



# NTAA Monthly Update October 2024

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## Current NTAA Activities

**STAR 2024** - Planning has begun for the development of the 2024 State of Tribal Air Report. Our goal is to complete this report by March of 2025. Please support us by sharing your stories, priorities, successes and challenges. You can also join the workgroup capturing the important work that our Tribal Air colleges are accomplishing. Please reach out to any EC representative or Laura McKelvey with your input.

**New year new logo** – NTAA is asking for your help designing NTAA next logo. Please see logo contest announcement for all the details.

## Contact Us

Find more information on all things NTAA on our website at [ntaatribalair.org](http://ntaatribalair.org)

The NTAA Monthly Update is a monthly e-newsletter providing updates and resources to Tribes regarding air policy, news, grants, and resources. To advertise an announcement, or to be added or removed from the distribution list, please email Mehrdad Khatibi ([Mehrdad.Khatibi@nau.edu](mailto:Mehrdad.Khatibi@nau.edu))



## Note From the Chair

Welcome to another monthly newsletter. I hope that you are all finding this newsletter helpful and informative.

Each year the NTAA Executive Committee meets in-person to conduct business and meet with the USEPA Air Divisions and partners (American Lung Association; Moms Clean Air Force, Environmental Defense Fund and the National Association of Clean Air Agencies). Last week the NTAA Executive Committee was hosted by the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe for our in-person meeting and we are grateful for their kindness, hospitality, and extreme generosity.

During the in-person meeting the Executive Committee worked on ways to advance policy for air quality and management in Indian Country. The Executive Committee provided feedback and shared information on new and on-going topics and worked on strategies to advance issues.

As always a debrief meeting will be held for the NTAA Member Tribes soon.

Respectfully,

Syndi Smallwood





## EPA Updates

### Cross Media Electronic Reporting:

On September 17, 2024, the Office of Air and Radiation signed the Cross-Media Electronic Reporting: Electronic Submission of Reports, Notifications, and Other Submission Types under 40 CFR Parts 59-63 notice. This notice will allow all entities regulated by a subpart in 40 CFR parts 59-63 that have requirements to submit reports, notifications, or other types of submissions in paper format (and emailed reports in 40 CFR Part 60 Subparts AAA and QQQQ) to submit those reports, notifications, or other submission types in an acceptable digital format to the Compliance and Emissions Data Reporting Interface (CEDRI), which is an electronic system maintained by OAQPS. More information on this Federal Register notice may be found at <https://www.epa.gov/electronic-reporting-air-emissions/paper-report-reduction>

This notice does not require regulated entities to change the format or method of reporting currently used. Digital submission of reports, notifications, or other submission types covered by this notice is completely optional. EPA is providing this option because digital transmission of reports benefits regulated entities as well as EPA and delegated air agencies. Digital submission of reports also provides an environmental benefit and reduces the need for paper file storage.

### EPA Extends Request for Information (RFI) on the Potential Expanded Use of Advanced Methane Measurement Technologies in the GHGRP

On August 29, 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a request for information (RFI) on the “Use of Advanced and Emerging Technologies for Quantification of Annual Facility Methane Emissions Under the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program”. The public comment for this RFI was scheduled to end on October 28, 2024. In response to multiple extension requests received to date, the EPA is extending that deadline to November 27, 2024. View the RFI on [Use of Advanced and Emerging Technologies for Quantification of Annual Facility Methane Emissions Under the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program](#).

### 2024 National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) Science Symposium: November 4 – 7, 2024, Duluth, MN.

The 2024 NADP Science Symposium being held in Duluth MN, is around the corner with a program that seeks to draw attendees from inside and outside the air quality research community. The theme of this year’s conference is Protecting the Health of Communities and Ecosystems in a Changing Climate. The organizers are excited to draw from the cultural and environmental history around the Great Lakes Region.

There will be a panel discussion on the new PFAS network with tribal and state representatives on Monday (11/4). The Science Symposium will be held on 11/6-11/7 with a full program including seven sessions that link air pollution impacts to health of communities and the environment and showcase new tools to effectively communicate impacts to the public. Finally, on Friday there is an optional field trip to the Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center.

Detailed information about the conference can be found on the NADP website: [NADP 2024 Science Symposium](#). If you have any questions please reach out to the conference organizers (Melissa Puchalski [Puchalski.melissa@epa.gov](mailto:Puchalski.melissa@epa.gov) or David Gay [dgay2@wisc.edu](mailto:dgay2@wisc.edu)).



## EPA Updates

### **2024 Clean School Bus (CSB) Rebate Program**

On September 26, EPA announced the latest round of funding from the CSB Rebate Program with up to \$965 million available to school districts. Applications for this year's [CSB Rebate Program](#) are due on the EPA online portal by 4 p.m. EST on January 9, 2025. [Learn More.](#)

### **Proposed Reclassification Requirements Nonattainment Areas Under the Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)**

On September 20, EPA proposed actions that would streamline state planning and air quality protection requirements under the current and any future ozone NAAQS. This proposal would protect public health by clarifying steps needed to assure air quality standards are attained and maintained as required by the CAA. [Learn More.](#)

### **Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) Emissions Reduction and Reclamation Final Rule**

On September 20, EPA signed a final rule that addresses the management of climate-damaging HFCs and their substitutes under the AIM Act. This rule's provisions will establish the Emissions Reduction and Reclamation Program to improve the management and reuse of existing HFCs to reduce emissions, including by reducing wasteful leaks from equipment and supporting a growing American industry for HFC recycling and reclamation. [Learn More.](#)

### **Climate Resilience and Adaptation Funding Toolbox**

On September 23, EPA released the [Climate Resilience and Adaptation Funding Toolbox \(CRAFT\)](#), to support technical assistance providers working with states, Tribes, communities, nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, businesses looking to invest in climate-resilient projects.

### **American Indian Air Quality Training Program Announced**

EPA is announcing the availability of approximately \$8 million in competitive grant funding for eligible entities to provide comprehensive training, technical support, and outreach to federally recognized Indian Tribes related to air quality management. The EPA anticipates awarding a total of approximately 1 cooperative agreement under this announcement for a 5-year project period.

<https://www.epa.gov/grants/american-indian-air-quality-training-program>

### **EPA's Kids and Climate Health Zone**

On September 18, EPA released the Kids and Climate Health Zone website, featuring information found in the US Global Change Research Program's Fifth National Climate Assessment, UNICEF's A Threat to Progress: Confronting the Effects of Climate Change on Child Health and Well-Being report, and other published literature.

### **Cross-Media Electronic Reporting: Electronic Submission of Reports, Notifications, and Other Submission Types under 40 CFR Parts 59, 60, 61, 62, and 63**

On September 17, EPA signed this notice that allows all entities regulated by a subpart in 40 CFR parts 59-63 that have requirements to submit reports, notifications, or other types of submissions in paper format to submit in an acceptable digital format. [Learn More.](#)



## Southern Ute Indian Tribe Take Regulatory Authority of Minor Air Pollution Sources

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe (SUIT) in Colorado received delegation of Tribal New Source Review (NSR) on June 11, 2024. In this action SUIT added to their approved Title V program, and is now the primary permit authority for both major and minor sources of air pollution sources on their reservation.

In 2023 the Southern Ute Indian Tribe had 2932 sources of air pollution, of which approximately 230 are minor sources. There are also 33 Title V sources, constituting 13% of all Title V sources in Colorado. Title V sources of air pollution are major stationary sources that emit or have the potential to emit large amounts of air pollutants:

- Tons per year: 100 tons or more of any regulated air pollutant, 25 tons or more of reactive organic compounds or nitrogen oxides, or 10 tons or more of a single hazardous air pollutant (HAP)

The Tribe’s Air Quality Management Program includes several delegated regulatory Clean Air Act programs including:

- The Title V operating permit program approved in 2012
- The New Source Performance Standards and Maximum Achievable Control Technology

### Standards

- Tribal Minor New Source Review Program
- Federal Implementation Plan for True Minor Oil and Gas Source in Indian Country

Planned & In progress CAA Authorities of the Tribe include:

- Adoption of New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) 0000b
- Adoption of NSPS 0000c as a Tribal Implementation Plan

It has been a main goal of the Tribe and Environmental Commission to obtain delegation of the core Clean Air Act programs, and to provide the Tribe with maximum jurisdiction over these sources. Currently, the Tribe has delegation of three of the five core CAA programs, which includes both of the two core CAA permitting programs.

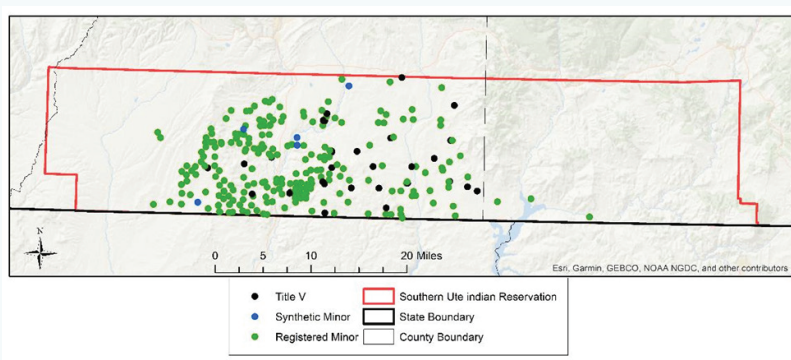
The Title V operating permit program is one of two core CAA permitting programs, with one being the New Source Review (aka, pre-construction permit program), required before construction or modification of a source, and the Title V program, an “operating permit” program for existing “major sources”.

The Tribe received delegation of the Title V program from the EPA in 2012. This was one of the first Tribal Title V program delegation approved by EPA.



A glycol dehydration unit at a natural gas compressor station: one of many synthetic minor sources of air pollution on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

Photo: SUIT Air Quality Division



Location of major and minor sources of air pollution on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation

Source: SUIT Air Program Division

The purpose of the Title V program is to be a “catalog” permit which includes all of a source’s CAA applicable requirements in a single permit. Having all requirements in one permit benefits the source operator stay in compliance and to help the public understand all of a source’s compliance requirements.

Notable features of the Title V program are: required annual self-audit performed by the operator and submitted to the permitting authority, which details their compliance or non-compliance with every single permit term. The program also provides the permit authority with the ability to add enhanced monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting, for applicable requirements that are lacking monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting sufficient for the permit authority to determine compliance.

Notable achievements and benefits of the Tribe administering the program, include (1) increased Tribal self-governance, (2) more frequent and more in-depth source inspections than previously performed under EPA’s jurisdiction, and (3) a local presence, which enables more face-to-face interaction with operators and ability to inspect sources. This has resulted in an increased compliance on the Reservation under the Tribe’s administration of the programs.

**Current achievements in implementing Title V include:**

**Compliance**

- Inspects each source at a minimum of every 2 years
- Evaluate compliance with the Title V permit
- Completed over 155 inspections to date

**Enforcement**

- Enforce against non-compliance with terms of a Title V operating permit
- Completed over 40 cases to date with civil penalties of nearly \$2 million

Building on the success of the Title V program, the Tribe has now obtained delegation of Minor NSR as well. SUIT will now issue permits and provide inspections for approximately 230 minor oil and gas sources, 7 synthetic minor sources oil and gas sources and multiple minor sources in other categories. Not only will SUIT issue permits to these sources but they will conduct inspections and ensure compliance with the permits.

The overarching goal of these programs is improved CAA compliance and air quality through increased regulatory oversight. Delegation of authority will also aid in simplifying air permitting on the Reservation with the Tribe as the permitting agency for minor NSR and Title V permitting. And each true minor source will be inspected according to a five-year compliance monitoring schedule.

This delegation levels the playing field, by ensuring that minor sources on the SUIT Reservation are inspected for compliance with CAA regulations similarly to those sources off the SUIT Reservation.

For more information about the Southern Ute Indian Tribe’s environmental management programs please visit:  
<https://www.southernute-nsn.gov/government/department/s/epd/>



SUIT Air Program Division  
Photo: Divine Windy Boy, Southern Ute Drum



## Now Open: 2024 DERA Tribal and Territory Notice of Funding Opportunity



<https://www.epa.gov/dera/tribal-and-territory>

Applications will be accepted from federally recognized Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia), Alaska Native Villages, or government agencies of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which have jurisdiction over transportation or air quality.

EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$9 million in DERA funding under this competitive announcement. A total of \$8 million will be made available to Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native Villages, and \$1 million will be made available to territory governments.

The [2024 DERA Tribal and Territory NOFO \(pdf\)](#) (1.28 MB, May 2024) has **no mandatory cost share requirement**.

### Questions and Answers:

<https://www.epa.gov/dera/tribal-and-territory#Q&A>

### DERA - Important Dates:

Information Session Webinars

**Webinar 4:** Wednesday, October 16, 2024 (7:00PM – 8:00PM ET)  
Meeting ID: 291 384 886 803  
Passcode: DSqnHY

**Webinar 5:** Wednesday, November 13, 2024 (2:00PM – 3:00PM ET)  
Meeting ID: 291 547 815 906  
Passcode: Aq95gi

**Deadline for Applications:** Friday, December 6th, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET

For more information visit the U.S. EPA DERA website:  
<https://www.epa.gov/dera/tribal-and-territory#2024nofo>



**ALLIANCE**  
**FOR GREEN HEAT**  
low carbon, renewable and local

### Funds Available for Tribal Firewood Distribution

Dear friends,

Does your tribe or community need funding to process firewood for your elderly, or low-income members? We are writing to make you aware of the [funding for firewood programs](#) for tribes and others that provide free firewood to households. Firewood programs, or "firewood banks," similar to food banks, provide a local, renewable, and cost-effective heating source to households in need.

A simple application is available [here](#). This is a non-competitive grant program. Funds can be used for splitters, chain saws, logs, gas, sheds, protective equipment, smoke detectors, and PM sensors. We work with tribes to ensure firewood is dry to reduce indoor and outdoor wood smoke. For questions, contact [darian@forgreenheat.org](mailto:darian@forgreenheat.org).

To date we have provided funding to nearly 100 firewood programs in 26 states and tribal lands. Out of the funded firewood banks so far, 32% are operated by, or primarily serve, tribes (see list of tribes who have received funding below). The funding comes from a grant from the USDA Forest Service made possible by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Please help us by spreading the word to other tribes!

Sincerely,



John Ackerly, President





## NTAA Events Calendar

**October 23**  
**Tribal Participation in the PM2.5 NAAQS Designations**  
 1pm PT , 4pm ET

**October 31**  
**NTAA - EPA AIR POLICY CALL**  
 11am PT , 2pm ET

**November 20**  
**Alask Tribal Air Work Group**  
 10am Alaska, 2pm ET

**November 21**  
**NTAA - EPA AIR POLICY CALL**  
 11am PT , 2pm ET

## ITEP Updates

### Upcoming In-Person Air Quality Workshops

- Fundamentals of Air Monitoring: October 29-31, TAMS Ctr, Las Vegas, NV
  - Air Quality in Alaska Native Communities: November 5-7, Fairbanks, AK
  - Particulate Matter 2.5 Monitoring: Dec 10-12, TAMS Ctr, Las Vegas, NV
- Click here for more information: [HERE](#)

### On-Line Self-Paced Courses

ITEP also offers 14 on-line courses on various air quality topics ranging from Indoor Air Quality, to Quality Assurance, and Emission Inventories that Tribal air quality professionals can take FREE of charge and complete at their own pace. Click [HERE](#) for a complete list of ITEP on-line course catalogue.

### AIAQTP & TAMS Office Hours

- Drop in monthly for short, informative and casual virtual sessions to discuss topics such as Indoor Air Quality, Education & Outreach, and Technical Air Monitoring.
- \* TAMS Office Hours: October 8
  - \* IAQ Office Hours: October 17
  - \* Grants Office Hours: November 6
  - \* Outreach & Education Office Hours: October 17.

Contact [Christal.Black@nau.edu](mailto:Christal.Black@nau.edu) to be notified of ITEP air program events.

## NTAA Executive Committee

### Region 1

Marvin Cling, Sr., Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point  
 Josh Paul, Penobscot Nation

### Region 2

Steven Smith, Shinnecock Indian Nation  
 Angela Benedict, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe

### Region 3

Vacant

### Region 4

Amy Smoker, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians  
 Tiffany Lozada, Poarch Band of Creek Indians

### Region 5

Brandy Toft, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
 Vallen Cook, Grand Portage Band of Chippewa

### Region 6

Tara Weston, Santa Ana Pueblo (Vice Chair)  
 Kristy Lawson, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

### Region 7

Billie Toledo, Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians (Secretary)  
 Kurt Lyons, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

### Region 8

Janice Archuleta, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe  
 Randy Ashley, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

### Region 9

Syndi Smallwood, Jamul Indian Village of California (Chair)  
 Lisa Gover, Gila River Indian Community

### Region 10

Lucas Bair, Spokane Tribe  
 Caleb Minthorn, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (Treasurer)

### Alaska

Vacant



**NATIONAL TRIBAL  
AIR ASSOCIATION**

**Tribal Air Monitoring**



**Support Center**

# **Designations Process for PM 2.5 NAAQS**

NTAA and the TAMS center will present

- the NAAQS designations process and how it applies to Tribes
- how to support your Tribes recommendations for designations
- monitoring issues associated with the PM 2.5 NAAQS

## **October 23, 2024**

**4:00 pm ET, 3:00pm CT, 2:00  
pm MT, 1:00pm PT**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://nau.zoom.us/j/87244402314?pwd=iObazR6LL33xPfvHwTbxkxmIltjW5b.1>**

**Meeting ID: 872 4440 2314  
Password: 218040**

**Speakers**

**Leroy Williams, Gila River**

**Laura McKelvey, NTAA**

**Chris Lee, TAMS**

**Mike King, TAMS**

**Tribal Case Study TBD**





# LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

The National Tribal Air Association (NTAA) Executive Committee is seeking artists interested in updating the NTAA logo. The NTAA is looking for a logo that best represents our mission statement. The NTAA wants YOU to create our next logo.

## Guidelines:

- Represents the mission of the NTAA
- A color scheme focusing on blues
- Represents air/wind, but does not look like water
- Circular design preferred
- Symbolizing the four directions, but not required
- Can include or not include text - if text is included, can be "NTAA" or "National Tribal Air Association"

## Prize:

**\$1000 honorarium and free admission to the 2025 National Tribal Forum on Air Quality (NTFAQ)**

*Enter to Win!*

Deadline for Submission:  
**December 6, 2024**

Please submit your NTAA logos  
to: Laura McKelvey  
([lauradmckelvey@gmail.com](mailto:lauradmckelvey@gmail.com))

