



WRAP

TRIBAL NEWS

June 2006

WRAP Sponsors July Climate Change Workshop

In an effort to advance climate change as part of its overall agenda, the WRAP has scheduled a workshop for July 17-18 at the Marriott Denver City Center in Denver, Colorado. Voluntary registries for greenhouse gas emissions will be the subject of this workshop which is expected to:

- Help the WRAP members better understand the structure and administrative issues surrounding a multi-state voluntary registry;
- Learn from the experience of other multi-state organizations with voluntary registries;
- Better understand what Western businesses and industry would want from a voluntary registry;
- Begin exploring opportunities to participate with other multi-state organizations that are working on the concept of a coordinated registry; and
- Develop options for next steps that can be discussed by the WRAP Board at its September 13-14 meeting in Whitefish, Montana.

The workshop will begin at 12 noon on July 17 and end at 3:00 p.m. on July 18. As done for previous climate change meetings, the WRAP will only be able to provide travel support for those representatives of the Board. Specific workshop location information is as follows:

Marriott Denver City Center
1701 California Street
Denver, Colorado 80202
303-297-1300 (phone)
303-298-7474 (fax)

While hotel rooms are no longer publicly available under the workshop rate, please contact Ken Cronin at NTEC (kcronin@ntec.org or 505-242-2175 ext. 115) if you are interested in securing a room as some still might be available offline.

Causes of Dust Report Complete

Tribal representatives are encouraged to check out a Causes of Dust report that was recently completed by the WRAP's Dust Emissions Joint Forum. The report identifies the causes of dust for three years of dust events across the WRAP region, utilizing data collected through the use of IMPROVE monitors. Among the findings in the report are that (1) only 80 percent of the worst dust days were fairly attributable to an event (20 percent were undeterminable); (2) the most to least frequent events are as follows: upwind transport (not locally generated), windblown dust (locally generated), and transcontinental transport from Asia; and (3) dust has the greatest impact in spring, followed by summer and fall. To learn more about the report and its contents, please go to <http://coha.dri.edu/dust/index.html><http://coha.dri.edu/dust/tableOfContents.html>.

Climate Change Grant

As has been discussed previously, a few months ago a notice of a funding opportunity pertaining to conducting research on the “Consequences of Global Change for Air Quality” came to the attention of the Tribal Caucus. Upon preliminary review, several Caucus members agreed that this grant would be an excellent opportunity for the WRAP as it seemed to be a very close fit with existing WRAP tools and goals. Unfortunately, it was discovered via connections in the academic community that these grants have been, in effect anyway, guaranteed as part of ongoing research at several prestigious East Coast colleges and universities. Combined with the already pressing short-term schedules of the WRAP staff whose first priority is making sure that the regional haze work is completed on time, it was decided that the tone of the letter to be sent to Governor Napolitano should emphasize that the Tribal Caucus supports this type of future projects for the WRAP - using this particular grant as an example instead of requesting that WRAP pursue this specific funding opportunity. Accordingly, the letter will be redrafted and sent to Councilman Lloyd Irvine for his signature in preparation for the WRAP Board meeting in September in Whitefish, Montana.

New Travel Forms and Procedure

In an effort to simplify the travel reimbursement process for tribal representatives, an agreement between WGA and NTEC has been reached whereby all tribal travel costs will be reimbursed by NTEC. This should reduce some of the confusion and delayed reimbursements that have occurred in the past. Ken Cronin will be distributing the new forms via email and they will soon be posted on the WRAP website.

Next Tribal Data Development Work Group Meeting

The next TDDWG meeting will be held hosted by the Nez Perce Tribe. The hotel will be in Lewiston, Idaho, while the meeting itself will be held on tribal lands in Lapwai. For more details, please see <http://www.wrapair.org/cal/calendar.php?op=view&id=560>.

This monthly newssheet is a collaboration of the National Tribal Environmental Council’s (NTEC’s) air program staff assigned to work with the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP), and condenses for the reader the activities and issues of the various forums, committees, and workgroups of the WRAP as they pertain to the tribes within the WRAP region. WRAP - a partnership of the western states (including Alaska), tribes within those states and other stakeholders - is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, with the purpose of developing data, tools, and policies needed to improve visibility in parks and wilderness areas across the West. More information on WRAP may be found on its website, www.wrapair.org, while NTEC’s website is located at www.ntec.org. If you have questions or suggestions regarding this newssheet, please contact Sandra Sac Parker, Editor and NTEC air program communications specialist, at 505/242-2175 ext. 104 or e-mail sparker@ntec.org.

