February, 2024

Tribal Clean Transportation Program Newsletter

Welcome to ITEP's Tribal Clean Transportation Program's Monthly Newsletter with information about Tribal clean transportation projects, funding sources, news stories/analysis, policy updates, and upcoming event/ conferences. If this landed in your email inbox, you have been added to ITEP's TCTP listserv! If you wish to discontinue this, please send an unsubscribe request to ***heather.bartlett@nau.edu.***

Featured News

Clean Transportation News

EPA Grants Tribal Petition to Protect Salmon from Lethal Chemical- November 2023
Contact Information: EPA Press Office (press@epa.gov)

WASHINGTON – Today, in support of its mission to protect human health and the environment, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is granting a petition from the Yurok Tribe, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians to address the use of the chemical N-(1,3-Dimethylbutyl)-N'-phenyl-p-phenylenediamine (6PPD) in tires. The chemical 6PPD has been used in motor vehicle tires for more than six decades to make them more durable. It can also be found in other rubber products such as footwear, synthetic turf infill, and playgrounds.

6PPD reacts with ozone pollution in the air to form a byproduct called 6PPD-quinone, which may be present in stormwater runoff from parking lots and streets due to the presence of tire wear particles. Runoff may be washed into streams and other bodies of water during rain events. As a result, aquatic organisms can be exposed to 6PPD-quinone. Concentrations of 6PPD-quinone in stormwater in the Pacific Northwest were found to be lethal to coho salmon after only a few hours of exposure.

Click HERE to read more about this announcement!

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over $46 Million to Enhance EC Charging Reliability and Workforce Development- January 19, 2023
Contact Information: EERE News (Energy.gov)

Funding From President Biden's Investing in America Agenda Supports 30 Projects to Expand Access to Convenient Electric Vehicle Charging and Create Good-Paying Jobs

The Biden-Harris Administration today announced $46.5 million for 30 projects in 16 states and Washington, D.C. to boost electric vehicle (EV) charging performance, resiliency, and reliability; support equitable access to clean transportation solutions; and grow the clean energy workforce. The number of EVs on America's roads has more than quadrupled since President Biden took office and these investments will be a crucial part of the Administration's goal of building a national network of 500,000 public EV charging ports and reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.

Click HERE to read more about this announcement!

POLITICO ILLUSTRATION/PHOTOS BY PIXABAY, ISTOCK

Clean Transportation News

U.S. ADDS 6.4 GW OF SMALL-SCALE SOLAR CAPACITY IN 2022, EIA SAYS

The U.S. is estimated to have added 6.4 gigawatts (G.W.) of small-scale solar capacity in 2022, the most ever in a single year, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) said on Monday. The capacity of small-scale solar increased from 7.3 GW in 2014 to 39.5 GW by 2022, the statistical arm of the U.S. Department of Energy said. Small-scale solar - also called distributed solar or rooftop solar, refers to solar-power systems with 1 megawatt (M.W.) of capacity or less and accounted for about one-third of the nation's total solar capacity. The U.S. solar industry was expected to add a **record 32 G.W.** of production capacity this year, helped by investment incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act.

Click HERE to read more

SOLAR PANELS ARE SEEN ALONG WITH A VIEW OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND LOWER MANHATTAN FROM THE ROOFTOP OF TIMBER HOUSE, THE CITY'S FIRST MASS-TIMBER CONDO BUILDING, IN THE PARK SLOPE NEIGHBORHOOD OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, U.S., AUGUST 16, 2022. REUTERS/BRENDAN MCDERMID

Lithium-ion batteries with recycled metals nearing production in the US

We could soon see more lithium-ion batteries made with recycled materials thanks to a new partnership. BASF, a battery materials producer, has announced that it's teaming up with Nanotech Energy, a maker of graphene-based energy products, to produce lithium-ion batteries with recycled materials for customers in North America. While BASF will create the cathode active materials using recycled metals from a Battle Creek, Michigan facility, Nanotech will use those materials to create the lithium-ion battery cells. Making the batteries with recycled metals could decrease their CO2 footprint by around 25 percent, according to BASF.

Click HERE to read more

PHOTO BY WAN SHANCHAO / VCG VIA GETTY IMAGES

Upcoming Events, Webinars, and Conferences

Permitting and Site Selection Strategies for EV Charging Infrastructure

Feb. 13, 2024, 2-3 p.m. ET

Join the Joint Office for the first of a two-part webinar series planning for permitting, zoning, and building code considerations for EV charging infrastructure. In this webinar, presenters will speak about their on-the-ground experience with site selection and discuss approaches to streamline permitting processes for the construction and installation of EV charging infrastructure.

- **Click Here to Join!**

Navigating Zoning for EV Charging Infrastructure

Feb. 15, 2024, 2-3:30 p.m. ET

Join the Joint Office for the second in a two-part webinar series on planning for permitting, zoning, and building code considerations for EV charging infrastructure.
Register for the webinar.

- **Click Here to Join!**

Curbside EV Charging Strategies

Feb. 27, 2024, 2-3 p.m. ET

The Joint Office will host a webinar on best practices, challenges, and strategies for effectively planning, deploying, and operating EV curbside charging projects.
Register for the webinar

- **Click Here to Join!**

National Tribal Forum on Air Quality

May 6-9, 2024 SAVE THE DATE! Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Resort, North Carolina

Join the national conversation on how tribes are implementing the Clean Air Act in partnership wit the US. EPA to improve air quality in our communities. For more information please contact NTFAQ@nau.edu.

Advanced Clean Transportation Expo

May 20-23, 2024 Las Vegas, Nevada

For more than a decade, ACT Expo has been uniting the transportation sector in its effort to reduce emissions from goods movement, the service industry, and passenger transportation, while also driving economic sustainability. This annual event offers attendees access to the latest technologies, services, and vehicles driving the transition to low- and zero-emission transportation solutions.

- **Register HERE!**

Resources

Introduction to the Automotive Trends Report

This annual report is part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) commitment to provide the public with information about new light-duty vehicle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, fuel economy, technology data, and auto manufacturers' performance in meeting the agency's GHG emissions standards.

Since 1975, EPA has collected data on every new light-duty vehicle model sold in the United States either from testing performed by EPA at the National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Michigan, or directly from manufacturers using official EPA test procedures. These data are collected to support several important national programs, including EPA criteria pollutant and GHG standards, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards, and vehicle Fuel Economy and Environment labels. This expansive data set allows EPA to provide a uniquely comprehensive analysis of the automotive industry over the last 45+ years.

- **Click HERE to read more**

Electric Nation: An Upper Midwest Inter-Tribal Electric Vehicle Charging Community Network

The upper Midwest Inter-Tribal Electric Vehicle Charging Community Network (or "Electric Nation," the name created by the project team to unify project partners and tribal communities) is a Native-led public-private partnership to advance electric vehicle (EV) use and reduce barriers to clean, affordable transportation in tribal communities. The tribes involved include Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Red Lake Nation, and 21 other tribal Nations in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The project's high-level objectives are to bring clean, affordable transportation options to underserved tribal communities while also testing the effectiveness of EVs on rural, cold-climate tribal lands. Community-level objectives include increasing communities' access to essential services (e.g., medical, retail, and government), building long-lasting relationships, and reviving a sense of collaboration among the different regional tribes on clean energy and transportation.

- **Click HERE to read more**

California's Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP)

The Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP) is a significant part of the LCTI portfolio. Administered by California's Air Resource Board (CARB), STEP's overarching goal is to increase transportation equity in California's disadvantaged and low-income communities. STEP awards support community-driven planning and capacity-building efforts as well as larger efforts to implement a community's previously identified transportation mobility solutions.

- **Click HERE to read more**