus on increasing Tribal engagement in air quality initiatives that are relevant to tribal communities across the nation. **The NTFAQ is scheduled for May 2-5, 2022.**

Sample topic for presentations or trainings may include but is not limited to:

- Air Quality & Grants
- Air Quality Policy & Regulations
- Indoor Air Quality
- Air Quality Health and Research

- Technical: air monitoring, data management & analysis, emission inventories
- Tribal Case Studies: examples of Tribes implementing air quality projects & programs
- Climate Change & Air Quality
- Community engagement: youth, elders, and community leaders
- Tribal/Traditional Knowledge

If you have questions about the agenda, presentation options, or other ways to participate in the event, please contact [Andy.Bessler@nau.edu](mailto:Andy.Bessler@nau.edu).

Timeline:

- Call for Presentations Opens: December 1st, 2021
- Presentation Proposals Due: January 15th, 2022
- Letter of Notification (will include instructions and timeline): February 17th, 2022
- Presentation Materials Deadline: March 28 (if pre-recorded) April 15 (if in-person)

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

AZ Daily Sun - [Indigenous leaders speak on climate change, COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Anthropocene Mag - [Scientists solve two problems at once—turning methane pollution into sustainable fishmeal](#)

GreenWire - [EPA forces natural gas plants to make pollution data public](#)

The Hill - [With Build Back Better, Dems aim to correct messaging missteps](#)

AP - [Thousands lose power on Thanksgiving in Southern California](#)

NPR - [Fighting Fires and Family Secrets](#)

NY Times - [This fire-loving fungus eats charcoal, if it must](#)

Reuters - [Brazil faces economic pain as Amazon forest destruction dries up water supplies](#)

Thomas Reuters Foundation - [EXPLAINER: What is 'net zero' and why does it matter?](#)

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

The Hill - [Biden administration approves second offshore wind project off Rhode Island](#)

CNN - [White House creates new climate-focused division within Office of Science and Technology Policy](#)

NPR - [British Columbia faces floods after a month's worth of rain fell in two days](#)

Climate Signals - [Extreme Precipitation Increase](#)

Nexus - [Social Unrest In Iran Worsened By Drought](#)

The Advocate - [When it rains, it can pour sewage in Baton Rouge. These residents bear the brunt of it.](#)

The Guardian - [Activists take court action against Boris Johnson over climate crisis](#)

Climate Wire - [Flood funding slashed in reconciliation package](#)

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

AP - [Biden sets out oil, gas leasing reform, stops short of ban](#)

HuffPost - [Biden Gulf Oil Sale Means More Drilling Within Legacy Chemical Dump Site](#)

LA Times - [Can lithium cure what ails the Salton Sea?](#)

NY Times - [Hunt for the 'blood diamond of batteries' impedes green energy push](#)

AP - [Colorado debates bonding for closing, cleaning orphan wells](#)

Inside Climate News - [Biden's Infrastructure Bill Includes Money for Recycling, But the Debate Over Plastics Rages On](#)

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

Mountain Democrat – [7 indoor air quality myths debunked](#)

Yahoo Finance - [New Research Outlines Importance of Air Purifiers to Reduce Indoor Pollution](#)

IndyStar - [Scrub Hub: Can indoor air quality hurt my health more than the outdoor air?](#)

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

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

**NEW! EPA Tools & Resources Webinar: Community and Citizen Science: Making Your Data Count**

December 15, 2021 – 3 p.m. ET | Register [Here](#)

This webinar will showcase community-oriented projects and share ideas from the workshop. Webinar topics will include: How can we design a future that maximizes the use of community and citizen science data? How do we address the barriers that limit data use today? How can EPA serve as a catalyst to build a stronger, more inclusive collaborative network with states, tribes, local government, non-governmental organizations, academia, and other organizations?

### **NEW! Release of the Draft Policy Assessment for the Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards**

December 14, 2021 – Comment Period Ends; For more information on how to comment click [here](#). Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0072

On October 8, 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will make available for public comment a draft document titled, *Policy Assessment for Reconsideration of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter, External Review Draft* (Draft PA). This draft document was prepared as a part of the current reconsideration of the 2020 final decision on the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for Particulate Matter (PM). When final, the PA is intended to “bridge the gap” between the scientific and technical information assessed in the 2019 Integrated Science Assessment for Particulate Matter (2019 ISA) and Supplement to the 2019 Integrated Science Assessment for Particulate Matter (ISA Supplement) and the judgments required of the Administrator in determining whether to retain or revise the existing PM NAAQS.

### **EPA Announces Public Hearing on Proposal to Cut Methane and Other Pollution from the Oil and Natural Gas Industry**

[Register Here](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold a virtual public hearing on [the Agency’s proposed comprehensive new protections](#) to sharply reduce pollution from the oil and natural gas industry – including, for the first time, methane reductions from existing sources nationwide. The proposed new Clean Air Act rule would lead to significant, cost-effective reductions in methane emissions and other health-harming air pollutants that endanger nearby communities.

#### **Hearing information:**

- December 1, 2021 – 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST

**On June 10, 2021, the EPA Administrator announced his decision to reconsider the December 2020 final decision to retain the particulate matter (PM) National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).** The EPA released a draft Policy Assessment on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The Policy Assessment presents a staff analysis of the scientific evidence and technical information, along with preliminary conclusions on the current PM standards, for consideration by the Administrator prior to rulemaking. This follows the September 30<sup>th</sup> release of the draft Supplement to the Integrated Science Assessment. The draft Policy Assessment presents preliminary conclusions regarding the 24-hour and annual primary PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards, the primary 24-hour PM<sub>10</sub> standard, and the secondary 24-hour and annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> and 24-hour PM<sub>10</sub>

standards. The public meeting for the panel to review the documents will be held on December 2, 2021. More detail about how to obtain information about these meetings is available [here](#).

**Don't forget to fill out NTAA's Air Quality Baseline Needs Assessment for Tribes by December 31, 2021!** The purpose of the survey is to collect information from all 574 federally recognized Tribes to enable NTAA to comprehensively describe Tribal ambient and indoor air quality needs. This information will then be used to identify the range of Tribal air quality needs and priorities and build Tribal air quality management capacity. Your participation in this survey is voluntary and you are free to decline to answer any question you do not wish to answer. The survey will take between 15 – 20 minutes to complete. If you would like to take the survey by phone, please email Sydney Janssen at [sjanssen@thhnw.org](mailto:sjanssen@thhnw.org) to set up a time, or call 800-717-2118, Ext. 105. If you would like to familiarize yourself with air quality funding sources and concepts mentioned in the survey, please [review the glossary PDF](#). The deadline extended to Friday, December 31, at 5:00pm PST.

TO BEGIN THE SURVEY, CLICK [HERE](#). *(If the link does not automatically open, please cut and paste this link into your browser:*

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6420470/NTAA-Baseline-Needs-Assessment>)

For a Microsoft Word version of the survey, [click here](#). Upon completing the survey, 'save as' and change the document name as \*YOUR\_NAME\_BNA\* and email it to: [sjanssen@thhnw.org](mailto:sjanssen@thhnw.org). If you have any question or difficulty completing this form, please email Sydney.

### **EPA's Community and Tribal Programs Group has been working on a webpage with publicly-facing [Tribal Actions and Events calendar](#)**

This calendar includes the following information:

- Upcoming outreach activities (e.g., rulemaking webinars, trainings)
- National Tribal Council (NTC) monthly meetings,
- National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) meetings,
- Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) meetings, and
- Upcoming regulatory dates (e.g., expected rule proposal dates).

This calendar is also linked under the "Tribal Air and Climate Resources" webpage under the "Policy and Planning" heading available at <https://www.epa.gov/tribal-air>. The purpose of the calendar is to ensure that our Tribal partners are kept apprised of EPA activities that are relevant to them. If you have any questions about the calendars or any recommendations on how EPA can improve upon the calendars please do not hesitate to reach out to Toni Colon ([colon.toni@epa.gov](mailto:colon.toni@epa.gov)) and/or Tanya Abrahamian ([abrahamian.tanya@epa.gov](mailto:abrahamian.tanya@epa.gov)) with any feedback.

### **EPA releases new report on Climate Change and Social Vulnerability in the United States: A Focus on Six Impacts**

EPA's new report quantifies the degree to which four socially vulnerable populations— defined based on income, educational attainment, race and ethnicity,

and age—may be more exposed to the highest impacts of climate change. The report quantifies six types of impacts: air quality and health, extreme temperature and health, extreme temperature and labor, coastal flooding and traffic, coastal flooding and property, and inland flooding and property. [Access the report](#). To [download the report's findings](#) related to the disproportionate risks of climate change to American Indian and Alaska Natives. To find more information about climate change: <https://www.epa.gov/climate-change>

## Host Sites Needed For Summer Internship Program

**Deadline is December 3rd**

The Institute for Tribal Environmental at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona is seeking air quality focused offices and programs to host a college student for an 8-week summer internship. Tribal environmental offices, EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations are encouraged to apply.

The interns will be highly motivated undergraduate or graduate students majoring in environmental or related careers from different colleges and universities nationwide. ITEP provides each student intern with a \$4,800 stipend, and housing and travel allowances for interns that relocate. The host site provides a work-place and supervision for the intern. Some internships may be virtual. You are welcome to submit applications for both virtual projects and in-person projects.

The projects **MUST** focus on addressing air quality issues in tribal communities. Submit an application online [here](#)

## NTAA Upcoming Calls

Contact [Andy.Bessler@nau.edu](mailto:Andy.Bessler@nau.edu) if you have any questions about any call!

**\*Registration instructions\*** When you register for the GoToWebinar, please remember to include your Tribe, Region, or Organization in parenthesis after your last name. This allows you to see everyone on the call and prevents us from conducting a roll-call, ultimately saving everyone's time.

<p><b>Mobile Sources Work Group:</b> This monthly work group addresses all mobile source pollution issues. <a href="#">Attend by clicking here.</a></p>	<p>Thursday, December 2, 2pm ET</p>
<p><b>Wood Smoke Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to address wood smoke issues in Indian Country. <a href="#">Attend by clicking here.</a></p>	<p>Thursday, December 8, 2pm ET</p>
<p><b>EPA Policy Call:</b> Call in to hear updates from EPA on policies, actions, and tools relevant to Indian Country and Air Quality. <a href="#">Attend by clicking here.</a></p>	<p>Thursday, December 9, 2pm ET</p>
<p><b>Indoor Air Quality Work Group:</b> Join this work group every other month to help support IAQ work throughout Indian Country. <a href="#">Attend by clicking here.</a></p>	<p>Thursday, December 16, 2pm ET</p>

## **The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional (ITEP)**

[Click here](#) for ITEP's new Tribal Environmental Management and Planning Online Courses. Sign up for a self-paced course hosted by ITEP's Waste and Response and Tribal Air Quality programs. New courses have been added, so check it out!

**ITEP's American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP)** hosts the Building Performance: Improving IAQ in Cold Climates, Residential Building Science Review, Radon Fundamentals, Quality Assurance Fundamental, Writing a Quality Assurance Project Plan, Emissions Inventory Fundamentals, and Emissions Inventory Advanced.

### **[AIAQTP Schedule and Registration](#)**

#### **Recorded Webinars**

Looking for more information check out the [Tribal Air Quality Media Space Channel](#). Recent webinars include an Introduction to Air Quality Programs, Emissions Inventories, Remote Professional Assistance, and Woodstoves in Indian Country. Older classics include a series on Air Quality Planning for Wildland Smoke, Tribal Air Program and Grants, Data Management, and the Clean Air Act.

ITEP's [Tribes and Climate Change Calendar](#) includes conferences, trainings, webinars, and other events related to tribes and climate change.

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

#### **NEW! Virtual Workshop Tribal Community-scale Solar, Solutions for Climate & Community Resilience**

*Monday, December 6; 9:30am – 12:00pm* | [Register Here](#)

**Who (would find it useful to attend):** Tribal government leaders, Tribal staff, Tribal community members, Tribal strategic partners and businesses in energy and related sectors, all those planning, managing or building solar and related systems (i.e., telecom, microgrids, energy storage systems, tribal utility authorities) on tribal lands.

#### **NEW! Introducing EPA's Energy Savings and Impacts Scenario Tool**

*Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 2:00 - 3:00 PM EST* | [Register Here](#)

This one-hour webinar will introduce the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s new Energy Savings and Impacts Scenario Tool (ESIST) to be launched the same day. ESIST is a customizable and transparent Excel-based planning tool for analyzing the energy savings and costs from energy efficiency programs and their impacts on emissions, public health, and equity. Users can generate energy efficiency scenarios from 2010–2040 at different geographical resolutions, ranging from national- or state-level analysis to different customer sectors within specific utilities. ESIST enables users to develop scenarios and estimate the multiple benefits of electric customer-funded energy efficiency investments—including avoided emissions, public



health benefits, peak demand impacts, and energy burden reductions—and review customer demographic data.

**The Department of the Interior (DOI) is excited to announce an upcoming virtual listening session focused on climate change and Tribal youth.**

Information and registration for this listening session may be found on the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Tribal Climate Resilience (TCR) [webpage](#).

This listening session is open to Tribal middle school, high school, and college students. This is an opportunity to voice your concerns, priorities, and experience to help shape policies and programs that promote and advance Tribal climate resilience.

- **Can't make the live session?** Submit comments online at <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter DOI-2021-0010 in the Search bar to find the Federal Register Notice. You may provide comments through the Federal Register Docket until it closes on **Friday, December 3rd**.

**US EPA Announces Upcoming Climate and Energy Webinars for State, Local, and Tribal Governments**

The US EPA announces there will be many webinars on climate and energy topics offered by federal agencies and others during the month of October. All webinars are free of charge, but space may be limited or require registration in advance. For more information subscribe to the [US EPA's State and Local Energy Newsletter](#).

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

***Toxics/Mobile Sources***

**Final Air Toxics Standards for Carbon Black Production.** The technology review of the standards for Carbon Black production major source and area facilities did not identify any developments that would further reduce hazardous air pollutant emissions beyond the original NESHAP. More information, including a summary fact sheet and a pre-publication version of the final rule, is available [here](#).

**Final Air Toxics Standards for Cyanide Chemicals Manufacturing**

EPA is not amending the NESHAP as a part of the technology review. However, as a part of our technology review, we did identify previously unregulated emission sources and finalized changes to the NESHAP that add standards for these sources. More information is available [here](#).

**Final Air Toxics Standards for Flexible Polyurethane Foam NESHAP and RTR Final Rule**

EPA identified one technology-related development that is a current industry practice. Accordingly, EPA is amending the definition of “hazardous air pollutants (HAP)-based adhesive” so that major source new and existing loop slitters are prohibited

from using adhesives containing one percent or more by weight of total HAP. More information is available [here](#).

### **Final Air Toxics Standards for Refractory Products Manufacturing**

EPA identified one technology-related development that reflects current industry best practices. As a result, EPA is amending the work practices that are required to minimize air toxics emissions during scheduled maintenance of control devices for continuous kilns. More information is available [here](#).

## **Indoor Air Quality**

### **Outdoor Air Affects Indoor Air, Especially During Wildfires: Take Steps to Protect Your Indoor Air Quality!**

During a wildfire, smoke can make the outdoor air unhealthy to breathe. Local officials may advise you to stay indoors during a smoke event. You should be aware that some of the smoke from outdoors can enter your home and make it unhealthy to breathe indoor air, too.



There are things you can do, such as staying indoors with the doors and windows closed and filtering the air indoors to reduce your family's exposure to smoke. Reducing exposure to smoke is important for everyone's health — especially children, older adults, and people with heart or lung disease.



See our webpage on [Wildfires and Indoor Air Quality](#)

[\(IAQ\)](#) for steps you can take to reduce your exposure to wildfire smoke inside your home.

### **Resources**

1. New [Research on DIY Air Cleaners to Reduce Wildfire Smoke Indoors](#) – also see guidance below!
2. [Wildfire Smoke Employer Training Checklists](#) for employee safety in OR and WA
3. Updated EPA webpage on [Emergencies and Indoor Air Quality](#): Includes tips on how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from weather-related and man-made emergencies and disasters that affect indoor environments, including [Wildfires, Volcanic Eruptions, and Dust Storms](#), [Power Outages](#), [Hurricanes and Flooding](#), [Extreme Heat](#), [Snow and Ice](#), [Earthquakes](#)
4. **Two books for Indigenous Youth on COVID-19: [Our Smallest Warriors, Our Strongest Medicine](#)**, developed by Tribes and partners at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (these are really well done – [order copies here](#))
5. New interagency hosted [StudentHealth.ed.gov website](#) - inventory of resources promoting healthy school environments
6. [Host sites needed for tribal air quality summer internship program](#) - The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals is seeking air quality focused

offices and programs to host a college student for an 8-week summer internship. Tribal environmental offices, EPA offices, and other tribal environmental organizations are encouraged to apply by 12/3/21.

7. [2021 State of Our Schools Report](#) from the 21st Century School Fund, the International WELL Building Institute, and the National Council on School Facilities released
8. [Consumer warning from FDA](#): Consumers that use of the **Max-Lux Safe-T-Lite UV WAND** may expose the user or any nearby person to unsafe levels of ultraviolet-C radiation and may cause injury to the skin, eyes, or both after a few seconds of use. Consumers may use the wand to try to disinfect surfaces and kill germs in the home or similar spaces. The FDA recommends that consumers consider using safer alternative disinfection methods.

### **Improving Environmental Health in Schools White Paper**

The authors of this white paper are environmental health academics who recognize the importance of in-school education. However, we also understand that infectious disease transmission in schools is an existential challenge affecting the health of local communities and ultimately, society at large. We have extensive experience implementing environmental improvements both before and during the current pandemic. We wish to persuade the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the lead Agency for protecting human health and the environment, that now is the time to revive and expand their School Integrated Pest Management (SIPM) initiative to improve environmental health in schools and document the tangible benefits that follow.

### **Need Temporary Power? Use Caution with Portable Generators! Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning**

During power outages, portable generators can be used to help temporarily restore power to a few key appliances like refrigerators, lights and fans. Portable generators that use fuels such as gasoline, natural gas or kerosene are widely available. However, if they are not used correctly they can be hazardous because their exhaust contains deadly fumes, like carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a toxic gas you cannot see or smell but could kill you in minutes.

Remember:

- Do use portable generators outside and far away from buildings.
- Do not use portable generators under any of the following conditions:
  - inside your house or garage
  - on balconies or near doors, vents or windows, and
  - near where anyone is sleeping.

For more information please visit EPA's websites on [Safely Provide Power for Lighting, Cooking and Heating During an Emergency](#) and [Carbon Monoxides' Impact on Indoor Air Quality](#)

## **U.S. Department of Education Encourages Use of American Rescue Plan Funds to Improve Ventilation and IAQ in Schools**

Indoor air quality is critical to reopening schools safely and keeping them open. The U.S. Department of Education has released [new guidance](#) encouraging the use of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to improve ventilation systems and make other indoor air quality improvements in schools to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and tackle longstanding school ventilation improvement needs. The new Department of Education guidance highlights EPA resources to support investments in improved ventilation and indoor air quality. Use the following resources from EPA to supplement the information in the guidance:

- [Indoor Air and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#): Visit this page for the latest guidance on best indoor air practices to limit the spread of COVID-19.
- [Ventilation and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#): Ventilation is an important approach to lowering concentrations of indoor air pollutants, including viruses. Increase the ventilation in your school with outdoor air when possible.
- [Air Cleaners, HVAC filters, and Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#): Air cleaners and HVAC filters can help to reduce viruses and pollutants in the air. Consider upgrading the HVAC filters in your system and using safe, effective portable air cleaners to supplement HVAC filtration. *Note: Do not use air cleaners that intentionally generate ozone in occupied spaces.*
- [Implementing a Layered Approach to Address COVID-19 in Public Indoor Spaces](#): A layered risk reduction approach is best to limit airborne transmission of COVID-19 – learn how to combine increased ventilation and filtration with other [CDC recommendations](#), such as wearing masks and social distancing.

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

## **RESOURCES & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

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

**NEW!** Moms Clean Air Force is hiring several positions that [can be found here](#). The open positions include a Senior Policy Analyst, EcoMadres Campaign Manager, Program Coordinator, Media and Public Engagement, New Mexico field consultant and an Arizona field consultant.

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

**NEW!** Office of Research and Development recently conducted planning discussions regarding the WSMART program. One decision we are activating now is a testing partner loan option during periods of lower wildfire activity (winter through early spring), with loans for up to 3 months. The website FAQs were updated today to outline that option (refer to: "Can I request this equipment to try out before

the next wildfire season?”): <https://www.epa.gov/air-sensor-toolbox/wildfire-smoke-air-monitoring-response-technology-wsmart-pilot>

**Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is pleased to announce the availability of funding to support the hiring of Tribal Climate Resilience Liaisons in Alaska, the Northwest, and the Southwest through the BIA's Tribal Resilience Program (Program).** Eligible applicants include tribal non-profit, non-governmental organizations and tribally-controlled colleges or universities (TCUs) that serve federally-recognized tribes. Other entities may participate as sub-grantees. The solicitation is available on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov), and named [BIA-2021-TCRP](#).

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

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

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***

#### **NEW! Federal Register Notices related to Transportation, Air Pollution, and Climate Change**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to modify certain compliance dates under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program. First, EPA is proposing to extend the RFS compliance reporting deadline and the associated attest engagement reporting deadline for the 2019 compliance year for small refineries only. Second, EPA is proposing to extend the RFS compliance reporting deadline and the associated attest engagement reporting deadline for the 2020 and 2021 compliance years for all obligated parties. Finally, EPA is proposing to change the way in which future RFS compliance and attest engagement reporting deadlines are determined.

- **January 3, 2022 – Comment Period Ends. Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0783**

#### **2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Electric School Bus Rebates**

EPA will fund \$7 million for electric school bus rebates in underserved communities. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) appropriated funds to the EPA for “activities that identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in minority populations or low-income populations” under several programs, including the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA).

**Rebate Application Form and Supporting Documents**

- [2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Eligibility List \(pdf\)](#)
- 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Program Guide
- 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Application
- 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### **Eligible Applicants**

1. Public school districts listed on the [ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Eligibility List](#)
  - a. Districts on the eligibility list are estimated to have 30% or more students living in poverty based on the [US Census Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates \(SAIPE\) School District Estimates for 2019](#).

States with zero school districts that make this cutoff will have one school district with the highest percent of students in poverty represented in the eligibility list.

2. Tribal schools
3. Private fleets that operate school buses under a contract with an eligible entity listed above

### **EPA Announces \$10 Million Available for States, Tribes, and Territories to Address Environmental Challenges**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the availability of Multipurpose Grant (MPG) funding to support states, Tribes and territories in addressing high-priority environmental issues, including PFAS, environmental justice and climate change. For more information on eligibility, use of funding, process for award, and timelines, please reference the [Multipurpose Grant guidance](#).

### **Recent additions to OTAQ's website in August 2021**

You can access these additions as well as new press releases and Federal Register notices related to OTAQ [on our website](#).

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

#### **Resource for Healthy Indoor Air Quality**

Check out the website <https://forhealth.org/> for many resources related to healthy homes and 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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