



WRAP

TRIBAL NEWS

February 2007

WRAP Tribal Caucus and Board Meeting Scheduled

Just a reminder that the Tribal Caucus and the WRAP Board will be meeting in Tempe, Arizona, the first full week of March. The Tribal Caucus will meet the afternoon of March 6 and the morning of March 7, while the Board will meet that afternoon and the following morning, March 8.

Along with other topics, the Caucus will discuss the draft paper of issues the Caucus presented to the Board last September and be updated on WRAP funding by Lewis McLeod and Patrick Cummins, WRAP co-directors.

Full agendas for both meetings are posted on the WRAP website at www.wrapair.org. These can be accessed by clicking on the word "more" after the short notice of the meetings in the "Meetings & Events" block in the upper right-hand corner of the homepage. This will take you to the full-page notices which include links to the agendas.

Regional Coordination Concerning Smoke Management Programs

A near-final draft of the "Guidance for Coordinating Smoke Management Program" was distributed during the last Fire Emissions Joint Forum (FEJF) meeting held February 22-23 in San Diego, California.

The draft:

- Provides strategies to prevent/mitigate visibility impairment in Class I areas from emissions of planned burning from one jurisdiction to another;
- Clarifies the *WRAP Policy on Enhanced Smoke Management Programs for Visibility*;
- Emphasizes planned burning, which may include other emissions;
- Defines who is eligible to participate;
- Generally describes types of fire emissions;
- Recommends program elements to share inter-jurisdictionally;
- Compliments the work of the fire tracking system;
- Provides examples of other coordination strategies; and
- Provides information for air quality planning purposes and attaining reasonable progress goals.

A number of policy references for Enhanced Smoke Management Plans are made on page three with a brief

note that the "Tribes are not required to adopt ESMPs under Section 309." Another aspect to the document, Appendix A, includes samples of state and tribal smoke management programs, one specific to the Nez Perce Tribe.

This is a living document and will be revised as necessary. If it is not already posted on the FEJF webpage of the WRAP website, it should be there shortly. Individuals can also e-mail Darla Potter at dpotte@state.wy.us for a copy of the draft.

Comments concerning the draft should also be forwarded to Darla Potter by March 16th. Also, Darla is going to post the draft along with a commenter's sheet to make it easier for those making comments.

Gila River Indian Community Completes TIP

After years in the making, the Gila River Indian Community delivered to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a Tribal Implementation Plan, a blueprint of how to achieve improved air quality on tribal lands. The Feb 21st ceremony featured representatives from the EPA, tribal council members and local elected officials.

Located in central Arizona, the Gila River Indian Community encompasses over 600 square miles, and has three industrial parks, and three casinos.

The Gila River Indian Community's Department of Environmental Quality had spent the last seven years developing a Tribal Implementation Plan to protect air quality on tribal lands, a first nationwide. In addition, the Gila River tribe developed a team of environmental professionals, the majority of whom are Native American, to administer and enforce this plan.

Comments from the Co-Director - Lewis McLeod

I'm back everyone!!! Man, what a fast month, I still feel like I am in January, where does time go? Hello, everyone out there in Indian Country!!

I have a request to make to anyone who would like to actively participate in a new Forum that has been formed. This new forum is called "**The Technical Analysis Forum (TAF)**". This new forum was the result of many conversations since we realized that our funding is becoming extremely limited due to EPA funding and the winding down of the Regional Haze SIP/TIP submittal date of 31 December 2007. The purpose of this forum was to combine other work groups and forums that have outlived their use on a regular basis. The first face-to-face meeting was held in Las Vegas, Nevada from February 6th thru the 8th. The primary focus of this forum will be technical, but I'm sure many of the decisions to be made in the future by committees will hinge upon the actions and recommendations of this forum, so here is your chance to get in on those actions. We do not have a tribal representative at this time. I am making all of the meetings and conference calls but sure would appreciate your assistance.

Good things continue to take place. My activities for the months of January and February 2007 included the following conference calls and meetings;

Participated in conference calls: Jan 8 - Multi-State Registry Steering Committee and the SIP Workshop (to be held in Seattle) planning committee; Jan 9 - Tribal Caucus Call; Jan 10 – TAMS Steering Committee; Jan 16 – Mobile Sources Forum; Jan 17 – EDMS Project; Jan 19 – RPO Conference Call and later the NTAA & NTF Conference Planning Committee Call; Jan 22 – SIP Workshop Planning Committee Call; Jan 30 –

TDDWG & ENVIRON Call; Feb 1 – Multi-State Registry conference call; Jan 2 – TOC Conference Call and later NTAA & NTF Conference Planning Committee call; Feb 13 – Tribal Caucus Call; Feb 15 – SIP Workshop Planning Committee Call; Feb 20 – NTAA & NTF Conference Planning Committee Call; Feb 21 – Inter RPO and later an EDMS up-date conference call; Feb 26 – NTAA & NTF Conference Planning Committee Call and later a Technical Analysis Forum (TAF) call; Feb 27 – NTAA & NTF Conference Planning Committee Call and later a Implementation Work Group conference call; Feb 28 – EDMS up-date conference call.

Attended the following meeting; Jan 2-5 Staff Meeting in Albuquerque to discuss work plan objectives and progress; Jan 22-26 TDDWG Meeting in Palm Springs, California, and meeting with the NTEC Executive Committee in Albuquerque; Feb 6-8 Technical Analysis Forum meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thanks for your continued participation in the WRAP Forums, Committees and Work Groups.

This monthly newsheet 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 newsheet, please contact Sandra Sac Parker, Editor and NTEC air program communications specialist, at 505/242-2175 ext. 104 or e-mail sparker@ntec.org.

